

MESSAGE RELAY

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Transmit in Plaintext Code
Via Teletype the Attached Immediate Urgent Nitel
Date *10/8/76*

From: Director FBI
To: SACS *MIAMI*
San Juan

309
To: Legats: *MEXICO CITY*
BUENOS AIRES

- To: RUEADWW/ The President The Vice President White House Situation Room
- Attn: Attn
- RUEBWJA/ Attorney General Deputy Attorney General
- Attn: Analysis and Evaluation Unit
- RUEBWJA/ Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
- RUEBWJA/ Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division
- Attn: Internal Security Section Attn: General Crimes Section
- RUEABND/ Drug Enforcement Administration
- RUEANAF/ National Aeronautics & Space Admin
- RUEBWJA/ Immigration and Naturalization Service
- RUEOIAA/ National Security Agency
- RUEBWJA/ U.S. Marshall Service
- (DIRNSA/NSOC (ADMT SOO))
- RUEBDUA/ Department of the Air Force (AFOSI)
- RUEBARE/ Naval Investigative Service
- RUEACSI/ Department of the Army
- RUEAUSA/ U. S. Postal Service (if Classified)
- (Use RUEVDFB if Unclassified)
- RUEAIA/ Director, CIA
- RUEHSE/ U. S. Secret Service (PID)
- RUEBJGA/ Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard
- RUEHC/ Secretary of State
- RUEKJCS/ Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
- RUEBJGA/ Department of Transportation
- Attn: Director of Security
- RUECGTN/ Energy Research and Development Administration
- RUEATRS/ Department of Treasury
- Attn: U. S. Customs
- Other than (OSR/Int'l Affairs) *ST-108*
- Listed *ST-108*

Classified by *23rd/100*
Declassify on: OADR *6/2/83*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 08 1976

12:20P 2
TELETYPE

2153-70

sketch _____
 Dep. AD Adm _____
 Dep. AD Inv _____
 Asst. Dir. _____
 Adm. Serv. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Lab. _____
 Legal Coun. _____
 Plan. & Eval. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Tech. Serv. _____
 Training _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director Sec'y _____

Classification: Confidential Secret

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Subject (Text begins next page)

NOV 16 1976

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

Foreign Liaison Unit

Route through for review

Closed telephonically

with _____

OCT 19 1976

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 07 1976

~~TELETYPE~~

~~0 8723457 OCT 76~~

~~FM CARACAS (249)~~

~~TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE RR 162 07~~

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Cubana Airlines

UNSUBS; SUSPECTED BOMBING OF CUBANA AIRLINES DC-8 NEAR BARBADOS,

WEST INDIES, OCTOBER 6, 1976, NM - CUBA - WEST INDIES.

By teletype 10/7/76, Legat CARACAS ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

CUBANA AIRLINES FLIGHT 455, DC-8 AIRCRAFT LEASED BY CUBANA FROM AIR CANADA, CRASHED IN THE CARIBBEAN SEA OFF THE COAST OF BARBADOS AT ABOUT 1:45 PM ON OCTOBER 6, 1976, SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOFF FROM SEAWELL AIRPORT, BARBADOS, EN ROUTE TO HAVANA, CUBA, VIA KINGSTON, JAMAICA. NO SURVIVORS REPORTED AMONG THE 78 PERSONS ABOARD THE PLANE.

ACCORDING TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, PILOT REPORTED TO SEAWELL AIRPORT TOWER SHORTLY BEFORE CRASH THAT AN EXPLOSION HAD OCCURRED ABOARD THE PLANE. FLIGHT LOG RECOVERED AFTER CRASH NOTED POWER FAILURE IN NUMBER FOUR ENGINE, BUT NO MENTION OF EXPLOSION. AIRPORT OFFICIAL AT BARBADOS REPORTEDLY INFORMED THAT PILOT TOLD TOWER THERE HAD BEEN EXPLOSION IN ONE OF THE REAR LAVATORIES OF THE PLANE.

