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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : BELGRADE, BUCHAREST, SANTO DOMINGO

FROM : Amembassy MADRID

SUBJECT : Activities of Juan Bosch

REF : Belgrade's A-1058, October 24, 1968

RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

DATE: November 5, 1968

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In a conversation recently with Embassy officers, a Spanish contact of Juan Bosch recounted a talk that he had with the former Dominican president regarding his trip to Yugoslavia and Romania and his meeting with President Tito. The Spaniard, who is of Christian Democratic leanings and a contributor to the liberal monthly Cuadernos para el Dialogo, is the principal editorial spark plug of the firm that published Bosch's book, El Pentagonismo, in Spain.

According to the source, Bosch was delighted with his trip to Eastern Europe. He was deeply impressed by the Yugoslav people and their living conditions, and he also liked what he saw of Romanian life. Although Bosch was scheduled to see Tito for only 30 minutes, the latter invited him to stay for lunch and their conversation lasted four hours. While the source did not elaborate on the talk as recounted by Bosch, he did say that Tito told Bosch that the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia was evidence that the United States and the Soviet Union had an understanding on spheres of influence and that the two big powers used such events to tighten up within their respective blocs. Bosch apparently accepted this view since, as the source pointed out, he is still very, very anti-American.

Bosch also commented on the situation in Latin America. He foresees a military coup in Chile, the same for Venezuela, increased tension in Argentina and further deterioration of the situation in Cuba. Asked whether Bosch had opined on the coup in Peru, the source said the matter had not entered their

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conversation. The only question Bosch failed to answer was one concerning the whereabouts of Caamaño. He said Caamaño was well and in good spirits, but went no further.

At the moment Bosch, who is living at the beach resort town of Benidorm, is engaged in writing the history of the Caribbean. Apparently this is to be the definitive work on the area covering Caribbean history from the earliest times to the present.

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