

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE 1745Z

04-09

ORIG: T. SILEO  
UNIT: WH/4/PM  
EXT: 8324  
DATE: 3 APRIL 1961

**SECRET**

ROUTING	
1	4
2	5
3	6

TO: JMWAVE  
FROM: ~~XXXXXXXX~~ BELL  
CONF: BELL 15  
INFO: COP, ADDP/A, WH 3, BELL S/C

*file Amyum*

APR 4 1745Z 61

DEFERRED  
ROUTINE  
OUT 9693  
UT 9693

TO: PRIORITY WAVE INFO  
JMJIP  
NOTE REF: WAVE 5177 (IN 1374)\*

CITE ~~XXXX~~ BELL 3792  
3792

AUTHORITY GRANTED PROVIDE FUNDS PER REF.

(END OF MESSAGE)

WH Comment: \*AMYUM organization took possession of 100,000 pesos in Cuba for which we provide 20,000 U.S. dollars to a source in Miami. Funds are for operational expenses.

C/WH/4/PM *R.B. Moore*<sup>03</sup>  
C/WH/4/FINANCE

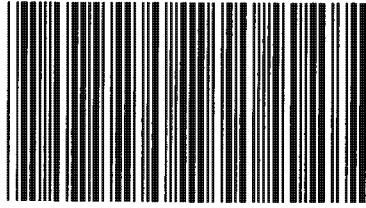
*let*  
C/WH/4/REC

COORDINATING OFFICERS  
**SECRET**  
J.D. ESTELLE, C/WH/4  
AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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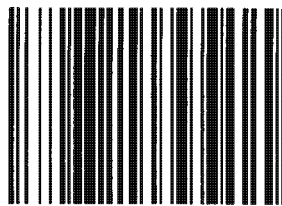
Box Number: JFK64-28

Source Number: 104-10193-10147

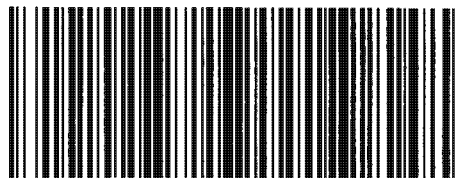
CADRE Ref ID: C00559494

Pub Date: 03/24/1961

Pages: 8



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SECRET

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL SECRET		
<b>CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP</b>			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	10/4/51		
2	Attn: Mr. S. S. S.	S	
3	2835 Quarters I		
4	[Redacted] 103	new	
5	10/4/51 P. R. JB B		
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
<b>Remarks:</b>			
<p>Attached for your information is a copy of a memorandum from our Washington office concerning an interview with the committee for 1230 on 28 March 1951.</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
S. S. S., 2835 Quarters I, 2835			10/4/51
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	

FORM NO. 237  
1 APR 55

Replaces Form 30-4  
which may be used.

U S GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953-O-342531 (40)

4/27

SECRET

Chief, Contact Division  
Attn: Support Branch (Crowley)

24 March 1961

CC 7-10-3271

Chief, Washington Office

Interview with AREC Committee

1. At the request of Mr. Ashcraft for Reichart, WH Division, Frank Sheridan interviewed the committee for AREC at the Washington Field Office on 24 March 1961. They consisted of Abel Mestre, Victor Pedrosa, Silvio Samabria, Leslie Partin, Carlos Garcia del Tren, and Paul Neilman. Mestre stated that the organization was founded about June 1960 in Miami as a clandestine apolitical group with the objective to overthrow Castro, to unite the various Cuban exile groups and to create laws for the effective reconstruction of Cuba. Membership is comprised of individual businessmen rather than representatives of large organizations.

2. The committee had been meeting with various United States officials in Washington, D. C., to express its views. Its members are worried over Castro propaganda, which, although untrue, has been accepted as fact, i.e., twenty thousand killings by Batista and the claim that Castro's was a social revolution rather than a political one. They pointed out that the Cuban economy was formerly prospering with an enlarging middle class, so that the term social revolution has been used by Castro primarily to promote leftist measures. In addition, labor legislation was in effect which actually put employers at a disadvantage with employees, compared to the other countries of Latin America. The problem facing Cuban labor was primarily the seasonal crop economy. Now the people have less pay, less commodities available, no claims against anyone and merely work for a Castro-Communist government. The farmer has not been helped by agrarian reforms, but has been obliged to enter cooperatives or to sell his crops at controlled prices, which are paid when and how the government pleases. This is merely an imitation of what Castro promised.