STATE DEPT.
INFO (PARA 2
- END) IS UNCLAS
Filed Per. Des
AUTHORITY
9/28/96

AMERICAN EMBASSY, PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, ADVISED ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, AS FOLLOWS:

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE ARE HOLDING TWO VENEZUELAN

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2

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CITIZENS WHOM THEY BELIEVE MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE CUBANA AIRLINE
CRASH OCTOBER 6 OFF BARBADOS. TWO SUSPECTS ARE:

"A. JOSE VAZQUEZ GARCIA - HOLDER OF VENEZUELAN PASSPORT
720733 (THIS IS THE PERFERATED NUMBER--NUMBER WRITTEN IN THE PASS-
PORT IS 3140806), ISSUED ON JUNE 6, 1976, IN CARACAS. BORN
DECEMBER 9, 1950 IN CARACAS. HOLDS VENEZUELAN ID CEDULA V
3140806.

"B. FREDDY (NOT FEDERICO) LUGO - HOLDER OF VENEZUELAN PASS-
PORT 006543 (THIS IS THE PERFERATED NUMBER--NUMBER WRITTEN IN THE
PASSPORT IS 2123051), ISSUED JULY 6, 1976, IN CARACAS. SINGLE.
BORN OCTOBER 17, 1942. GAVE RESIDENCE AS CARACAS AND OCCUPATION
AS JOURNALIST. HOLDS ID CEDULA VO 2123051. CARRIES OFFICIAL
PRESS CARD NO 152 OF CIRCULO DE REPORTEROS GRAFICOS DE VENEZUELA.
LUGO ALSO HAD IN HIS POSSESSION TOURIST CARD FOR COLOMBIA DATED
JULY 15, 1976. THIS GAVE PERMANENT ADDRESS AD URB URDANETA VERDA
24, CARACAS.

"THESE TWO VENEZUELANIS ARRIVED IN TRINIDAD FROM CARACAS ON
PANAM 443 EARLY MORNING HOURS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6. CHECKED INTO
HOLIDAY INN AT 0200 HOURS. HOTEL REGISTRATION MADE IN NAMES OF
~~END PAGE TWO~~

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JOSE GARCIA/FREDDY PEREZ. HOME ADDRESS GIVEN AS URB CRISTO
REY NO 61, VALENCIA, VENEZUELA. HAD LUGGAGE WHEN CHECKED INTO HOTEL.

*VENEZUELAN'S CHECKED OUT OF HOLIDAY INN ABOUT 0600 OCTOBER 6
WITH LUGGAGE AND WERE SEEN AT Piarco AIRPORT. BOARDED CARANA FLIGHT
AT 1150 OCTOBER 6 TO BARBADOS.

*RETURNED FROM BARBADOS TO TRINIDAD ON SAME DAY ON BWIA FLIGHT
AT 2155 AND CHECKED INTO HOLIDAY INN AT 2300 WITHOUT SUITCASES.
REGISTRATION IN NAME OF GUSTAVO GARCIA, RESIDENCE BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.
THEY CLAIMED THE SUITCASES HAD BEEN STOLEN, BUT THEY HAVE MADE NO
REPORT OF STOLEN SUITCASES EITHER TO AIRLINE OR BARBADOS OR
TRINIDAD POLICE.

*AMONG DOCUMENTS IN HANDS OF POLICE IS BOARDING PASS OF E.
SEALY FOR DIFFERENT BWIA FLIGHT. POLICE CHECKING THIS OUT. THIS
THEY BELIEVE COULD BE TRINIDAD ACCOMPLICE.

*OF INTEREST IS FACT BOTH PASSPORTS FAIRLY NEW. THEREFORE
DIFFICULT TRACE PAST TRAVEL. HOWEVER, PASSPORT OF FREDDY LISO DID
HAVE STAMP SHOWING ENTRY AT BARBADOS ON JULY 9. (NOTE: THE BOMBS
WHICH WENT OFF AT THE BWIA OFFICE AND AT THE GENERAL MANAGER'S CAR
AND YACHT IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, TOOK PLACE ON 10 AND 11 JULY
1976.)

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4

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"PAGE IN POSSESSION OF LIGO APPARENTLY FROM ADDRESS BOOK WITH LETTER "E" ON IT CITED FOLLOWING: EMBASSY AMERICAN 2246111-1271 FBI JOSEPH LEO 331511.

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE ARE FINGERPRINTING BOTH SUSPECTS AND COPYING ALL DOCUMENTS IN THEIR POSSESSION.

