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ROUTINE ntelligence Information 976393 WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED STATE/INR NMCC/MC (DIA) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA TREAS SDO ONE CRS PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES EXO DDI **OPERATIONS** sified by Recorded Reporting Officer. Exempt from General Declassification Schedule of E.O. 11652 Exemption Category 5B (1), (2). Impossible to Determine Date NO MOREIGN DISSEM THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE CIA HAS NO OBJECTION IO CITE TDFIR -314/05985-73 SECRET DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR, CE CECA INFORMATION DIST 16 JULY 1973 IN THIS DOCUMENTAS SANTRED GMB 317197 (JFK) by ments, slip COUNTRY VENEZ UE LA / C UB A DOI EARLY JULY 1973 STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR RE-ESTABLISHMENT SUBJECT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND CUBA WHICH U DE ANAGREEMENT FOR VE NE ZU EL A TO PROVIDE PETROLEUM TO CUBA AND A POSSIBLE CONFIDENTIAL ARRANGEMENT CONCERNING THE CUBANACHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT MOVEMENT ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED ACQ (16 JULY 1973 A BUSINESSMAN WITH A BROAD RANGE OF POL SO UR CE BUSINESS AND SOCIAL CONTACTS. TO TOP LEADERS OF THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN (COPIE) PARTY .. HIS RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED JUL 27 1973 HE RECEIVED THE INFORMATION FROM A TOP COPE I LEADER. 1. VENEZUELA IS AGREEABLE TO AND IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE OIL TO CUBA AS PART OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH WILL ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO

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COUNTRIES, ACCORDING TO & HIGH-RANKING OFFICIAL OF

THE GOVERNING VENEZUEL ANY SOCIAL CHRISTIAN (COPEI)

PARTY WHO ALSO IS INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN THE CURRENT

NEGOTIATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH RELATIONS.

THIS OFFICIAL SAID IN EARLY JULY 1973 THAT NEGOTIATIONS

BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES NOW HAVE ADVANCED TO THE

STAGE WHERE IT IS APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY THAT THEY

BE CONDUCTED AT THE CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT LEVEL.

ACCORDINGLY, VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT RAFAEL C A L DE R A

WILL STOP BRIEFLY IN CUBA ON HIS WAY BACK FROM ATTEND

ING THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING IN

NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER TO PERSONALLY DISCUSS VENEZUELAN/

CUBAN RELATIONS WITH CUBAN PRIME MINISTER FIDEL

S T R O RUZ. (FIELD COMMENT: HVC-6750)

SAME SOURCE AND A USUALLY RELIABLE SECURITY SERVICE

SOURCE, REPORTS CALDERA'S PLAN TO STOP IN CUBA.)

2. THE SHIPMENT OF VENEZUELAN OIL TO CUBA WILL BE ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

BY THE TWO LEADERS, ALTHOUGH THIS OIL WILL BE FOR

CONSUMPTION IN CUBA, VENEZUELA WILL BE REIMBURSED FOR

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DID NOT IDENTIFY THE THIRD COUNTRY.) (FIELD COMMENT:

HVC-6711 TOFIR-314/04600 -73, IS THE MOST RECENT
REPORT ON SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS WITH VENEZUELA FOR
PURCHASE OF PETROLEUM FOR SHIPMENT TO CUBA. BASED
ON THIS AND PREVIOUS REPORTS. THE THIRD COUNTRY REFERRED
TO BY THE COPEL OFFICIAL IS PROBABLY THE USSR.)

ALTHOUGH CUBA HAS LITTLE THAT COULD ADEQUATELY COMPENSATE VENEZUELA FOR OIL, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMERCIAL
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS PLANNED PRIOR
TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION REPORTED IN EARLY JULY
THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY LUIS TO VAR, HEAD OF THE
SENATE COMMISSION ON MINES AND HYDROCARBONS, THAT
ONE OF PRESIDENT CALDERA'S OBJECTIVES IN MAKING THE
TECHNICAL STOP IN CUBA IS TO DISCUSS THE SALE OF
VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM TO CUBA. HE SAID DISCUSSIONS ON
THE SALE HAVE BEEN HELD ALREADY BUT THE VENEZUELAN
GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO POSTPONE ANY ACTION ON THE

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NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL THE CALDERA STOP IN CUBA TAKES PLACE.

THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT EXPECTS THAT CASTRO WILL

RAISE THE SUBJECT DURING HIS TALK WITH CALDERA AND

THE LATTER PLANS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE CUBAN PROPOSITION

FOR SUCH A SALE. TOVAR SAID COPET HAS ARRANGED FOR THE MEETING

BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS WITH CAMPAIGN BENEFITS FOR THE DECEMBER

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN MIND. HE SAID GONZALO G A R C I A

OF AMERICAN STATES, IS HANDLING THE ARRANGEMENTS ON THE PERTOLEUM SALE.)

4. ONE POINT WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS IS THE STATUS OF
THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS IN CUBA, AND THIS ALSO WILL

BE DISCUSSED BY THE TWO LEADERS. IDEALLY, VENEZUELA
DESIRES THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT LEGALIZE THE STATUS
OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT IN CUBA BUT
VENEZUELA IS NOT SANGUINE ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR
THIS. CALDERA THEREFORE IS PLANNING TO ASK CASTRO
THAT HIS GOVERNMENT REMOVE THE RESTRICTIONS IT HAS
PLACED ON THE MOVEMENT AND ON THE ACTIVITIES OF CERTAIN

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PROMINENT CUBAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, SOME OF WHOM
CURRENTLY ARE IMPRISONED IN CUBA, THE LIFTING OF SUCH
RESTRICTIONS WOULD INCLUDE PERMITTING THE DEPARTURE
OF THESE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS FROM CUBA IF ANY OF THEM
SO DESIRED. ANY AGREEMENT REACHED CONCERNING THESE
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WILL NOT BE PUBLICLY REVEALED AS
THIS IS BEING NEGOTIATED AS A CONFIDENTIAL FAVOR
REQUESTED BY THE VENEZUELANS FROM THE CUBANS.

(FIELD COMMENT: HVC-6682, FIRDB-312/02058-73

FROM THE SOURCE OF THIS REPORT, COVERS COPEI NEGOTIATIONS
WITH CUBA CONCERNING THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS.)

5. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY AT CARACAS.

REPORT CLASS SECRET/WARNING NOTICE-SENSITIVE INTELLIGNECE

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