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5 NOV 1964
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INFO: JMWAVE

FROM: DIRECTOR

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INFO: DDP, VR, R/AN DURING, FILE

6 NOV 64 2095

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TO: OPIN INFO: WAVE CITE DIR 62462

TYPIC MHAFFRON AMWHIP/1 AMLASH/1 YOBITE UNSNAFU/19
REF: PARI 7404 (IN 18538)

1. RE REF PARA 3, IN OCT 1963 SOME 300 TO 500 CUBAN MILITARY PERSONNEL PLUS LIMITED AMOUNT MILITARY EQUIPMENT TRAVELED TO ALGERIA ON TWO OR THREE CUBAN CARGO VESSELS. PURPOSE WAS TO ASSIST ALGERIA IN WAR WITH MOROCCO. IN JAN 1964 SOME RETURNED CUBA AND ESTIMATE LAST OF GROUP RETURNED APRIL 1964 ABOARD SOVIET PASSENGER AND CUBAN VESSELS.

2. IN LATE SEPT 1964 RUMOR BEGAN MAKING DIPLOMATIC CIRCUIT HAVANA THAT CONTINGENT CUBAN TROOPS HAD RECENTLY DEPARTED FOR ALGERIA WITH POSSIBLE ULTIMATE DESTINATION CONGO OR VIET NAM. HQS CHECKED THESE ALLEGATIONS AND FOUND THAT ONLY ONE CUBAN VESSEL COULD HAVE TAKEN THIS CONTINGENT WITHIN TIME FRAME OF REPORTS AND IT APPEARS THIS VESSEL DID NOT TAKE ANY PASSENGERS. CANNOT YET TOTALLY RULE OUT POSSIBILITY SOME CUBANS MAY HAVE TRAVELED BY SOME CIRCUITIOUS AIR ROUTING. SINCE INTRODUCTION EVEN SMALL CONTINGENT TRAINED TROOPS INTO CONGO WOULD BE CRITICAL, HQS HAS PRIORITY REQUIREMENT CONFIRM OR DENY ANY CUBAN TROOPS NOW ALGERIA FOR ANY REASON.

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3. IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, PLS CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

A. OSCAR (FERNANDEZ) MEL CHIEF OF STAFF WESTERN ARMY. HEADED MILITARY DELEGATION TO ALGERIA FOR 1 NOV INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS. HOW DID UNSNAFU/19 KNOW THIS SINCE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE DELEGATION TRAVELED VIA MADR?

B. WHAT PROMPTED UNSNAFU/19 TELL AMWHIP ABOUT THE DIVISION? WHAT WAS WORD ACTUALLY USED IN REFERRING TO CUBAN TROOPS AND WERE NUMBERS MENTIONED? DID SNAFU/19 SAY ANYTHING FURTHER ABOUT CUBAN MILITARY EFFORTS ALGERIA?

C. IS FERNANDEZ MEL EXPECTED PARIS?

D. DOES AMWHIP KNOW HIM? FERNANDEZ REPORTED PRO-REGIME, CLOSE TO ERNESTO "CHE" GUEVARA, DIFFICULT TARGET. HOWEVER, ONE SOURCE, SANDELIO HERMINIO (DIAZ) GARCIA, PERHAPS KNOWN TO AMWHIP, REPORTED IN JULY 1963 IN MIAMI THAT FERNANDEZ MEL IS A GOOD FRIEND OF COTE. EPIGENIO (AMELJEIRAS) DELGADO AND PART OF LATTER'S AMLASH-CONNECTED GROUP. CAN AMWHIP COMMENT ON THIS?

E. IF AMWHIP AND FERNANDEZ MEL KNOW EACH OTHER AND MEET, OR IF UNSNAFU/19 OR NARANJO COMMENT ON CUBAN MILITARY ALGERIA, HQS WOULD LIKE TO KNOW NAMES OF ANY HIGH-RANKING CUBAN OFFICERS ASSIGNED ALGERIA, ANY COMMENTS...

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ON MILITARY FIGURES OR POSITIONS IN CUBA, RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE POSITIONS, MORALE OF MILITARY, ET./WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW OF ANY COMMENTS ON REMOVED RECENT ARRESTS OF MANY STAFF OFFICERS CUBA, BOTH ARMY AND NAVY.

F. IF AMWHIP KNOWS FERNANDEZ MEL AND LATTER PART AMELJEIRAS' GROUP, HQS COULD LIKE ANY COMMENTS DROPPED RE THIS GROUP AND ITS ACTIVITIES.

G. NARANJO CONSIDERED BY AMLASH/AMWHIP AS A GOOD FRIEND. PLS ASK AMWHIP GET NARANJO TO COMMENT ON CUBAN EXILE GROUPS SUCH AS MANOLO RAY, MANUEL ARTIME, ERNEIDO OLIVA, ELOY GUTIERREZ MENOYO, JUAN MANUEL SALVAT (OF STUDENT DIRECTORATE) AND ON FEELINGS OF GOC CIRCLES ON SUCH GROUPS.

H. ASK AMWHIP WHETHER NARANJO SEES AMLASH/1? ANY COMMENTS ON THIS? WHAT IS AMLASH DOING, THINKING, PLANNING?

I. NARANJO SAYS THE REGIME FALLING APART BUT THAT HE IS STICKING WITH THE REGIME. WHY? ESPECIALLY SINCE THE SITUATION IS DETERIORATING. IS THIS LOYALTY TO RAUL CASTRO? WOULD NARANJO ACT AGAINST AMLASH/1 IF HE LEARNED OF ANY OF THE LATTER'S ACTIVITIES?

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J. ATTEMPT GET ANY COMMENTS NARANJO, FERNANDEZ MEL (IF THERE),
 LECHUGA, AND SNAFU/19 MAY MAKE ABOUT ANY PBPRIME/PBRUMEN RAPPROCHMENT.

3. GREATLY APPRECIATE STATION'S EFFORTS ON ABOVE.

END OF MESSAGE

* DISSEM PER RYBAT TYPIC Y-KIT.

WH/SA/EOB/MHAPRON

WH/SA/EOB

WH/SA/MOB

WH/SA/INTEL

WH/SA/SD/WH

WE/3

WE/5

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AF/COPS

THOMAS F. THIELE
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