

MESSAGE RELAY

B

Transmit in Plaintext Code
 Via Teletype the Attached Immediate Urgent Nitel
 Date *10/8/76*
 From Director, FBI
 To SACs *MIAMI*
San Juan
 To Legats *MEXICO CITY*
Buenos Aires

- To: RUEADWW/ The President The Vice President White House Situation Room
- Attn: Attn:
- RUEBWJA/ Attorney General Deputy Attorney General
- Attn: Analysis and Evaluation Unit
- RUEBWJA/ Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
- RUEBWJA/ Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division
- Attn: Internal Security Section Attn: General Crimes Section
- RUEABND/ Drug Enforcement Administration
- RUEANAF/ National Aeronautics & Space Admin.
- RUEBWJA/ Immigration and Naturalization Service
- RUEOIAA/ National Security Agency
- RUEBWJA/ U.S. Marshall's Service
- (DIRNSA/NSOC (Attn: SOO))
- RUEBDUA/ Department of the Air Force (AFOSI)
- RUEBARE/ Naval Investigative Service
- RUEACSI/ Department of the Army
- RUEAUSA/ U. S. Postal Service (if Classified)
- (Use RUEVDFB if Unclassified)
- RUEAIA/ Director, CIA
- RUEHSE/ U. S. Secret Service (PID)
- RUEBJGA/ Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard
- RUEHC/ Secretary of State
- RUEKJCS/ Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
- RUEBJGA/ Department of Transportation
- Attn: Director of Security
- RHEGOTN/ Energy Research and Development Administration
- RUEATRS/ Department of Treasury
- Attn: U. S. Customs
- Other than *(OS/King/Kel/Hick/SJC)* ST-108
- Listed *ST-108*
- Classified by 3242/klm*
- Declassify on: OADR 6/2/83*
- BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
- COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

2153-70

OCT 08 1976
The 12:20P 2

TELETYPE

Classification: Top Secret Secret Confidential Unclassified

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Subject (Text begins next page):

Foreign Liaison Unit

Route through for review

Cleared telephonically

with _____

OCT 19 1976

over

NOV 16 1976

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

RIG
JTG

SECRET

Chubb

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

~~0 072345Z OCT 76~~

~~FM BARBADOS (2-3)~~

~~TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE NR 162 87~~

OCT 07 1976

TELETYPE

~~SECRET~~

Cubana Airlines

UNSUBS; SUSPECTED BOMBING OF CUBANA AIRLINES DC-8 NEAR BARBADOS,

WEST INDIES, OCTOBER 6, 1976, NM - CUBA - WEST INDIES.

By teletype 10/7/76, Legat CARACAS ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

CUBANA AIRLINES FLIGHT 455, DC-8 AIRCRAFT LEASED BY CUBANA

FROM AIR CANADA, CRASHED IN THE CARIBBEAN SEA OFF THE COAST OF
BARBADOS AT ABOUT 1:45 PM ON OCTOBER 6, 1976, SHORTLY AFTER
TAKEOFF FROM SEAWELL AIRPORT, BARBADOS, EN ROUTE TO HAVANA, CUBA,
VIA KINGSTON, JAMAICA. NO SURVIVORS REPORTED AMONG THE 78 PER-
SONS ABOARD THE PLANE.

ACCORDING TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, PILOT
REPORTED TO SEAWELL AIRPORT TOWER SHORTLY BEFORE CRASH THAT AN
EXPLOSION HAD OCCURRED ABOARD THE PLANE. FLIGHT LOG RECOVERED
AFTER CRASH NOTED POWER FAILURE IN NUMBER FOUR ENGINE, BUT NO
MENTION OF EXPLOSION. AIRPORT OFFICIAL AT BARBADOS REPORTEDLY
INFORMED THAT PILOT TOLD TOWER THERE HAD BEEN EXPLOSION IN ONE
OF THE REAR LAVATORIES OF THE PLANE.

STATE DEPT.
INFO (PARA 2
-END) IS UNCLAS
Filed Re. Das
AUTHORITY
4/28/96.

