

(439)

Author: Cecilia Capestany at AIA
Date: 2/23/96 2:40 PM
Priority: Urgent
TO: Drazen Gardilcic at ASOFSD023
TO: Celio Young at ASOFSD023
TO: Chris Metts at ATR3
TO: Michael C Thomas at ASOFSD019
CC: Louise Maillett at API
CC: Joan Bauerlein
CC: Cynthia Burgunder
CC: Allan Horowitz at AGC
Subject: Cuba alert

H. TRACEY
716 1507

----- Message Contents -----

As you might be aware by now, the Government of Cuba's crackdown on dissidents has resulted in a number of arrests (in Havana) and the cancellation of a meeting that was to have been convened by the umbrella dissident organization "Concilio Cubano" tomorrow.

We have received a call from State Dept. indicating that since Brothers to the Rescue (BTR) and its leader Basulto support and endorse the Concilio Cubano, it would not be unlikely that the BTR attempted an unauthorized flight into Cuban airspace tomorrow, in defiance of the GOC and its policies against dissidents. State Dept. cannot confirm that this will happen and is in touch with local law enforcement agencies to better determine what's the situation. I've reiterated to State that the FAA cannot PREVENT flights such as this potential one, but that we'll alert our folks in case it happens and we'll document it (as best we can) for compliance/enforcement purposes.

State has also indicated that the GOC would be less likely to show restraint (in an unauthorized flight scenario) this time around...

For C. Metts: pls pass this msg to Hank Tracy.

CECILIA, AIA-120, 366-9695