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(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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FM DIA WASHINGTON DC/

TO DIA

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NOFORN 3514

DIADIN 344-5A (AS OF: 1800 EST 10 DEC 79)

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

GRENADA: CUBAN ASSISTANCE. (U)

1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ GRENADA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT CUBAN ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HAS BEGUN (DIADIN 335-1A, 1 DEC 79). CUBAN MERCHANT SHIP "PALM ISLAND" ARRIVED ON 6 DECEMBER AND UNLOADED BUILDING EQUIPMENT MATERIAL AND 40 OF 250 TECHNICIANS WHO WILL BOTH SERVE AS LABORERS AND INSTRUCTORS OF GRENADIAN WORKERS. WORK ON THE AIRFIELD IS DUE TO COMMENCE IN A FEW WEEKS.

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2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE INSTALLATION WILL BE BUILT AT POINT SALINES ON THE SOUTHWEST COAST NEAR ST. GEORGES AND IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE TOURIST TRADE AND FACILITATE TRAVEL DIRECTLY TO GRENADA, - AVOIDING THE NOW REQUIRED TRANSIT OF BARBADOS.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE PROJECT IS BEGINNING ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET AND THE CUBAN ASSISTANCE, WHICH COVERS ABOUT ONE-HALF THE COST, IS PRESUMABLY ON A GRANT BASIS. PRIME MINISTER BISHOP CALLED FOR GRASS-ROOTS SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT AND ENCOURAGED GRENADIANS TO HELP HOUSE AND FEED THE CUBAN ADVISERS. THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO RAISE THE REMAINING FUNDS BY SALE OF BONDS, BUT IT MAY BE HARD PRESSED TO FIND BUYERS.

4. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ WHILE APPEARING POSITIVE AND DYNAMIC IN THEIR LEADERSHIP AND ASSISTANCE ROLES, BOTH BISHOP AND HIS CUBAN SUPPORTERS HAVE UNDERTAKEN A MAJOR PROJECT, AND THE OVERALL COST AND TECHNICAL DEMANDS MAY BE MORE THAN EITHER CAN ADEQUATELY FULFILL.

(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(6)

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