AMERICAN EMBASSY, PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, ADVISED ON
OCTOBER 7, 1976, AS FOLLOWS:

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE ARE HOLDING TWO VENEZUELAN

~~END PAGE ONE~~

SECRET

~~CARBON COPY DO NOT FILE~~

2

SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~
CITIZENS WHOM THEY BELIEVE MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE CUBANA AIRLINE
CRASH OCTOBER 6 OFF BARBADOS. TWO SUSPECTS ARE:

"A. JOSE VAZQUEZ GARCIA - HOLDER OF VENEZUELAN PASSPORT
720733 (THIS IS THE PERFERATED NUMBER--NUMBER WRITTEN IN THE PASS-
PORT IS 3140886), ISSUED ON JUNE 6, 1976, IN CARACAS. BORN
DECEMBER 9, 1950 IN CARACAS. HOLDS VENEZUELAN ID CEDULA V
3140886.

"B. FREDDY (NOT FEDERICO) LUGO - HOLDER OF VENEZUELAN PASS-
PORT 006543 (THIS IS THE PERFERATED NUMBER--NUMBER WRITTEN IN THE
PASSPORT IS 2123051), ISSUED JULY 6, 1976, IN CARACAS. SINGLE.
BORN OCTOBER 17, 1942. GAVE RESIDENCE AS CARACAS AND OCCUPATION
AS JOURNALIST. HOLDS ID CEDULA VO 2123051. CARRIES OFFICIAL
PRESS CARD NO 152 OF CIRCULO DE REPORTEROS GRAFICOS DE VENEZUELA.
LUGO ALSO HAD IN HIS POSSESSION TOURIST CARD FOR COLOMBIA DATED
JULY 15, 1976. THIS GAVE PERMANENT ADDRESS AD IRB URDANETA VERDA
24, CARACAS.

"THESE TWO VENEZUELAN'S ARRIVED IN TRINIDAD FROM CARACAS ON
PANAM 443 EARLY MORNING HOURS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6. CHECKED INTO
HOLIDAY INN AT 0200 HOURS. HOTEL REGISTRATION MADE IN NAMES OF
~~END PAGE TWO~~

STATE DEPT. INFO (ALL PARAS) IS
UNCLASSIFIED PER DSS AUTHORITY
8/28/96.

SECRET

JOSE GARCIA/FREDDY PEREZ. HOME ADDRESS GIVEN AS URB CRISTO
REY NO 61, VALENCIA, VENEZUELA. HAD LUGGAGE WHEN CHECKED INTO HOTEL.

"VENEZUELAN'S CHECKED OUT OF HOLIDAY INN ABOUT 0600 OCTOBER 6
WITH LUGGAGE AND WERE SEEN AT Piarco Airport. BOARDED CUBANA FLIGHT
AT 1150 OCTOBER 6 TO BARBADOS.

"RETURNED FROM BARBADOS TO TRINIDAD ON SAME DAY ON BWIA FLIGHT
AT 2155 AND CHECKED INTO HOLIDAY INN AT 2300 WITHOUT SUITCASES.
REGISTRATION IN NAME OF GUSTAVO GARCIA, RESIDENCE BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.
THEY CLAIMED THE SUITCASES HAD BEEN STOLEN, BUT THEY HAVE MADE NO
REPORT OF STOLEN SUITCASES EITHER TO AIRLINE OR BARBADOS OR
TRINIDAD POLICE.

"AMONG DOCUMENTS IN HANDS OF POLICE IS BOARDING PASS OF E.
SEALY FOR DIFFERENT BWIA FLIGHT. POLICE CHECKING THIS OUT. THIS
THEY BELIEVE COULD BE TRINIDAD ACCOMPLICE.

"OF INTEREST IS FACT BOTH PASSPORTS FAIRLY NEW. THEREFORE
DIFFICULT TRACE PAST TRAVEL. HOWEVER, PASSPORT OF FREDDY LIGO DID
HAVE STAMP SHOWING ENTRY AT BARBADOS ON JULY 9. (NOTE: THE BOMBS
WHICH WENT OFF AT THE BWIA OFFICE AND AT THE GENERAL MANAGER'S CAR
AND YACHT IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, TOOK PLACE ON 10 AND 11 JULY
1976.)

~~END PAGE THREE~~

STATE DEPT. INFO (ALL PAGES.) IS
UNCLASSIFIED FOR DOS AUTHORITY
8/28/96

SECRET

4

~~THIS PAGE CAN BE SECRET~~

"PAGE IN POSSESSION OF LIGO APPARENTLY FROM ADDRESS BOOK WITH LETTER "E" ON IT CITED FOLLOWING: EMBASSY AMERICAN 2246111-1271 FBI JOSEPH LEO 331911.

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE ARE FINGERPRINTING BOTH SUSPECTS AND COPYING ALL DOCUMENTS IN THEIR POSSESSION.

