

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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NO: 3720, JUNE 20, 5 PM

FILE

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

FOREIGN OFFICE INFORMED EMBASSY THAT (A) LT GEN CRISTOBAL GUZMAN CARDENAS DESIGNATED AS PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MILITARY AIDE OR ESCORT OFFICER DURING VISIT AND (B) ALFONSO ROSEN ZWEIG DIAZ AZMITIA DESIGNATED LOPEZ MATEOS OFFICIAL TRANSLATOR FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT.

GUZMAN CARDENAS, PRESENTLY DIRECTOR GENERAL MILITARY EDUCATION, SEVERAL TIMES MILITARY ATTACHE, WASHINGTON, LAST IN 1953-1957. CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT GUZMAN TO EFFECT HE WARM ADMIRER US YET SYMPATHETIC TO COMMUNISM. IMPORTANT FACT ABOUT HIM IN CONNECTION PRESIDENTIAL VISIT IS THAT HE OWES RISE IN MILITARY SERVICE TO LAZARO CARDENAS, LOYAL TO AND CLOSE FRIEND (PERHAPS EVEN NEPHEW OR CLOSE KINSMAN) OF LATTER.

ROSEN ZWEIG DIAZ IS SON OF RETIRED MEXICAN DIPLOMAT WHO WAS AMBASSADOR TO SOVIET UNION 1953-1959, CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF VICENTE LOMBARDO TOLEDANO, SYMPATHETIC TO PARTIDO POPULAR SOCIALIST AND FAVORABLY REGARDED BY MEXICAN COMMUNIST PARTY AS TRUE FRIEND OF SOVIET UNION. ROSEN ZWEIG DIAZ HIMSELF IS FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL (DIRECTOR GENERAL OF DIPLOMATIC SERVICES), WAS PRIVATE SECRETARY AND PROTEGE OF PADILLA NERVO, AND IS WIDELY REGARDED AS LEFTIST. HE AND HIS PART-RUSSIAN WIFE HAVE CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH SOVIET AND OTHER COMMUNIST DIPLOMATS, AND HE HAS BEEN REPORTED AS LONG AGO AS 1954 AS COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZER. SPEAKS ENGLISH BUT NOT AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER FOREIGN

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
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By *mmk* NARA, Date *11/8/97*

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-2- 3720, JUNE 20, 5 PM FROM MEXICO CITY

OFFICE OFFICIALS.

DESIGNATIONS GUZMAN CARDENAS AND ROSEN ZWEIG DIAZ MAY WELL BE DEVICE OF LOPEZ MATEOS TO PERMIT REPORTS OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT TO LEAK TO CARDENAS AND LEFTISTS. IN THIS DEVIIOUS MANNER LOPEZ MATEOS COULD FORESTALL POSSIBLE LEFTIST ATTACKS HE HAD REACHED SECRET UNDERSTANDINGS WITH PRESIDENT. SENSITIVITY GOM OFFICIALS THIS POINT UNDERLINED BY NUMEROUS PRESS STATEMENTS AND GOVERNMENT-INSPIRED ARTICLES THAT THERE WILL BE NO SECRETS KEPT FROM PUBLIC ON DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT KENNEDY. BECAUSE OF TRADITIONAL SUSPICION ATTACHED BY POLITICIANS AND PUBLIC THAT MEXICAN PRESIDENT'S MAKE CONCESSIONS WHEN MEETING FOREIGN CHIEF'S OF STATE, PARTICULARLY AMERICAN PRESIDENTS, IT IS NOW AXIOMATIC THAT MEXICAN PRESIDENT MUST REASSURE PUBLIC THAT "FLAG REMAINS UNSULLIED" AFTER SUCH MEETINGS.

SUGGEST PRESIDENT BE ADVISED THAT HE CANNOT SAFELY ASSUME SUBSTANCE OF HIS "PRIVATE" CONVERSATIONS WITH LOPEZ MATEOS AND EVEN EXACT PHRASEOLOGY WILL NOT BE LEAKED. THIS MEANS THAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN IN PHRASEOLOGY.

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