



Canonical ID: 1973PANAMA05699_b
Subject: REPORTED HIJACK ATTEMPT
From: Panama Panama City
To: Department of State
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Previous Handling Restrictions: -- N/A or Blank --
Archive Status: Electronic Telegrams
Type: TE
Locator: TEXT ONLINE
Reference(s): A) PANAMA 5697 B) PANAMA 5698
Executive Order (E.O.): GS SAYRE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State E0
 Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005
Enclosure: -- N/A or Blank --
Concepts: -- N/A OR BLANK --
TAGS: Economic Affairs--Transportation Policies [ETRN]
Office: -- N/A or Blank --
Document Character Count: 1330
Date: 1973 October 20, 18:28 (Saturday)

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 05699 210009Z

72 (15)
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-11 H-03 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00

SPC-03 OC-06 NEA-10 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-20 USIE-00

USSS-00 SY-10 FAA-00 SSO-00 SCA-01 INRE-00 JUSE-00

DRC-01 /150 W
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 FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8866

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5699

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 1 LINE 2)

SUBJ: REPORTED HIJACK ATTEMPT

REF A) PANAMA 5697 B) PANAMA 5698

1. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT SUSPECTED HIJACKER ARAGON IS A
 PANAMANIAN JOURNALIST CONVICTED OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES
 AGAINST THE GOP. HE WAS REPORTEDLY SENTANCED TO HARD LABOR AT



COIBA ISLAND PENAL COLONY ALTHOUGH IT NOT KNOWN WHETHER HE SERVED ANY OR ALL OF HIS TERM PRIOR TO TODAY'S DEPORTATION TO SWEDEN.

2. U S INTELLIGENCE SOURCES REPORT THAT ARAGON HAS REPUTATION FOR UNSTABLE PERSONALITY AND IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIVITIES.

3. LT. COL. NORIEGA, NATIONAL GUARD G-2, HAS INFORMED MILGP THAT GOP DOES NOT WANT ARAGON RETURNED TO PANAMA. GOP HAS NO OBJECTION TO HIS BEING TRIED IN U S ON ANY CHARGES ARISING OUT OF POSSIBLE HIJACKING ATTEMPT. IF U S GOVT DOES NOT PRESS CHARGES, NORIEGA REQUESTS THAT HE BE SENT ON TO SWEDEN.
SAYRE

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note: n/a
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date: n/a
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event: n/a
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason: n/a
Disposition Remarks: n/a
Document Number: 1973PANAMA05699
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SAYRE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path: n/a
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731019/aaaaanxe.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) PANAMA 5697 B) PANAMA 5698
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: n/a
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event: n/a
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by martinjw>;
FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings: n/a

APPROVED <13



US Department of State
E0 Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: n/a

Review Referrals: n/a

Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a

Review Transfer Date: n/a

Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

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