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE REQUEST URGENTLY ANY INFORMATION OF THESE PERSONS, PARTICULARLY ANY CRIMINAL RECORDS. NO OBJECTION TO LEGATT CONTACTING LOCAL POLICE/SECURITY SERVICES. POLICE REQUEST AT LEAST INTERIM REPLY BEFORE 1700 LOCAL TIME. PLEASE SEND REPLY REACT IMMEDIATE.

"POLICE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF ANYONE FROM LEGATT OFFICE PLANS TO COME TO TRINIDAD ON THIS CASE, OR HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE COPIES OF FINGERPRINTS, ETC."

[REDACTED SECTION]

4

ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ABROAD ADVISED THAT

END PAGE FOUR

5

SECRET

~~PAGE FIVE CAP 2-9 SECRET~~

FREDDY LUGO IS A VENEZUELAN NEWSMAN WHO IS ALSO EMPLOYED AS AN INVESTIGATOR BY LUIS POSADA, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (S) CARACAS. HE RESIGNED FROM HIS POSITION [REDACTED] (S) IN 1973. [REDACTED] 4

[REDACTED] (S) POSADA IS A CUBAN EXILE WHO IS KNOWN FOR HIS ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES, AND HE REPORTEDLY ASSISTED ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA IN 1974, SHORTLY BEFORE BOSCH WAS ARRESTED BY VENEZUELAN AUTHORITIES. (S)

LEGAT BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH POSADA WHILE THE LATTER WAS [REDACTED] (S) AND AFTER HIS RESIGNATION, POSADA CONTINUED 4 TO CONTACT LEGAT ON RARE OCCASIONS, USUALLY IN ORDER TO OBTAIN PERSONALIZED SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH VISA REQUESTS. IN VIEW OF LUGO'S EMPLOYMENT BY POSADA, LEGAT ASSUMES HIS NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER WERE FURNISHED TO LUGO BY POSADA. LEGAT ESTIMATES HE HAS SEEN POSADA IN PERSON ON PERHAPS THREE OCCASIONS SINCE 1973, THE LAST TIME BEING ON JUNE 10, 1976, WHEN POSADA VISITED LEGAT OFFICE TO INQUIRE IF FBI HAD INTEREST IN CARLO BORDONI (BUFILE 29168554; ORFILE 29-13). INFORMED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, POSADA REVEALED BORDONI HAD HIRED TWO OF HIS OPERATIVES AS ARMED BODY GUARDS AT HIS HOME. THAT INFORMATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PASSED BY LEGAT TO [REDACTED] 4

[REDACTED] (S) WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE ARREST ACTION AGAINST BORDONI. (S)

~~END PAGE FIVE~~

SECRET

SECRET

~~PAGE SIX CAR 20 SECRET~~

POSADA MORE OFTEN REFERRED TO LEGAT RELATIVES AND ASSOCIATES SEEKING ADVICE REGARDING VISAS, THE LAST BEING ONE OF HIS EMPLOYEES, HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO, WHO SOUGHT A VISA TO TRAVEL TO SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, ON OCTOBER 1, 1976. LEGAT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO DEVELOPED REGARDING RICARDO IN A SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATION. (S)

IC

ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, THE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE FURTHER ADVISED THAT IN VIEW OF THE ARREST OF VAZQUEZ AND LIGO IN TRINIDAD, THE [REDACTED] WAS ARRANGING FOR LUIS POSADA AND ORLAND BOSCH AVILA TO LEAVE [VENEZUELA] AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE SOURCE ALL BUT ADMITTED THAT POSADA AND BOSCH HAD ENGINEERED THE BOMBING OF THE AIRLINE, AND HE PROMISED TO FURNISH FURTHER DETAILS ON OCTOBER 8, 1976. (S)

B
B

~~CLASSIFIED BY 4420, XSD, 07/01/88, R. AND A. INDEFINITE.~~

Admin to Field and Legats only

ADMINISTRATIVE: CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE IS [REDACTED]

A

[REDACTED] CARACAS,

A-B

VENEZUELA. (S)(U)

FROM STATEMENTS OF [REDACTED] IT APPEARS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT THE [REDACTED] WAS PRIVY TO THE ACTIVITIES OF POSADA AND BOSCH AND THAT IT NOW WILL ATTEMPT TO DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM THEM FOR FEAR OF RETALIATION BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT. (S)(U)

A

B

BT

ADMIN TO FIELD AND LEGATS ONLY

SECRET

