



Inca Dec
Department of State

TELEGRA

SECRET

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(2)

xr SOC 11-5

CONTROL : 2755 Q
RECEIVED: Sept. 12, 1969
12:33A.M.

P 120012Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1344
BT
SECRET MEXICO 5007

~~WODIS~~

REF: STATE 153261 ²²¹

9/12/69

EYES ONLY FOR SENDERS REFTEL

1. CARRYING OUT OF INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL SOMEWHAT HAMPERED BY TOTAL PREOCCUPATION OF HIGH MEXICAN OFFICIALS WITH MARRIAGE OF PRESIDENT DIAZ ORDAZ SON TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND MEXICAN NATIONAL HOLIDAYS MONDAY AND TUESDAY. NEVERTHELESS, I HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY CARRILLO FLORES ON FRIDAY, 12:30. I HAVE ALSO SENT A MESSAGE (BY SAFE CHANNEL) TO INTERIOR MINISTER ECHEVERRIA INFORMING HIM THAT I WISH TO SEE HIM ABOUT THIS MATTER. ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS BELIEVED LEAVING FOR US AND UNAVAILABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 25.
2. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT IT APPEARS THAT REPEATED LEAKS HAVE NOW MINIMIZED POSSIBILITIES OF SUCCESS OF OPERATION INTERCEPT AND THAT ITS VALUE, AS AGAINST DAMAGE IT WILL CAUSE IN OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, SEEMS TO HAVE DECREASED GREATLY. LEAKS FROM US NAVY (WHICH EVEN INDICATED DATE OF OPERATION) AND THROUGH NEW YORK TIMES HAVE OBVIOUSLY ALERTED EVERYONE TO NEED FOR CAUTION IN THEIR NEFARIOUS OPERATIONS, AND DOUBTLESS THOSE INVOLVED HAVE TAKEN PRECAUTIONS TO RIDE OUT STORM. WHILE I AM AWARE OF ENORMITY OF PROBLEM, I WONDER IF OPERATION INTERCEPT IN ITS PRESENT MARRED CONDITION IS REALLY WORTH RISKING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES WITH MEXICANS.
3. I WILL REPORT MEXICAN REACTION TO RATHER GENERAL BRIEFING WHICH REFTEL AUTHORIZES.

MCBRIDE

BT

SECRET

NOVIS REVIEW	
Cat. A	Content removed; transferred to O/FADRC
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Cat. C	Content and custody retained by S/S
Reviewed by: Ambassador W. Witman, I	
Date: <i>9/12/69</i> 1975	