

[HMMA - 19325] dated 10 July 1962. Mexico City
Station, KAPOK, dispatch with attachment.

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FROM

Chief of Station, Mexico City

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ABSTRACT

SUBJECT

KAROK/Operat GYROSE Progress Report on Defection and Recruitment Activities of Station, Mexico

MICROFILM

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

Reference: 100W 1000, 1000, 1002

Action Required: For your information.

Attached in partial compliance with reference is Subject progress report.

WILLARD C. CURTIS

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Progress Report

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19-124-6

Progress Report on Defection and Recruitment Activities of Station Mexico

Summary

Since around January 1960, Station Mexico has been involved in 11 defections and "recruitments" of Cuban officials, mostly from the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. The most important of these was [redacted] who was not an official and not from the Embassy, but was next to Castro himself, the most popular voice among the Cuban masses. An unsuccessful "approach" was made to Rolando CUBELA Secades, a Cuban student leader. The Station currently has one [redacted] 24 [redacted] as a veteran Station agent in close and friendly contact with another Embassy official. In addition, the Station is now following up the possibility of defection of a well-known official of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Cuba Revolucionaria (CTCR). (Codon ALVAREZ de la Campa.)

Background

Besides [redacted] the above-mentioned defections - all successful KUBARK actions - included:

- A. [redacted] Cuban [redacted] Attache; *who has been never properly debriefed*
- B. [redacted] Cuban [redacted] Attache;
- C. [redacted] Cuban vice-consul from [redacted]
- D. [redacted] Cuban foreign service official;
- E. [redacted] Cuban [redacted]
- F. [redacted]
- G. [redacted] Cuban [redacted] representative.

In addition, the Station made an unsuccessful "approach" to Rolando CUBELA Secades, titular head of the students in Cuba at that time. The "approach" consisted of a "friendly" talk between a Station Case Officer, a mutual friend of CUBELA and CUBELA when the last-mentioned was visiting in Mexico. While CUBELA did not pick up the opportunity at that time, he apparently did not report the incident to his superiors and the groundwork may have been laid for similar action in the future.

Three of the "recruitments" were of importance. LITAIUS-3 planted the original LIERODE microphones. LIOOZE-1 headed the [redacted] for a time and LITAMIL-3 was for a not inconsiderable period of time actually de facto [redacted] of the [redacted] LITAIUS-6 furnished little of value. The term "recruitment" has been placed in quotes to indicate that none of these agents was ideal from the standpoint of control, except LITAIUS-3, who, although low level, proved out in the full test sense of a recruitment. Most of the recruitments were effected by proven Station assets, LITAMIL-1, LITAMIL-2 and LITAIUS-2. LITAMIL-3 is still active, although he no longer works [redacted] LITAIUS-3 developed an Embassy [redacted] operation now handled by LITAIUS-2 and LITAMIL-3 has been instrumental in recruiting

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[LITAMIL-7] the [redacted] ([redacted]) returned to Cuba in 1961, and although arrangements had been made for him to report by SW, the channel has never been activated at his end, in spite of the fact that AMSEVER-3 was sent in to Cuba as a legal traveler to ascertain why not. Apparently LIOOZE-1 prefers not to run any risks inside of Cuba itself.

Current Situation

With regard to the Station's present defection and recruitment activities, the Station has one [redacted] LITAMIL-7, a rather timid personality whose major value is that he is [redacted] with the operational advantages basically implied. He has little access to confidential information but is able to [redacted] propaganda, official Cuban letterheads and the like. There is probably little hope that [LITAMIL-7] will turn out to be another LITAUUS-3. The Station's best chance of getting worthwhile information from the Embassy in the near future seems to be AMSTEN-1 who works in the same section as AMSTOKE-1 did formerly. While assessments of AMSTEN-1 have not yet indicated that a proper pitch can be made to him, he is for all practical purposes already furnishing much information of value to LIMASK-1, a veteran KUBARK agent who is in intimate contact with him.

Current Station defection targets include the Cuban Ambassador himself, who has many times been reported to be susceptible, and Odon ALVAREZ de la Campa, an important official of the CTCR in Cuba, who reportedly has sent out messages that he wishes to defect. The Station is now trying to get more information in the latter case.

N.B

"DEFECTED (?) IN MADRID IN 1965. HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN QUESTIONABLE ACTIVITIES IN U.S. SINCE DEFECTION. FBI HAS BEEN INVESTIGATING ALLEGATIONS."
Hopkins
Feb. 1977

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