

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

FROM:

RID/

NOTE: In the absence of comments or indication of action taken, this cover sheet will be destroyed when the document is filed.

COMMENTS

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
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1. PERMANENT CHARGE FOR YOUR RETENTION

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RI/AN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RECORDS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>501-267437</i>	
RI...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ARTIME, MANUEL BUESA

ENCLOSURE	ABSTRACT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILE NUMBER
	INDEX	<i>501-267437</i>
DATE MICROFILMED	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT NUMBER
	<i>28 Dec 59</i>	UPWA-00062

201540

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO

TO
INFO

Cable, WH Division

HEADQUARTERS FILE NO.

261-267,437

FROM

Manuel WED Representative

12 October 1953

SUBJECT

Manuel ANTONIO BARRA

RE 451 - (CHECK FOR ONE)

MARKED FOR INDEXING

NO INDEXING REQUIRED

ACTION REQUIRED

Note. For Your Information.

INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ DESK ONLY

REFERENCES

After a number of discussions with Subject, I asked him to set down the essentials of some of the things he was saying. The following is a brief (and pretty rough) translation of what came out, which I wanted to forward now for the benefit of those who take him next. This is pretty crude stuff and obviously conditioned in haste by my having dismissed him of some false notions he had with respect to assistance he might expect and more particularly of the prospects of effective action from within the US.

1. Things which I wish to clarify about the things we are discussing:

The report which I sent to Washington about the second meeting of INRA I wrote in the apartment of "your friend" in Havana. I used your friend's typewriter that he brought me; he saw part of what I wrote.

In general, what the report says is broadly certain; but:

- a. I only wrote what impressed me most and I put it in a "graphic form". Maybe I exaggerated in some parts to make it "more graphic".
- b. It is possible that I attributed to Fidel statements made by "Che" Guevara and to "Che" statements made by Fidel, but they were things which they said and accepted.
- c. Many of the things which are in the report were said in the general meetings, but some were said in small groups during recesses by Fidel and "Che" or by some of the "hierarchy". I tried to be always close to Fidel or "Che" or Manuel Jimenez or Pinzo Santos to hear what they were saying.

The total group which attended the meeting was between 40 and 50 people. But the second day there were about 100 because there were many "guests" of Fidel, "Che", Manuel Jimenez, or some chief they called. I remember this because the wife of Manuel Jimenez (that used to be) or Conchita, Fidel's secretary, (it was one of the two, I don't remember which), received a complaint from a member of the meeting about the slow service of meals in the meeting hall and the answer was, "I imagine that he prepared meals for a few and they have had to serve rations for about 100."

The "reporter" that photographed us and wrote our names to publish in a magazine gave us a past issue of the magazine which was about the size of the magazine "This Week". The title of the magazine could be (I don't remember for sure) "Agricultura", "El Campo", "Agraria", or "El Campesino". I only remember that it had a name "Agrario".

During one of the recesses a photographer came in and took pictures of the meeting and left.

The friends who gave me the money to leave Cuba were Jose Antonio CUELLAR Feluzco, Ramon ARZAS, and EMU REVUELTA. The first is a lawyer in Manzanillo, Oriente; the second is a shopkeeper in Manzanillo, Oriente; and the third is a pharmacist in Bayamo, Oriente. The three are members of the Agrupacion Estudiantil Universitaria.

Even though I was in the war at the end, in reality I never felt "in the back of my conscience" as a revolutionist of the 26 July Movement. In reality, I went into the mountains to join with Castro on the advice of

FORM 53

USE PREVIOUS EDITION
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5, 26, 3, 22A AND 2, 23
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CLASSIFICATION

CONTINUED

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the Reverend Padre Amando LLORIENTE SI, who has made a visit to Castro and came down from the mountains convinced that Fidel was not a Communist and what he needed was good people around him. I believe that Father LLORIENTE sent a good report of Fidel to the Vatican and another to the US Ambassador in 1962 about that time. Today poor Father LLORIENTE is one of the people who hates Fidel most.

2. My Plan and my Opinions:

I have asked your help because my opinion is that you are the ones who can help me most. Nevertheless if you don't help me I am going to follow my plans alone because my cause is above your help and even above my country and yours. My cause is of Christian and free civilization that is in danger of being snatched by the materialist beast of Communism. Clearly my cause is also your cause and up to now you are the greatest force opposing Communism.

