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CUBAN COMMUNIST OFFICIAL VISITS PCI HEADQUARTERS THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) DAILY L'UNITA JUNE 28 REPORTS A JUNE 27 VISIT TO ROME OF LIONEL SOTO, IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CUBAN COMMUNIST

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TAGS: PINT, CU, IT

SUBJ: CUBAN COMMUNIST OFFICIAL VISITS PCI HEADQUARTERS THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) DAILY L'UNITA JUNE 28 REPORTS A JUNE 27 VISIT TO ROME OF LIONEL SOTO, IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND AS THE HEAD OF THE GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREIGN SECTION OF THE PARTY. ACCORDING TO THE L'UNITA ARTICLE, SOTO HAD A MEETING WITH A PCI DELEGATION LED BY SECRETARIAT MEMBER (AND SENIOR FOREIGN POLICY COORDINATOR) GIAN CARLO PAJETTA FOLLOWED BY A CONVERSATION WITH PCI SECRETARY GENERAL ENRICO BERLINGUER. THE L'UNITA ACCOUNT STATES THAT THE SOTO-PAJETTA MEETING TOOK PLACE IN A CLIMATE QUOTE OF FRANK CORDIALITY AND FRIENDSHIP END QUOTE

AND NOTES THAT DURING THE MEETING WITH BERLINGUER THERE WAS QUOTE AN AMPLE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT. WE SURMISE THAT THE SOTO VISIT WAS DESIGNED TO OFFER THE PCI AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE CUBANS WHICH PAJETTA INITIATED DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO NEW YORK FOR THE UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. WHILE L'UNITA REPORTS THAT THE PAJETTA-SOTO

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SESSION FOCUSED INTER ALIA ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS THAT CHARACTERIZE THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, WE TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT THE MAIN FOCUS OF THE CONVERSATIONS IS THE PRESENT SITUATION IN AFRICA WITH PARTICULAR

REFERENCE TO ERITREA. THE FACT THAT THE TALKS WERE DESCRIBED AS TAKING PLACE IN A CLIMATE OF QUOTE FRANK CORDIALITY END QUOTE SUGGESTS THAT THERE WAS

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NOT A COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON THE PRINCIPAL QUESTIONS DISCUSSED. END COMMENT.GARDNER

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The Courage Foundation is an international organisation that supports those who risk life or liberty to make significant contributions to the historical record. (<https://www.couragefound.org/>)

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