3. The committee feels that supporters of the revolution actually were seeking honesty in government and the liberty outlined in the 1940 constitution. In this regard, the members feel that the Communists may try for a second round in any government replacing Castro. Such an interim regime must develop careful measures to promote true democratic elections. This government may include covert Communists who would be a constant threat. For this reason, it was emphasized and re-emphasized that the exile leaders be most carefully screened by the United States before their return to Cuba.

4. A major concern has been unification of the various exiled factions. This has now started, but the committee feels that businessmen such as they represent should be proportionately represented in any new government during the interim period of reconstruction. They believe that no leftists of any shade should be included in the provisional government. Business representatives of the economic classes should participate for the first time in Cuban politics and should be consulted at all stages.

5. They emphasized that the problem is not merely a Cuban one, but is a Communist springboard against the United States. They urged that the United States do what they, the businessmen, failed to do in Cuba - to take the offensive. Developments in Cuba have followed the classic Communist techniques, so that it should not be difficult to anticipate future moves. United States propaganda must be overhauled. It should be less passive and more effectively aggressive. To date, propaganda has been the Communists' most effective weapon and the United States has lost to the point that it is threatened by a serious loss of respect in Latin America. Although it has long been the basic ideal model, some Latins are beginning to wonder whether they are right about the United States and whether they should switch sides. Fidel Castro won his revolution by propaganda and not by arms.

6. The primary worry of the committee seems to be the leftist orientation of leaders who have taken over the government in exile during recent days. They emphasized that Cuba needs a democratic government and they fear a tyranny of the right or the left. The United States must realize that some of the exile leaders participated as ministers in the Castro government and might try to continue some of the bad aspects of the Castro program.

7. Silvio Sarabia commented that, although CIA appeared to be in touch with all of the other Cuban groups, no one had approached his organization to assist or to learn what it was doing. The whole committee offered to be of any possible assistance to CIA at any time. No effort was made to solicit information or funds from CIA during this session.

F. J. Sheridan

Enclosures: 3 AFEC documents

W-14279

# Association for the Reconstruction of the Cuban Economy (ARCE)

CONSEJO ASOCIADO DE ECONOMISTAS  
Y FINANCIEROS CUBANOS

## MEMORANDUM

The following memorandum was presented to the Board of Directors of the Association for the Reconstruction of the Cuban Economy (ARCE) on January 1, 1961. It discusses the economic situation in Cuba and the need for reconstruction.

The economy of Cuba is in a state of severe depression. The country has suffered from a long period of economic stagnation and a sharp decline in production. The government has implemented a series of measures to address the crisis, but these have not been sufficient to reverse the downward trend.

The primary cause of the economic crisis is the over-reliance on a single export commodity, sugar. The price of sugar has fallen significantly, leading to a severe trade deficit. Additionally, the government's policies have led to a loss of confidence among investors and a flight of capital.

To achieve economic reconstruction, it is essential to diversify the economy and attract foreign investment. This requires a series of reforms, including the liberalization of trade and the establishment of a more favorable investment environment.

The ARCE is committed to the reconstruction of the Cuban economy and will continue to work with the government and the international community to achieve this goal.

The ARCE is a non-profit organization dedicated to the reconstruction of the Cuban economy. It is composed of a group of Cuban economists and financiers who are committed to the development of the country.

The ARCE has a long history of providing technical assistance and advice to the Cuban government. It has been instrumental in the development of various economic programs and has played a key role in the reconstruction of the country.

The ARCE is currently working on a number of projects aimed at improving the Cuban economy. These include the development of a new investment code and the establishment of a more efficient financial system.

The ARCE is also actively engaged in the promotion of economic reforms. It has organized a series of seminars and conferences to educate the public and the government on the need for change.

The ARCE is confident that the Cuban economy can be reconstructed and that the country can achieve a high level of economic development. It will continue to work tirelessly to achieve this goal.

The ARCE is a member of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Organization of American States (OAS). It is also a member of the Association of Economists and Financiers of the Americas (AEFA).

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY  
ARCE

1961

1200 Huntington Memorial Building, Miami, Florida







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