I hope that you believe my report because it is the reality of what is happening and what is going to happen in Cuba. If you do not believe it I am sorry but that doesn't alter the reality of the things that are pretty sad for me and for you in Cuba.

I believe that in this fight the following should be united:

- a. The revolutionists opposed to Communism.
- b. The parts affected by the revolutionary laws, (1)
- c. The few decent people there were during the government of BATISTA. It is clear that this group could not be mentioned publicly because public opinion in Cuba would be against this group. It is also clear that this group would have to divorce itself from the criminals and thieves of the Batista regime.
- d. The decent military and soldiers of past times who are not in contact with PERAZA and MASHERRERRE. Clearly this group would also have to be a secret.

I believe that we have to act quickly because Fidel is quick to destroy his enemies and to disorganize them and to instill in the people a hate of the US and the principles of democracy: elections, private property, etc.

I believe that force is the only way to overthrow him. If he held elections he would win then because he has the power in his hands and even though he were "a las malas" he would win. I don't believe that he thinks about elections for now.

I believe that there must be organized in Cuba a movement (I have one but it is small even despite the fact that it is working in the six provinces) that circulates in Cuba (not from here) intensive propaganda and ironically (in Cuba they like irony) against the barbarities of CASTRO and prepare and arm for the time of the final fight. I believe that from a Latin America country (Costa Rica, Venezuela, Guatemala, or Mexico), they must organize a well armed force that has the capability of disembarking (by air, not by sea) in the mountains of the Sierra Maestre and initiate together with the farmers of the region an insurrection which would unite the organization that I have created in Cuba. Psychologically I must touch off an insurrection not invasion. I must have the support of the "guajiros" of the Sierra Maestre in order to morally destroy Fidel, and from the first day we must tell the people clearly with radio equipment ("Radio Rebelde") that they are not dealing with Batistianos or Trujillistas. Simultaneously with the disembarkation by air (the insurrection) or better previously, I must physically eliminate Fidel and Kaul and "Che" Guevara. Clearly this would be done on the Trujillistas.

3. Things I Need:

A man who can train troops that he will take to Cuba after the insurrection.

A place in a Latin America country where he could train them.

Arms - automatic rifles, tommy guns, machine guns, pistols, submachine guns, dynamite, and storage space for all of these.

Money for propaganda in Cuba, for organization in Cuba, for expeditionary force, to buy a large number of airplanes to transport the group from the Latin America country to the coast of Oriente.

4. Things I Have:

A national organization in Cuba - it must be united with others to make only one great organization.

Contacts to buy arms in a Latin American country; contacts to obtain money.

A strong organization between the campesinos of the Sierra Maestra and in the University of Havana.

Contacts with other groups of the same democratic ideals as ours and with military people.

I could be lacking the contacts. (?)

Preceding the insurrection an effective propaganda program should be effected to discredit and to demoralize the government of Fidel in Cuba and Latin America. I have almost finished a book called, "La Gran Mentira", which is the total story of what is happening and what is going to happen in Cuba. The book is written with a double purpose: (1) that the people of Cuba know the truth; and (2) that the people of Latin America... (you translate from here; I can't make it come out).

In Cuba this book must be circulated and there should be circulated clandestine handbills carrying themes which demoralize the government, for example:

Campesinos: Ask for the land they promised you!

Workers: Are you making more or are you making less?

"Che" Guevara: Why did they throw you out of Argentina?

Revolutionary Tribunals - A delightful idea of Fidel's to kill those who oppose him without using "esbirros".

Fidel: And what about the elections?

5. I Would Like to Know:

How can you help me? I don't say direct help, but rather indirect. I request that you read a list of the things I need. If you think that the general plan should be modified I will accept your advice. Also, I would hope to get advice about the people with whom I can unite and people with whom I cannot. Please believe that I am not going to compromise you in anything, much less discredit you.

Please believe also that I have left country, family, and economic future (my medical career) with the only purpose of serving my country and my God. That I aspire to see Cuba without Communism and with democracy.

Finally, if you do not help me you can be certain that I will get on with more work but get on even though I have to lose my life.

In every way I am grateful for having been taken out of Cuba. Remember we must act quickly. Remember that Russia is effectively helping Fidel even though indirectly.

/s/ Manuel ARTIBE

Manuel Artibe
MANUEL ARTIBE

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