

RETURN TO CIA
Background Use Only
Do Not Reproduce

4 December 1962

**EJERCITO LIBERTADOR DE CUBA
(LIBERATION ARMY OF CUBA)**

ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND

The Ejercito Libertador de Cuba (ELC). This organization was formed publicly in March/April 1962, allegedly composed of former Cuban military officers in exiles, former members of the MRP and followers of Huber MATOS.

In May 1962 a document of basic principles and status of organizing committee was drawn up in Washington by Ernesto BETANCOURT, Jorge BERUFF and Jorge A. PERRAMON. A council of 25 prominent Cuban nationals was to be selected. The council in turn would name a group of seven or nine men to supervise and execute directives of the council.

The organization was formed on the premise that neither the United States nor OAS intervention promises a solution to the Cuban problem. A second premise is that an internal uprising is unlikely without external assistance.

The original thought of the organization was not to ask the US government for any assistance, simply toleration of its activities. This group of Cubans wants complete control of their operation, and will make all key decision, including time and nature of landings and guerrilla operations.

The original plan of the ELC was to get forces ashore in Cuba in time to interfere with the sugar planting that must be done during the summer months. This would hasten CASTRO's downfall. This plan was not accomplished.

HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of the ELC is listed as 585 Riverside Station, Miami, Florida.

LEADERS

The following is a list of the leading representatives of the ELC:

Miami
Tampa
Puerto Rico

Jose LOPEZ Legon
Napoleon BECKER (BEQUER)
Manuel Nieto

The representatives in Washington, D. C. are Ernesto BETANCOURT, Jorge BERUFF, and Jorge A. PERRAMON. BETANCOURT is not a member of the ELC but a financial advisor. He assists an American named John T. Skelly with propaganda and financial support for ELC.

Col. Ramon BARQUIN was approached by the ELC to become its military advisor. Because of differences of opinions BARQUIN declined but agreed to act as Counseloroor advisor. Col. MARTIN ELENA was later approached to fill the same position but refused. PERRAMON is the unofficial military representative in Washington.

Other leading personalities of the ELC are Doney PEREZ Alamo, Elvio RIVERO Limonta Roberto COBAS, Alvarez, Raul BARANDELA, and Manolo TOYOS.

FINANCES

Funds are to be forthcoming from Cuban exiles to initiate the movement and later on to solicit money throughout the U. S. and other countries.

Cuban exiles over 21 are to be subjected to a poll tax in return for which they will have the privilege of voting for members of a Council of Liberation, which would have primary direction of the guerrilla army.

STRENGTH AND MEMBERSHIP

There are contradictory reports as to the number of members and manpower of the ELC. 26 members have been identified, most of whom are members of the "ORGANIZING COMMITTEE". It has also been reported that the ELC has 40 officers and 200 members in the Miami area.

The ELC has branches and representatives in Tampa, Puerto Rico and in the New York/New Jersey area.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the ELC is to have an eventual series of commando type attacks on Cuba, with the cooperation of the

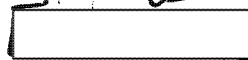
Cuban underground, to encourage and assist in the overthrow of CASTRO.

Once Cuba is liberated the "Council of Liberation" would become the Council of State and would appoint a provisional president of the ELC's own choosing.

ACTIVITIES

At present it appears that the ELC is lacking in funds as well as material assets such as boats, arms, etc, and does not appear to be an active organization.

03



1/800