DECL: 5/17/93
PINT, PINR, CU, HO
AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH COMANDANTE MATOS

SECSTATE, WASHDC

INFO:
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY EIRACAS
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AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
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AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
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AMBASSADOR TEGUCIGALPA 5025

1. ENTIRE TEXT.

2. Ambassador met for 45 minutes on 13 May in his office with Buban, exile leader Huber Matos and his son, Huber, Jr. The Matos explained that they had come to learn something about the situation in Honduras.

3. Comandante Matos and his son then described their organization, Cuba Independiente y Democratico (CID), and told of their efforts to get the truth to the Cuban people. They said that they have concentrated on radio broadcasts from Venezuela and Dominican Republic and that they have had some success. Dissent is growing in Cuba, they said, there is now much dissatisfaction with Castro. Their effort is to enhance
long-term prospects for internal revolt within Cuba. Matos doubts Soviets would be able to crush a Cuban revolt in the way it had suppressed Hungarian situation.

4. Both father and son mentioned in the course of the conversation that Honduras would be an ideal location for a powerful radio transmitter. From Honduras, said the Matos, they could broadcast during the day to Cuba and at night turn their signals on Nicaragua. This would effectively block Radio Sandino's penetration into Honduras, which is particularly strong between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., when all Honduran stations are off the air. They said they were also working in El Salvador to help interfere with Radio Venceremos.

7. The Matos seemed disappointed that they did not have the opportunity to visit with President Suazo, who is ill. Young Huber, upon departing, mentioned that he would probably return to Honduras from Costa Rica, where he lives, next week to pursue the initial contacts he has made in Honduras.

3. COMMENT: Both Matos' impressed us with their ideas and their obvious patience.

NEGROPONTE