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Planning of Coup Against the Government of the Bahamas

DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION
Support Branch/Operational Support Section
Room 900, Key Building - ext. 2268
(Mr. Shaun Ryan)

Case 61401

11 September 1974

WH/7/CAR
ATTN: (A1 Ramos) 03
3 B 0001 Hqs.

Attached for your information
is a copy of MIM-00-A(S)-322/
26415-74.

E-2 IMPDET CL BY 007622

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CONFIDENTIAL
(when filled in)

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

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| FIELD OFFICE | | | | REQ. CODE | | | | | CASE NUMBER | | | | | FORWARDED | | | REPORT SERIES & NO. | | | | | U O P | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | MO. | DAY | YR | A | B | Z | A | T | S. | 34 | 35 | 36 |
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| SUBJECT AND AREA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RELEASED | | | | | | | | |
| Planning of Coup Against the Government of the Bahamas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | MO. | DAY | YR | | | | | | |
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| (BAHAMAS) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address) | | | | | | | | | | INDIVIDUAL NO. | | | 45 TYPE CO-E | | 46 * NOT DISSEMINATED | | | | | | | | | | |
| Joseph Merola Gordon Cooper and Associates Opa-Locka, Florida | | | | | | | | | | | | | GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address) | | | | | | | | | | ORGANIZATION NO. | | | SUBJECT | | * HQ PROCESSING ELEMENT | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 8. - - - | | 6. INSUFFICIENT INTEREST | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 9. M I S | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| METHOD OF COLLECTION | | | | | | | | | | EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM | | | USSR ONLY EXCHANGES (CHECK ONE) | | RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS | | | | | | | | | | |
| INTERVIEW | | | | | TRIP REPORT | | | | | | | | NO | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENT | | | | | OTHER (specify below) | | | | | | | | TO USSR | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | FROM USSR | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DIRECTED TO | | | SUP | | SOV | | INT | | CASE OFFICER | | | HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | X | | | | | | SPRyan | | | Process sheet and report typed in OSS. (MIAMI TWX 12584) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FIELD COMMENTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A) Re Watts/Bem telecon, 10 September 1974. B) The meeting took place the morning of 7 September 1974 in Miami. Joe Merola telephoned Matt MacVane at his home on 7 September 1974 to pass on this information. The telecon was unsolicited by MacVane, who no longer contacts Merola per DCD Headquarters instructions. Com Robinson flew in from Nassau to meet with Joe Merola and Mike Yamanis (Yamanis is apparently from Ft. Lauderdale and like Merola he has close ties to arms dealers and mercenaries). Robinson plans to meet again with Merola and Yamanis after complete financial details have been worked out in Nassau. Filed: 101900Z | | | | | | | | | | WH/T/CAK HL Names 330001 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F.O. CHIEF | | | | | CASE OFFICER | | | | | DIVISION/STAFF/DESK | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MacVane | | | | | (SPRyan) ⁰³ | | | | | OSS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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DIRECTORATE OF
OPERATIONS

CLASSIFICATION
CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO. OO-A(S)-322/26415-74

DATE 11 September 1974

COUNTRY Bahamas

NO. PAGES 1

SUBJECT Planning of Coup Against the
Government of the Bahamas

REFERENCES Case 61401

DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION OPERATIONAL INFORMATION REPORT

This report is believed to contain information of operational interest and may not be disclosed to personnel outside the Directorate of Operations without the prior permission of the Domestic Collection Division.

SOURCE U.S. citizen, convicted arms dealer who maintains close ties to known underworld figures.

1. Com (Robinson), a black Bahamian who resides in Nassau, Bahamas, recently has made foreign enquiries into the possibility of hiring armed mercenaries to be used in an attempt to overthrow the Government of Prime Minister Lyndon O. (Pindling). During a meeting with non-Bahamians, who have close ties with foreign arms dealers, that took place outside of the Bahamas Robinson stated that he represents elements of the Bay Street merchants of Nassau, and that funds are available for action against the Bahamian Government. According to Robinson, his group is looking for foreign assistance in the planning, equipping, and execution of a coup against the Government. He said that there are many Bahamians who are in sympathy with his planned course of action, and that after full details are worked out and the required funds are set aside, he will convene another meeting with the foreigners in order to finalize the appropriate arrangements.

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CONFIDENTIAL 101900Z SEP 74 INTEL

SITE DCD/MIAMI 12584

PRIORITY DCD/WASHINGTON

ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (WATTS/RYAN)

INTEL REPORT

SOURCE: JOSEPH MEROLA, GORDON COOPER AND ASSOCIATES, OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA

FILED 101900Z

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REPORT CLASS CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY SAHMAS FIELD NO. XMIM 00A(S) 322/26415-74

SUBJECT PLANNING OF COUP AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SAHMAS

U.S. CITIZEN, CONVICTED ARMS DEALER WHO MAINTAINS CLOSE TIES TO KNOWN UNDERWORLD FIGURES.

1. COY (ROBINSON), A BLACK BAHAMIAN WHO RESIDES IN NASSAU, BAHAMAS, RECENTLY HAS MADE FOREIGN ENQUIRIES INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF HIRING ARMED MERCENARIES TO BE USED IN AN ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER LYNDON O. (PINDLING). DURING A MEETING WITH NON-BAHAMIANS, WHO HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH FOREIGN ARMS DEALERS, THAT TOOK PLACE OUTSIDE OF THE BAHAMAS ROBINSON STATED THAT HE REPRESENTS ELEMENTS OF THE BAY STREET MERCHANTS OF NASSAU, AND THAT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ACTION AGAINST THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO ROBINSON, HIS GROUP IS LOOKING FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IN THE PLANNING, EQUIPPING, AND EXECUTION OF A COUP AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THAT THERE ARE MANY BAHAMIANS WHO ARE IN SYMPATHY WITH HIS PLANNED COURSE OF ACTION, AND THAT AFTER FULL DETAILS ARE WORKED OUT AND THE REQUIRED FUNDS ARE SET ASIDE, HE WILL CONVEY ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE FOREIGNERS IN ORDER TO FINALIZE THE APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS. END OF REPORT

2. FIELD COMMENTS: (A) RE WATTS/BEM TELECON, 14 SEPTEMBER 1974. (B) THE MEETING TOOK PLACE THE MORNING OF 7 SEPTEMBER 1974 IN MIAMI. JOE MEROLA TELEPHONED NATT MACVANE AT HIS HOME ON 7 SEPTEMBER 1974 TO PASS ON THIS INFORMATION. THE TELECON WAS UNSOLICITED BY MACVANE, WHO NO LONGER CONTACTS MEROLA PER DCD HEADQUARTERS INSTRUCTIONS. COY ROBINSON FLEW IN FROM NASSAU TO MEET WITH JOE MEROLA AND MIKE YAMASIS (YAMASIS IS APPARENTLY FROM FT. LAUDERDALE AND LIKE MEROLA HE HAS CLOSE TIES TO ARMS DEALERS AND UNDERWORLD FIGURES). ROBINSON PLANS TO MEET AGAIN WITH MEROLA AND YAMASIS. AFTER COMPLETE FINANCIAL DETAILS HAVE BEEN

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3. C. MACVANE, PLEASE PREPARE TYPED COPY OF REPORT AND PROCESS SHEET IN HEADQUARTERS. ED IMPDET
 4. BY 1125Z
 5. THIS IS CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL

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