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TELEGRAM



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Martinez Dominguez, Alfonso

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7969

S E C R E T MEXICO 3645

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SUBJ: GROUP ALLEGED TO BE PLOTTING OUSTER OF ECHEVERRIA

REF: A) MEXICO'S 3332; B) MEXICO'S 3381

1. SUMMARY - LEGATT SOURCES REPORT INFORMATION, TRANSMITTED THUS FAR ONLY TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, THAT EX-FEDERAL DISTRICT REGENT ALFONSO MARTINEZ DOMINGUEZ AND OTHER POLITICIANS HAVE BEEN HOLDING MEETINGS AT WHICH THE POSSIBLE OVERTHROW OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA HAS BEEN DISCUSSED. IF TRUE THIS IS A SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT ALTHOUGH NOT UNPRECEDENTED. IN THE MEXICAN POLITICAL CONTEXT IT IS A LONG WAY BETWEEN DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SORT AND ACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO A LEGATT REPORT (SECRET, NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION) DATED JUNE 28, BASED ON INFORMATION DEVELOPED JUNE 25, A GROUP OF POLITICIANS HAVE HELD MEETINGS IN RECENT DAYS TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA FROM OFFICE. INDIVIDUALS SPECIFICALLY NAMED AS PARTICIPATING IN THESE MEETINGS ARE: ALFONSO MARTINEZ DOMINGUEZ (FORCED TO RESIGN AS FEDERAL DISTRICT REGENT ON JUNE 15), COL. MANUEL DIAZ ESCOBAR (CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THE HALCONES), MIGUEL OSORIO MARBAN (FORMER FEDERAL DEPUTY WITH MARTINEZ DOMINGUEZ AND, FROM 1967-70, HEAD OF LA FORESTAL, A GOVERNMENT ENTITY CHARGED WITH AIDING ISTLE FIBER PRODUCERS), FLUVIO VISTA ALTAMIRANO (UNTIL RECENTLY, OFFICIAL MAYOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT), AND EVERARDO GAMIZ FERNANDEZ (PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT PRI COMMITTEE).

3. THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY, DESCRIBED AS NOW IN THE EARLY TALKING STAGES, IS SAID TO BE MADE UP OF PERSONS WHO LOST THEIR JOBS AS

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A RESULT OF THE JUNE 10 DEMONSTRATION AND REPRESSION, OR WHO ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING THEIR POSITIONS SHORTLY. THEY ARE SAID TO BE DISGRUNTLED BECAUSE OF THEIR RECENT TREATMENT BY ECHEVERRIA, AND CLAIM, AS A CHIEF REASON FOR THEIR DISSATISFACTION, HIS REPEATED CONCESSIONS TO LEFIST DEMANDS. REPORTEDLY, THE PROFESSIONED INTENTION OF THE GROUP IS TO PROTECT MEXICO FROM BECOMING A MARXIST STATE AS THE RESULT OF WEAK LEADERSHIP.

4. OTHER DETAILS OF THE REPORT ARE THE FOLLOWING:

A. THE CONSPIRATORS REALIZE THAT MEXICAN ARMY ASSISTANCE IS NECESSARY AND WILL MAKE NO EFFORT TO REMOVE ECHEVERRIA WITHOUT IT. NO APPROACH HAS YET BEEN MADE TO MILITARY LEADERS.

B. ALFONSO CORONA DEL ROSAL, FEDERAL DISTRICT RECENT FROM 1966 TO 1970, HAS BEEN MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR TO ECHEVERRIA IN THE EVENT OF A COUP D'ETAT. CORONA DEL ROSAL IS PRESENTLY VISITING SPAIN.

C. EX-PRESIDENT LAZARO CARDENAS (WHO DIED IN OCTOBER, 1970) WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE SELECTION OF ECHEVERRIA AS THE PRI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. WITH CARDENAS DEATH ECHEVERRIA LOST SUPPORT FROM OLDER ESTABLISHED POLITICIANS.

D. SUBSEQUENT SECRET MEETINGS OF THE GROUP ARE TO BE HELD IN QUERETARO AND VALLE DE BRAVO (MEXICO STATE).

5. COMMENT. - A SUMMARY OF THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED AS INDICATING, IF TRUE, THE DEGREE OF UNHAPPINESS RECENT EVENTS HAVE PROVOKED IN THE MARTINEZ DOMINGUEZ CAMP. IT SUGGESTS THAT NO BARGAIN WAS STRUCK AT THE TIME OF THE MARTINEZ DOMINGUEZ RESIGNATION, EITHER ENSURING HIS AGAINST FURTHER IMPLICATION AS A RESULT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INVESTIGATION OR PROTECTING VARIOUS OF HIS POLITICAL ALLIES WHO STILL RETAIN IMPORTANT OFFICIAL OR PARTY POSITIONS. IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT MARTINEZ DOMINGUEZ HAS MET WITH CLOSE POLITICAL ASSOCIATES SINCE HIS RESIGNATION ON JUNE 15, AND THAT THESE MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE. THE DISCUSSIONS AT SUCH MEETINGS ARE PROBABLY HIGHLY CRITICAL OF ECHEVERRIA. THESE DISCUSSIONS MAY INCLUDE REFERENCE TO THE DESIRABILITY OF AND POSSIBILITIES FOR REMOVING ECHEVERRIA AS PRESIDENT.

6. IN THIS SENSE THERE MAY BE, AS LEGATT SOURCES ALLEGE, AN

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