

1 March 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD: Harold R. NOEMAYE (P)

This is a voluntary statement offered to the Career Panel as supplementary information for review and consideration of an operational assignment for the undersigned. It contains Subject's resume of service and experience, as well as his evaluation of qualifications and capabilities. It is also submitted to provide the Panel with current thinking and attitude of the subject, as related to this agent career assignment on one hand, and / the other, which, whether / has affected his two previous tours of duty.

"Concerning service and experience: I have spent all my adult life in government service (Enlisted in the Field Artillery 29 August 1940). Twenty years of this service has been in the intelligence field, beginning with Combat Intelligence and covering Economic and Political Intelligence while in the Air Force. KUBARK service began in June, 1949, in Foreign Intelligence with some Psychological Warfare and ultimately, Paramilitary. About seventeen years of this service has been in Latin America¹⁶⁻⁷ [redacted] [redacted] 16-15 and Cuba - with about seven years in three different [redacted]

"I believe that my qualifications and capabilities have been utilized (as well as neglected) in a more unique manner than in the case of the average career agent, because in addition to speaking and living like a Latin American, I can think like one and consequently create or inspire confidence, identifying with their biases, ranging from sincere criticism to active opposition to the United States. This, naturally, led to my specialization in the field of Communist Penetration operations in International Communism branch, where I think my record will speak for itself.

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"It appears that Communist Penetration operations were well assigned and between 1949 and 1969, I gained experience in recruitment and management of Latin American Communist agents. During this period, I also received two courses in Clandestine Tradecraft given by the Headquarters Covert Training Branch. It was my understanding that my work was above average and indicated a flair for clandestine operations. Later, some of my actual case histories of penetration operations were sterilized and reproduced as training aides in the Covert Training Branch. During this service, I also gained experience in postal intercept and surveillance, audio surveillance, photography, and the operation of equipment used in these activities.

"After a four-year tour in Cuba, I volunteered to undertake an FI mission with CASTRO's forces then in the Sierra Maestra (April 58). The results of this mission were hailed as satisfactory and well recorded and although I was never really satisfied with Agency support and follow-up on this mission, it is now buried under the Cuban situation which is a dead lien being much pawed over these days.

"While in ¹⁶⁻³ [redacted] on an FI assignment, I was asked to return to the Sierra Maestra in Cuba in December 1958. I accepted and arrived in Havana in time for 1 January 1959 ouster of BATISTA and the first period of chaos. After covering the scene as an observer for about three weeks I returned to my assignment in [redacted]

"In retrospect, ¹⁶⁻³ 1959 was my year of decision which began with violence and ended in violence. Decision, because I should have heeded Havana Station and requested immediate transfer there, disregarding my sophomore loyalty to the ¹⁶⁻³ [redacted] assignment. Instead, I returned to what I shall always feel was a malassignment. (Having been trained and briefed for CP Penetration, I ended up in reports writing and translations, being absolutely forbidden to take part in penetrations operations that would have jeopardized the Communist agents I was handling.) Whether cause or affect, add to this / and by early 1960 I was returning the FI. Although I requested this return, undoubtedly the ¹⁶⁻³ [redacted] had already made this decision.

"Between March and August 1960, I processed at Headquarters and did some "outside" PW work for the Cuban desk on the deteriorating situation in Cuba. In late August, I signed the secrecy agreement for project JMARC and went to Miami for "inside duty" in a KUBARK installation for the first time. Although quite convinced that Cuba would "not be another Guatemala" and that the project was destined to fail, I reported this heresy, then suppressed it and pitched in to do a job that was not infrequently praised and for which there are tangible records of production and affect on the enemy. This tour ended with my transfer from JMWAVE on 15 January 1963 under inexcusable circumstances which are recorded in my file or last fitness report and need not be reiterated here.

"Without going into the "growing pains" of my development in various phases of intelligence, and using a special restraint on the Cuban situation, I want to make it clear that my talents lie in the Foreign Intelligence Field. Indeed, I know little else or have worked at little else in my life. If I may be permitted some insight in my case, I am mid-way in a career which has yet to yield the best twenty years of service, and would be of such mutual convenience to government and individual that it would be unfortunate if this/ problem were permitted to destroy it or render it non-operational.

"At the same time, I am cognizant of KUBARK forbearance in this matter, and that my statements, vows or promises as to future conduct cannot be valid unless proven by time and performance. Recognizing that such a probationary period is a requisite before approval can be obtained for an FI assignment in WH, I would suggest an interim Headquarters duty of minimum duration, preferably within the Task Force, (SAS) where my current knowledgeability might be more productive.

"To support this request, the following is submitted for consideration:

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2./

3. Finally, let there be no misunderstanding on this point, I am fully aware that this is a crucial phase in my career and life, and that while the "administration has no soul", KUBARK has certainly borne this case to the point of indulgence. The terms of the career agent contract are clear. Should this problem arise again to affect an operational assignment, I will offer my resignation to be accepted at the convenience of the government."

Harold R. NOEMAYE