

(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC
3024(i)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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POLITICAL MATTERS - Cuba

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TO DIA

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109-12-210-7413

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NOFORN 1598

SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN) (U)

DIADIN 291-4A (AS OF: 1625 EDT 18 OCT 77)

~~CUBA-ETHIOPIA:~~ ~~LUKEWARM RECEPTION.~~ (U)

1. ~~(C/N OF ORN)~~ ETHIOPIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELEKE
WALDE GIORGIS ARRIVED IN HAVANA ON 15 OCTOBER TO A LOW-KEY
CUBAN WELCOME, PERHAPS Cuba INDICATIVE OF THE APPREHENSION THE
CASTRO GOVERNMENT HAS ABOUT ITS ROLE IN ADDIS ABABA. OB-
SERVERS IN THE CUBAN CAPITAL NO DOUBT CONSIDER THEIR SUPPORT
TO ETHIOPIA MUCH MORE RISKY THAN THAT TO NATIONS IN SOUTHERN
AFRICA, AND THEY MAY BE ATTEMPTING TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR
LEADING ETHIOPIA TOWARD A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN ITS WAR WITH
SOMALIA.

2. ~~(C/N OF ORN)~~ GIORGIS WAS GREETED BY HIS CUBAN COUNTERPART,

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MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ISIDORO MALMIERCA, ON HIS ARRIVAL. THAT SAME DAY, HOWEVER, VISITING AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL LEADER OLIVER TAMBO WAS GIVEN A GRAND WELCOME, INCLUDING THE PERSONAL GREETING OF SECOND-IN-COMMAND RAUL CASTRO AND THIRD-IN-COMMAND CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ AT JOSE MARTI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. CUBA'S CONTROLLED NEWS MEDIA HAVE THUS FAR PLAYED UP THE TAMBO VISIT IN CONTRAST TO COVERAGE OF THE ETHIOPIAN VISIT.

3. ~~(C/N OF ORN)~~ SPEECHES MADE BY GIORGIS AT JOSE MARTI INDICATE THAT THE ETHIOPIAN MINISTER IS WILLING TO HAVE HIS GOVERNMENT ACCEPT A "PEACEFUL" SOLUTION IN ERITREA, BUT THAT THE NATION IS BEING ATTACKED BY FORCES SUPPORTED BY "IMPERIALISM" IN THE OGADEN. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM ADDIS ABABA, THE MINISTER HAD STATED THAT HIS TALKS WERE DESIGNED TO COVER BILATERAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THE HORN OF AFRICA AND THE "AGGRESSION OF SOMALIA AGAINST ETHIOPIA." GIORGIS' REMARKS IN HAVANA OMITTED MENTION OF SOMALIA.

4. ~~(C/N OF ORN)~~ CUBA HAD, ON 14 OCTOBER, CALLED FOR THE INSTITUTION OF BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH VISITING MOZAMBIKAN LEADER SAMORA MACHEL.

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ADDITIONALLY, CUBAN AND MOZAMBIKAN LEADERS CALLED FOR THE
"COLLABORATION OF PROGRESSIVE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE BEEN WORK-
ING FOR THIS UNDERSTANDING," AN OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO CUBA AND
THE USSR. IT MAY BE THAT THE ETHIOPIAN MINISTER WILL BE BRIEF-
ED BY HAVANA ON POSSIBLE MEANS OF ACHIEVING A SOLUTION TO THE
OGADEN PROBLEM. NONETHELESS, THE LOW-KEY WELCOME AFFORDED
GIORGIS INDICATES THAT HAVANA IS EXPERIENCING SOME DISCOMFORT
ABOUT HIS VISIT.

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