



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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March 13, 1968

TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: S/S DR

FROM: ARA - Covey T. Oliver

SUBJECT: 14th of June's Public Statement that Caamaño
is in Cuba. INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

In a press statement in the Dominican Republic on March 11, the 14th of June (Communist) declared "Col. Caamaño is in Cuba ... so what? The Yankee Imperialists and Balaguer know this very well, and have known it for many days."

The 14th of June is right that we have heard Caamaño is in Cuba from a variety of Constitutionalist sources close to Caamaño and Bosch's PRD. In early December, an emissary from Juan Bosch, acting at his request, told us that Bosch, other high officials of the PRD, and former Constitution-
alists in Europe all believed that Caamaño had gone to Cuba. Bosch, according to his emissary to us, believed it in the best interest of all concerned that Caamaño should be "exposed" and suggested that we were the ones who should do it. Since then sources linked to the PRD or Caamaño have almost bombarded us with the story that Caamaño is in Cuba. We have nevertheless adhered strictly to a policy of not speculating publicly on Caamaño's whereabouts. First, we did not want to be exposed to the risk that Caamaño would turn up in some non-Communist country (and we have no hard evidence yet that he is or has been in Cuba) and secondly, our case is stronger if the story comes from Caamaño's associates.

Our standard reply to the press has been that we have heard a wide variety of stories as to where Caamaño might be but have no hard evidence to support any of them. Thus far we have

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been successful in avoiding any news stories which could possibly be linked to the United States Government.

We consider it important that this policy be continued. Now that the 14th of June has broken the story other comment from those close to Caamaño, and perhaps even the Cubans, should be forthcoming soon.

CC: U - The Under Secretary

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