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UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY **Haiti**

REPORT NO. **OO-~~14068~~/14068-68** <sup>A(5)322</sup>

SUBJECT **Clemard Joseph-Charles Must Raise US \$605 Thousand Before He Can Resume His Banking And Other Activities/Outline Of Charles's Plans/President Duvalier Reportedly Hopes To Improve His Image And To Attract Foreign Capital And Business Activity/Rumors Continue Concerning Possible Reorganization Of Haitian Government**

DATE DISTR.

NO. PAGES **2**

REFERENCES **DCS Case # ~~47,540~~ 47,540 Supplement to: OO-B-321/12106-68** (145-3)

DATE OF INFO. **May 68**

PLACE & DATE ACQ **Port-au-Prince, Haiti, May 68**

**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

SOURCE JFK Act 5 (g) (2) (D)

1. **Clemard Joseph-Charles** was released from prison during the evening of 25 Apr 68 in return for a "ransom" of US \$605 thousand.
2. Charles has been given until 24 May 68 to produce the US \$605 thousand. This sum must be in an irrevocable letter of credit on an American bank in favor of the National Bank of the Republic of Haiti. It has been intimated that the 24 May 68 deadline can be extended, should Charles be experiencing any really unusual difficulties in producing the required money.
3. In order to obtain his release from prison, Charles had to sign a memorandum of understanding that he would produce the US \$605 thousand plus some unidentified real property. These terms were agreed to by both Charles and his wife prior to the release. At the same time, Charles wrote a personal letter to President **Duvalier** asking for release and promising to hand over the money and property in question.
4. Charles is now under house arrest in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
5. Charles's immediate resources consist of about US \$100 thousand in cash in two US banks (no additional data available), various homes, businesses (essential oils, an automobile dealership and others (no additional data available)), buildings, land and about US \$400 thousand worth of Haitian government bonds. He did have another US \$300 thousand in personal funds in Haiti. He can no longer count on this money to help raise the US \$605 thousand, however, because prior to his release from prison the Haitian authorities (no additional data available) confiscated it.
6. Charles has agreed to raise the US \$605 thousand on condition that it be used to pay off legitimate claims of depositors in his Banque Commerciale d'Haiti. He has stated that he will permit the money to be paid out only to those depositors who are able to produce documentary proof that they had deposited funds in his bank.

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