AGENCY INFORMATION

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COMMENTS:
By State Department telegram 2/11/77, Legat responded as follows:

"1. The following information was provided to Legat by a confidential source, who has provided reliable information in the past.

"2. On 11/2/76, arrest warrant was issued in Caracas, Venezuela, for LUIS POSADA CARRILES, and others, who were charged with qualified homicide and use and manufacture of weapons of war. Posada is currently in custody in Caracas awaiting trial.

"3. In all likelihood, Posada will not be released from custody until all judicial proceedings have been completed in Venezuela. He is now a naturalized Venezuelan citizen, and cannot be extradited to another country unless stripped of his Venezuelan citizenship, which can entail a lengthy judicial process, and is not likely.

"4. Information concerning any weapons seized at the time of Posada's arrest is not immediately available, nor are copies of his passport. Any items seized in connection with his arrest are in the custody of the court, and are not ordinarily available until completion of judicial proceedings.

"5. ANDRES DOMINGUEZ, SERGIO DIEGUEZ, and HECTOR ROBLED0 are unknown to source.

"6. Source knows ERNESTO BIONDI as a private citizen, residing in Caracas, and who has many friends in police and government circles in Venezuela. He has a brother who is an executive of Proctor and Gamble in Venezuela, and who is associated with a German weapons firm doing business in Venezuela.

"7. CARLOS FABBRI holds the rank of Sub-Comisario in the Venezuelan Directorate of Intelligence and Preventive Services (DISIP), and is in charge of the DISIP Explosives Demolition Squad. Fabbri has traveled to the United States on a number of occasions, and has purchased handguns in Miami through a U.S.-citizen intermediary. These handguns were delivered to various police officials in Venezuela for whom they were purchased by Fabbri. He has also purchased arms directly from the Smith and Wesson factory through official channels.
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"8. RAFAEL PARRA is an employee of Viasa Airlines in Caracas, and travels occasionally to the United States. He has many friends in law enforcement and military circles in Venezuela, and, through a U. S. citizen, purchased firearms in the United States for Venezuelan military officers and police officials.(2)

"9. MANUEL ENRIQUE HIDALGO YANEZ worked for DISIP until about three or four years ago. At that time, he lost a hand in an explosion while dismantling a bomb at the Centro Venezolano Americano in Caracas. He underwent extensive medical treatment at George Washington Hospital in Washington, D. C. Since his disability, he has not worked for DISIP, but continues to have many friends in DISIP and in the Venezuelan military. He is not known by source to have purchased firearms in the United States since his injury.(3)

The Bureau is requested to authorize the Miami Office to contact U.S. Customs at Miami for further details in this matter, and to determine if a violation of the Neutrality Act exists.

For the information of the Bureau and Miami, CARLOS FABBRI, who holds the rank of Sub-Comisario at DISIP, Caracas, is a Legat contact, and is the confidential source referred to above. (4)