104-10110-10583 2023 RELEASE UNDER THE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION RECORDS ACT OF 1992 FORM 3020b 7.71 MEG. 7476 TOTAL COPIES REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED SECRET ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED ADVANCE COPY ISSOE BY RA CTION UNIT FILE. IODOLT 827187 A8 75 PAGE Ø1 IN 273437 TOR: 0522452 MAY 77 CA RAD 33023 S E C R E T 052222 MAY 77 STAFF CITE (CARACAS) 33023 IMMEDIATE DIRECTOR.

NI ACT DIRECTOR

WNINTEL RYBAT

REF: DIRECTOR 030127 4

BY TIME REF RECEIVED (1800 HOURS) AMBASSADOR HAD GONE HOME FOR THE DAY. COS EARLIER HAD DISCUSSED LOCAL SUMMARY OF FLEET WOOD ART PCLE IN "ULTIMAS NOTICIAS". OBVIOUSLY UNTIL FULL TEXT IN VENEZUELAN HANDS AND IF AND WHEN PRESIDENT PEREZ FOCUSES ON THIS MATTER, VENEZUELAN REACTION WILL BE UNKNOWN. MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM ASKED AMBASSADOR ABOUT CIRCULATION AND IMPORTANCE OF "NEW TIMES" MAGAZINE- THERE BEING SOME CONFUSION IN VENEZUELAN MIND THAT THIS PART OF NEW YORK "TIMES"NEWS PAPER-AND SEEMED REASSURED BY AMBASSADOR'S REPLY DOWNPLAYING SIGNIFICANCE OF "NEW TIMES". AMBASSADOR AT THIS POINT SEES THREAT ONLY IN CAP'S TENDENCY TO ATTRIBUTE ALL UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY IN U.S. PRESS TO ALLEGED BKHERALD EFFORTS TO DESTABILIZE GOV. IN THIS CASE CAP ALREADY KNOWS EMBASSYP

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HAD DIRECT CONTACT WITH FLEETWOOD AND THUS HAS CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE TO LEAD HIM TO ASSUME THE WORST. NONETHELESS, AMBASSADOR IS HOPEFUL THAT CAP WILL HAVE MANY OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT RIGHT NOW AND THAT THPS ONE WILL PROVE A NON-STARTER.

2, WILL SHOW TEXT OF REF TO AMBASSADOR FIRST THING

6 MAY AND ADVISE OF ANY FURTHER COMMENTS. AS STATED. READING ON

VENEZUELAN REACTION WILL HAVE TO AWAIT FURTHER

DEVELOPMENTS. IF CAP BLOWS, OTHER THAN LIAISON AND COS

AND LIAISON OFFICER'S TENURE HERE, STATION OPS SHOULD NOT

BE EXPECIALLY AFFECTED. REST OF OUR EFFORT IS UNILATERAL.

WE PREPARED FOR THIS EVENTUALITY ONCE BEFORE, WE HAVE NOT

RELAXED SINCE, AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE WOULD BE BADLY HURT.

*Ref. attached.

3. NO FILE. EZ IMPDET.