TEXT

/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

COUNTRY: (U) CHINA (CH).

SUBJECT: IIIR(b)(3):10 USC 424 APPREHENSION ABOUT BOMBS ON CAAC FLIGHTS (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 890710.

REqs: (J) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE: (b)(1),1.4

SUMMARY: SOME HONG KONG TRAVELERS BOUND FOR CHINA HAVE EXPRESSED FEAR ABOUT "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES" PLACING BOMBS ON CAAC FLIGHTS. (b)(1), (b)(3):50 MAINTAINS THAT OFFICIALS IN BEIJING MAY SHARE THAT FEAR.

TEXT:

1. NOTED THAT THEY HAD CHANGED THEIR FLIGHTS TO CHINA FROM CAAC TO CATHAY PACIFIC. THAT ACTION IN ITSELF IS NOT UNUSUAL. THEIR REASON WAS -- THEY FEAR SO-CALLED CHINESE "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES" MAY TRY TO PLACE A BOMB ON CAAC AIRCRAFT. THEY REASONED THAT IF SOMEONE BOMBED A TRAIN, THEY MIGHT ALSO PLACE A BOMB ON AN AIRCRAFT. (b)(1), 1.4 (c) ACTUALLY TOOK A FERRY FROM GUANGZHOU BACK TO KONG KONG TO AVOID TAKING A CAAC FLIGHT.

2. WHILE RECOUNTING THIS EXPRESSION OF FEAR TO (b)(1), 1.4 (c) STATED THAT EVEN CHINESE SECURITY PERSONNEL IN BEIJING DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE DISMISSED
SUCH A POSSIBILITY. HE NOTED THAT WHEN HE RETURNED FROM BEIJING LAST WEEKEND, AIRPORT SECURITY WAS TIGHT. ADDITIONALLY, CAAC OFFICIALS DECIDED NOT TO USE THE USUAL LUGGAGE CONTAINERS TO LOAD LUGGAGE ON THE AIRCRAFT. THERE WAS NO SHORTAGE OF CONTAINERS WHICH COULD BE SEEN FROM THE AIRCRAFT WINDOW. OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL LUGGAGE ON HIS AIRCRAFT WAS LOADED INDIVIDUALLY BY HAND WHILE THE PASSENGERS WATCHED FROM THE AIRCRAFT. HE NOTED A SIMILAR PROCEDURE BEING USED AT AN ADJACENT AIRCRAFT.

3. OFFERED ANOTHER EXPLANATION. WHILE ATTENDING TO BUSINESS IN SHENZHEN THIS WEEK, ASSOCIATES THERE INDICATED THAT CHINESE GUARDS ARE PAYING PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO ALL CONTAINERIZED SHIPMENTS. IN ONE INSTANCE, THEY WENT THROUGH THREE SMALL CONTAINERS OF DUCK FEATHERS. THE REASON - THEY THINK STUDENTS MAY BE SMUGGLED OUT OF CHINA IN CONTAINERS. ADDITIONALLY, GUARDS FROM NORTH CHINA HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO THE SHENZHEN AREA TO REPLACE LOCAL GUARDS WHOM AUTHORITIES APPARENTLY THINK COULD BE BRIBED INTO LETTING FUGITIVES CROSS THE BORDER. SHENZHEN RESIDENTS ALSO REPORTED LATE NIGHT SEARCHES OF THEIR QUARTERS BY POLICE WHO WERE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE, NOT THINGS (E.G., SMUGGLED GOODS).

COMMENTS: (U) EACH DAY EVERYONE SEEMS TO HAVE A NEW HORROR STORY ABOUT CHINA. THEY ARE BECOMING ALMOST AS NUMEROUS AS CAAC STORIES. ALTHOUGH MANY OF THEM SEE TOTALLY UNREALISTIC, THE FACT THAT THEY CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE AND ARE BELIEVED CREATES A PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPECTATION OF THINGS TO COME THAT IS NO QQQQQQQQQQQQU)

ADMIN
PROJ: (U)
COLL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424
INSTR: (U) USC 424
PREP: (b)(3):10 USC 424

/ENDING OF SECTION 002 END/