

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

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COMMENTS

1.	TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
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ENCLOSURE	ABSTRACT	FILE NUMBER
	INDEX	701- 5 33 11 23
DATE MICROFILMED	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT NUMBER
	2 July 59	HKHA-05357

3506 50758

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION C-C-E-P-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO HCR-A-5307
TO b7C	Chief, is		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO 201-
FROM	Chief of Station, Habana ^{Map}	DATE	2 July 1959
SUBJECT	Miscellaneous Pedro Luis DIAZ Lanz	RE: "43" - CHECK "T" ONE)	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	MARKEE FOR INDEXING
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ACTION REQUIRED	None; for information only	<input type="checkbox"/>	INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ DESK ONLY
REFERENCE(S)	HAVA-2350, 1 July 1959		
<p>Attached as of possible interest to Headquarters are two copies of the letter from DIAZ Lanz which was mentioned in the reference.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">03</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p>Attachments: 2 clippings</p> <p>Distributions: 3 - Headquarters w/attach. as noted 2 - Files w/attach. (single copy)</p> <p>MNR/pza</p>			
FORM 10-57 53		USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS 57-28, 57-28A AND 57-28B WHICH ARE OBSOLETE	CLASSIFICATION C-C-E-P-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L
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La carta renuncia del comandante Díaz Lans.
Varadero, Junio 29 de 1959.

Dr. Manuel Urrutia y Lleó,
Presidente de la República.
Palacio Presidencial.
La Habana.

Señor Presidente:

Por la presente ruego a usted aceptar con carácter irrevocable, la renuncia al cargo de Jefe de las Fuerzas Aéreas de Cuba, que he venido ocupando hasta el día de hoy. Expongo a continuación las razones que me obligan a tomar esta determinación:

1) Al tomar posesión de mi cargo nuevamente en el día de hoy, unos minutos después se me hizo saber, a través del comandante Juan Almeida, que me encontraba subordinado a él, puesto que por orden expresa del comandante Fidel Castro, el antedicho comandante Juan Almeida tenía que actuar como jefe absoluto de las Fuerzas Aéreas.

2) En esta forma se anula mi autoridad en dicho mando y ello se presta a que se use mi nombre para actos no aceptados ni ordenados por mí, lo cual es inadmisible pa-

ra quien como yo, supo siempre cumplir con su deber a plenitud y más aún se excusó varias veces en este punto, participando personalmente en combate siempre que tuvo oportunidad y no limitándome a llevar armas a la Sierra y al Segundo Frente Oriental Frank País.

3) Considero que todas estas acciones en mi contra, se deben única y exclusivamente a que siempre me he manifestado contrario a la actitud que permite a los comunistas ocupar posiciones prominentes dentro del Ejército Rebelde y dentro de las dependencias del Gobierno. También han ejercido presiones los elementos comunistas para llevar a cabo un plan determinado de adoctrinamiento en la Escuela que funciona en la finca "El Corralito", ubicada en la intersección de la Autopista del Mediodía y la carretera central, además todos sabemos bien, Señor Presidente, quiénes son, dónde están y qué flaquean persiguen.

Reciba Sr. Presidente, el testimonio de mi consideración y respeto.
Pedro L. Díaz Lans,
Comdte. (F. A.) Jefe de la FAR.

201-259120

EF 19-7-59
(Diaz's departure)

Cuba's Air Chief Quits; His Arrest Is Ordered



Associated Press Photo
MAJ. PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ
... quits air post

HAVANA, June 30 (AP) — The commander of Fidel Castro's air force resigned today, charging Communist infiltration of Cuba's armed forces. His successor accused him of being a traitor to Castro's revolution and ordered his arrest.

Maj. Pedro Luis Diaz Lanz sent his resignation to President Manuel Urrutia. Diaz had resumed his post yesterday after a month's absence which was attributed to typhoid fever.

Maj. Juan Almeida, who had

commanded the air force in Diaz's absence, was named to succeed him.

The whereabouts of Diaz could not be learned tonight. There was speculation he had gone underground or left the country.

Almeida announced the order for his predecessor's arrest after a conference with Castro and his brother, Maj. Raul Castro, commander in chief of the armed forces.

Almeida accused Diaz of (1) desertion, (2) treason, (3) "robberies," and (4) being in contact with members of exiled

Fulgencio Batista's regime.

Almeida said Diaz had been under investigation for crimes "to which he must answer before the revolutionary tribunals."

Diaz's resignation was the first by a government official on such grounds. Castro has repeatedly denied charges of Red influence in his government.

In a letter to Urrutia, Diaz said that on returning to his office Monday he found Almeida had been made absolute chief of the air force.

"I consider all these actions against me due only exclusively to the fact that I have always opposed acts that would permit Communists to take prominent positions within the rebel army and within dependencies of government," Diaz's letter said.

"Furthermore, all of us know well, Mr. President, who they are, where they are and what objectives they follow."

Questioned earlier today about rumors of Diaz's leaving his post, Premier Castro's press secretary said reports that Diaz had been dismissed are not true.

In another development, a police raid on the swank Havana home of a former U.S. Navy pilot last night frustrated a planned air and sea invasion of Nicaragua, official sources said tonight.

The raid was on the home of Capt. Paul Hughes, former Atlanta, Ga. pilot and recently advisor in the Cuban rebel air force.

It led to the seizure of a large arms cache and air-sea invasion plans and the detention of two other Americans, a British journalist, several Cubans, and nearly 200 would-be members of an expeditionary force against the regime of Nicaraguan President Luis Somoza, official sources reported.

The British subject was identified as Carl John Wilson, a free-lance journalist, who has been in Havana several weeks.

The two Americans detained with Hughes were identified as Efran F. Richardo, an attorney of Miami, and Joseph Bardor of Los Angeles, who claimed he is a motion-picture producer.

More than a dozen of the 200 volunteers—mostly Nicaraguans—were held while the remainder were released with a warning.

No charges have been placed against Hughes or any of the others.

In Florida, customs agents today seized a load of arms and ammunition at a private airport, stopped a small plane as it taxied off and arrested three men described as anti-Castro plotters.

India Bars 'Exile' Role for Dalai Lama

NEW DELHI, India, June 30 — The Dalai Lama may leave India and seek political asylum in South Viet-Nam, diplomatic sources laid here tonight.

Speculation that the 24-year-old Tibetan god-king may leave this country followed India's refusal today to allow him to function here as head of a Tibetan government in exile.

Observers said the Dalai Lama now would have to find a new home if he wanted to bring Tibet's case against its Communist Chinese overlords before the United Nations.

The Dalai Lama arrived in India on April 2 after fleeing

from the Tibetan capital of Lhasa during a revolt last March against the Chinese.

An official Indian spokesman said here today that the Indian Government does not recognize any separate government under the Dalai Lama functioning in India.

The spokesman was replying to a statement by the Dalai Lama that wherever he and his government were, they were recognized as the government by the Tibetan people.

If the Dalai Lama plans to raise Tibet's case in the United Nations, observers here felt that South Viet-Nam would be the logical country in which he might seek asylum.

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