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indiscriminately distributing arms to civilians.

Early on the morning of April 25, the Embassy reported the further deterioration of public order, increased activity by the extreme left, the approach of rebellious troops, and sounds of shooting. President Reid called our Air Attache at about 4:30 a.m. (5:30 a.m. Washington time) to ask if the latter had any information as to whether the Air Force would be willing to fight at 5:00 a.m. The Air Attache checked with Air Force Chief of Staff Juan de los Santos and reported that the Air Force would not join in the military operation as scheduled. De los Santos had added that a delegation of Air Force officers was leaving for the headquarters of General Elias Wessin y Wessin, Commander of the Armed Forces Training Center at San Isidro, to seek a formula to avoid shedding more Dominican blood.^{5/}

Upon receipt of these reports, the Department arranged

^{5/} From Santo Domingo, Telegrams 1039, 1040, 1041, April 25, 1965 (CONFIDENTIAL). Note: As Washington went on Daylight Saving Time the morning of April 25, there is a one-hour time differential between Washington and Santo Domingo for the remainder of the crisis.

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