

HQS

REPORT COVER SHEET		SECRET		REPO NO	UFG-7024
FROM	JMWAVE	DATE OF REPORT		15 April 1965	
REPORTING OFFICER	Chester R. MENDRICK	RD NO.			
REPORTS OFFICER	Margaret R. NANKALL/uta	PROJ.			
APPROVING OFFICER	Andrew K. REUTEMAN	S'CE CR.			
BACKGROUND DATA AND COMMENTS:					
TYPIC					
Source: AMCLATTER-1 from Mike Rafferty on 26 March and 8 April 1965.					
RID: Please index.					
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> MICROFILMED APR 22 1965 DOC. MICRO. SER. </div>					
Melvin ^F HAYES DOB: ca. 1923 pilot who may have participated in air strikes over Cuba for the MIRR. Resident of Brinkley, Arkansas.					
Group 1: Excluded from Automatic Downgrading and Declassification					
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				2	
SUBJECT		REFERENCES			
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FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

GRADING OF SOURCE: A. Completely reliable. B. Usually reliable. C. Fairly reliable. D. Not usually reliable. E. Not reliable. (Assigned to sources of doubtful honesty or loyalty, regardless of their competence). F. Reliability cannot be judged. (Assigned to untested or insufficiently tested sources).

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT: 1. Confirmed by other independent and reliable sources. 2. Probably true. 3. Possibly true. 4. Doubtful. 5. Probably false. 6. Cannot be judged.

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COUNTRY Cuba
REPORT NO.
SUBJECT Possible Participation of Melvin Hayes, a Pilot, in a Forthcoming Air Strike over Cuba by the MIRR
DATE OF REPORT 15 April 1965
NO. PAGES 2
REFERENCES

DATE OF 8 April 1965
INFO.
PLACE & United States, Miami
DATE ACQ (12 April 1965)

UFG-7034

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE:

A Miami businessman who was a resident of Habana for several years. The source has contacts who recognize him as a channel to U.S. intelligence. This information was obtained from Mike Rafferty.

1. On 8 April 1965, Mike Rafferty, an associate of Bill Johnson, an American pilot who arranges the support aspects of bombing missions for Orlando Bosch Avila's Movimiento Insurreccional de Recuperacion Revolucionaria (MIRR, Insurreccional Movement for Revolutionary Recovery), said that Bosch claimed to have been in touch with Melvin Hayes, a pilot from Arkansas who has been engaged in crop dusting. On 8 April Frank Swanner, a friend of Hayes, allegedly told Bill Johnson that he had received a phone call from Hayes from Arkansas saying that Hayes would be in the Miami area within a week.
2. Rafferty said he believes that Hayes' arrival in Miami is related to plans for a raid on a Cuban sugar mill. Bosch has temporarily discarded his plan to use a B-26 in a bombing mission of Habana because of the high cost of such an operation. However, Bosch has raised enough money to finance the bombing of a sugar mill.
3. Contacts between Hayes and Bosch are handled through "Mimo," a Cuban exile who has been manufacturing bombs for Bosch's raids. "Mimo" is believed to reside in the general area of NW 19th Avenue and 31st Street, Miami.
4. Hayes first became associated with Bosch through Frank Swanner, a fellow crop duster. Swanner had advised Hayes that there was money to be made in the Cuban raid business.

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5. Rafferty has alleged that Hayes piloted the plane which made the air strike over the Niagara sugar mill in northern Pinar del Rio Province on 17 January 1965. Hayes rented an aircraft in Orlando and flew to Immokalee, Florida, near Naples, where he knows a man who owns a motel close to a landing strip. The strip is equipped with night-landing lights but no tower. There the plane was refueled and loaded with bombs supplied by "Mimo." It then took off for Cuba.
6. The MIRR's 12 - 13 February raid of the Bahia Honda sugar mill, also in Pinar del Rio Province, was handled directly between Hayes and Bosch. Johnson was eliminated when Hayes reported Johnson's failure to turn over all of Hayes' fee for the Niagara raid. Hayes was supposed to receive \$600 in advance, \$1,000 after the flight, to be followed by another \$1,000. Bosch gave Johnson \$700 to cover Hayes and an additional \$100 for expenses. Of this, Johnson gave Hayes only \$300 and kept the rest. When Hayes informed Bosch that he had only received \$300, Bosch paid him \$1,000 and arranged for the second flight which took place without Johnson's knowledge.
7. Hayes is divorced from his first wife but is in the process of re-marrying her. He and his ex-wife are from Brinkley, Arkansas. Hayes, who has been working as a crop duster for Roddel (fnu) in Arkansas,² was recently jailed for using his employer's credit card. He was later released when he agreed to pay or work off the debt.
8. A Texan named Dennis Overstreet, who claims to know Hayes since childhood, said that Hayes is a tough customer who would traffic in anything. He is a very good pilot and can fly a B-26.

Field Comments:

1. "Mimo" may be identical with Daniel Orlando Ramirez Denis, an explosives specialist.
2. This is probably Carl Riddel of Riddel's Flying Service.