

TELEGRAM

INCOMING

BRASILEIA

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

SUBJECT

ACTION
POL-2
INFO
FILES
RF

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Control: 024

Recd: 28JUN67

R 272030Z JUN 67
FM AMEMBASSY CARCAS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2391
INFO RULPAL/C CINCSO
RUEHDT/USUN NEWYORK 62
RUESBG/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 195
RUESLM/AMEMBASSY LIMA 107
RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRS 133
RUESNA/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 125
RUESDO/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 82
RUESUA/AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 160
RUESMO/AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY GWTE
STATE GRNC
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 6823

[Handwritten mark]

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN INITITIVE ON CUBAN SUBVERION

1. IN CONVERSATION LATE YESTERDAY WITH AMBASSABOR LINOWITZ AND ME PRESIDENT LEONI DISCUSSED WITH US HIS THINKGIN AHS VENEZUELAN PLANS REGARDING THE GOV'S CASE AGAINST CUBA. IN INTRODUCING SUBJECT HE MADE THESE MAIN POINTS:

A. ALTHOUGH MILITARY MEASURES NOT ENVISIONED IT IS NONETHELESS NECESSARY TO IMPOSE BRAKING ACTION ON CUBA'S ABILITY TO INTERVENE. PIOUS RESOLUTION WOULD BE MEANINGLESS. BOYCOTT BY VENEZUELAN LAOR MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING OF COUNTRIES DOING BUSINESS WITH CUBA HELD PROMISE OF EXERTING EFFECT. IF SIMILAR ACTION COULD BE TAKEN IN US EAST COAST PORTS, COUNTRIES DOING BUSINESS WITH CUBA WOULD THINK TWICE ABOUT CONTINULFG THIS TRADE.

BEV DENIAL OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS IS ANOTHER METGGD. LEONI REFERRED TO DENIAL OF LUCRATIVE GOV CONTRACT TO BRITISH FIRM A YEAR AND A HALF AGO.

C. CUERRILLA MOVEMENT WOULD DIE OUT WITHIN A FEW MONTHS IN VENEZUELA AND OTHER PARTS F LATIN AMERICA IF ASSISTANCE FROM CUBA AND OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES CAN BE STOPPED.

2. LINOWITZ SAID OAS PROGRESS ON CASE AGAINST CUBA INHIBITED BY UNCERTAINTY OF OAS DELEGATES REGARDING VENSZUELA'S WISHES AND PLAN OF ACTION. HE PERSONALLY CONVINCED LA'S WANTED TO COLLABORATE AND WOULD DO SO WITH POSITIVE LEADERSHIP. HE THEREFORE URGED PROMPT FLOATING IN OA ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (GARBLE)

Pa 1 CWBA / VENEZUELA

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DRAFT RESOLUTION.

3. LEONI RESPONDED THAT BECAUSE OF INABILITY TO TAKE MILITARY MEASURES GOV HAD SUGGESTED OTHER AMEGWCAN REPUBLICS MIGHT PROPOSE INITIATIVES. THIS TACTIC, IT WAS THOUGHT, WOULD HAVE VIRTURE OF ENSURING SUPPORT OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND WOULD AVOID DANGER OF NEGATIVE REACTION BY PRESTIGE-MINDED GOVERNMENTS TO VENEZUELAN PROPOSALS. HE THEN SAID US DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS BEING STUDIED AS A BASIS FOR A VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE, THAT THE REVISED VERSION WOULD BE READY SOON AND THEN WOULD BE CIRCULATED IN THE LATINAMERICAN CAPITALS AND WITHIN THE OAS.

4. DISCUSSION OF THE NATURE OF US SUPPORT FOLLOWED. AMBASSADOR LINOWITZ SUGGESTED THAT A STRONG US INITIATIVE WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. NONETHELESS, OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE OAS AND OTHER HEMISPHERE CAPITALS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GIVE VIGOROUS SUPPORT TO THE VENEZUELAN DRAFT RESOLUTION WHEN IT WAS PRESENTED.

5. THE CONVERSATION THEN TURNED TO THE TIMING OF THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS. AMBASSADOR LINOWITZ SUGGESTED THAT THE MFM BE HELD AFTER THE LASO MEETING AT HAVANA. LEONI APPEARED TO AGREE TO THIS SUGGESTION.

6. AMBASSADOR LINOWITZ TABLED THE IDEA OF A COMMITTEE OF THREE PROMINENT LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS VISITING COUNTRIES GIVING AID TO CUBA PRIOR TO THE MFM, ADDING THAT THE COMMITTEE MIGHT BE MADE UP OF FONMIN IRIBARREN AND THE FONMINS OF BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, OR PERU. THE PRESIDENT AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE FONMINS CONSTITUTING THE COMMITTEE AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR THE FONMINS TO TAKE ON THIS MISSION WITH ENTHUSIASM SUFFICIENT TO BE CONVINCING. COUNTRIES WHICH

SGHT BE VISITED WERE ITALY, CANADA, GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, SPAIN AND THE SOVIET UNIO. FON MIN IRIBARREN ENDED THE DISCUSSION BY STATING HE ROPOSED TO VISIT THE UN NEXT WEEK TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MIDDT DEBATE AND WHILE THERE WOULD SOUND OUT LATIN AMERICAN FONMINS ABOUT THIS PROPOSED MIFSION, PARTICULAR THE FONMINS OF ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL.

BERNBAUM
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