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE REQUEST URGENTLY ANY INFORMATION OF THESE PERSONS, PARTICULARLY ANY CRIMINAL RECORDS. NO OBJECTION TO LEGATT CONTACTING LOCAL POLICE/SECURITY SERVICES. POLICE REQUEST AT LEAST INTERIM REPLY BEFORE 1700 LOCAL TIME. PLEASE SEND REPLY REACT IMMEDIATE.

"POLICE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF ANYONE FROM LEGATT OFFICE PLANS TO COME TO TRINIDAD ON THIS CASE, OR HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE COPIES OF FINGERPRINTS, ETC."

[REDACTED SECTION]

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(S)

ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ABROAD ADVISED THAT (S)
END PAGE FOUR

5

~~PAGE FIVE CAR 2-9 SECRET~~

FREDDY LUGO IS A VENEZUELAN NEWSMAN WHO IS ALSO EMPLOYED AS AN INVESTIGATOR BY LUIS POSADA, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (S) CARACAS. HE RESIGNED FROM HIS POSITION [REDACTED] (S) IN 1973. [REDACTED] (S) 4

(S) POSADA IS A CUBAN EXILE WHO IS KNOWN FOR HIS ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES, AND HE REPORTEDLY ASSISTED ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA IN 1974, SHORTLY BEFORE BOSCH WAS ARRESTED BY VENEZUELAN AUTHORITIES. (S) 4

LEGAT BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH POSADA WHILE THE LATTER WAS [REDACTED] (S) AND AFTER HIS RESIGNATION, POSADA CONTINUED TO CONTACT LEGAT ON RARE OCCASIONS, USUALLY IN ORDER TO OBTAIN PERSONALIZED SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH VISA REQUESTS. IN VIEW OF LUGO'S EMPLOYMENT BY POSADA, LEGAT ASSUMES HIS NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER WERE FURNISHED TO LUGO BY POSADA. LEGAT ESTIMATES HE HAS SEEN POSADA IN PERSON ON PERHAPS THREE OCCASIONS SINCE 1973, THE LAST TIME BEING ON JUNE 10, 1976, WHEN POSADA VISITED LEGAT OFFICE TO INQUIRE IF FBI HAD INTEREST IN CARLO BORDONI (BUFILE 29168554; ORFILE 29-15). INFORMED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, POSADA REVEALED BORDONI HAD HIRED TWO OF HIS OPERATIVES AS ARMED BODY GUARDS AT HIS HOME. THAT INFORMATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PASSED BY LEGAT TO [REDACTED] (S) 4

[REDACTED] (S) WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE ARREST ACTION AGAINST BORDONI. (S) 4

~~END PAGE FIVE~~

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POSADA MORE OFTEN REFERRED TO LEGAT RELATIVES AND ASSOCIATES SEEKING ADVICE REGARDING VISAS, THE LAST BEING ONE OF HIS EMPLOYEES, HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO, WHO SOUGHT A VISA TO TRAVEL TO SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, ON OCTOBER 1, 1976, LEGAT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO DEVELOPED REGARDING RICARDO IN A SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATION. (S)

ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, THE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE FURTHER ADVISED THAT

IN VIEW OF THE ARREST OF VAZQUEZ AND LIGG IN TRINIDAD, THE [REDACTED] WAS ARRANGING FOR LUIS POSADA AND ORLAND BOSCH AVILA TO LEAVE [VENEZUELA] AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE SOURCE ALL BUT ADMITTED THAT POSADA AND BOSCH HAD ENGINEERED THE BOMBING OF THE AIRLINE, AND HE PROMISED TO FURNISH FURTHER DETAILS ON OCTOBER 8, 1976. (S)

~~CLASSIFIED BY 4420, XDS, CATEGORIES 2 AND 4, INDEFINITE~~

~~ADMIN TO FIELD AND LEGATS ONLY~~
ADMINISTRATIVE: CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE IS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CARACAS, VENEZUELA. (S)(U)

FROM STATEMENTS OF [REDACTED] IT APPEARS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT THE [REDACTED] WAS PRIVY TO THE ACTIVITIES OF POSADA AND BOSCH AND THAT IT NOW WILL ATTEMPT TO DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM THEM FOR FEAR OF RETALIATION BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT. (S)(U)

BT

ADMIN TO FIELD AND LEGATS ONLY

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7