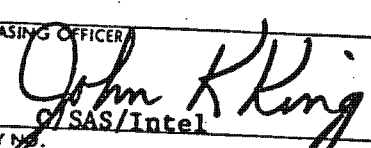


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DATE DISTRIBUTED 11 September 1963				PRECEDENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ROUTINE			
DISSEMINATION				BASED ON (FLD. EPT., PROJ.)			
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY CUBA/USSR REPORT NO. TDCS -3/558,848
 SUBJECT 1. INFORMATION ON SOVIET MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CUBA DATE DISTR. 11 SEPTEMBER 1963
 2. TRAINING OF CUBAN MILITARY PERSONNEL PRECEDENCE ROUTINE
 DATE OF INFO. EARLY SEPTEMBER 1963 REFERENCES IN-17547
 PLACE & DATE ACQ. (11 SEPTEMBER 1963) D-ACQ-03298
 APPRAISAL FIELD REPORT NO.

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

SOURCE A HIGH-RANKING CUBAN MILITARY OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR THE PAST TEN MONTHS AND WHO HAS GOOD CONNECTIONS AMONG PROMINENT CUBAN OFFICIALS. TO DATE, SOURCE'S RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

1. AS OF EARLY SEPTEMBER 1963 THE SOVIET PERSONNEL IN CUBA COULD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO GENERAL CATEGORIES:
 - (A) SOVIET MILITARY UNITS WHICH MAN SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) SITES, CRUISE MISSILE SITES, AND RADAR AND COMMUNICATIONS SITES. THESE UNITS ARE COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF SOVIET PERSONNEL, INCLUDING MECHANICS AND SECURITY GUARDS. THEY DO NOT FRATERNIZE WITH CUBANS AND LIVE IN THEIR OWN CAMPS AND AREAS.
 - (B) HIGHER-CALIBER TECHNICIANS AND OFFICERS WHO TRAIN CUBANS AND ACT AS ADVISERS DOWN TO AND INCLUDING DIVISION LEVEL IN THE REBEL ARMY. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: SOURCE HAS NO

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GROUP 1
 Excluded from automatic
 downgrading and
 declassification

STATE/INR	DIA	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF	NSA	NIC	XXX	USIA	OCI	ONE	OCR	ORR	XXX	OO	FBI
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CONFIRMED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF SOVIETS IN CUBA. SOME ARE LEAVING BUT SOME ARE ALSO ARRIVING. SOURCE IS NOT AWARE OF ANY SOVIET INFANTRY OR ARMORED COMBAT UNITS PRESENTLY IN CUBA. HE STATED THAT ANY UNITS WHICH MAY HAVE FITTED THIS CATEGORY LEFT WITH THE IRBM'S IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1962. HE IS CERTAIN THAT ALL IRBM'S AND BOMBERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT.)

2. CASTRO CONTINUES TO BE UNHAPPY WITH THE SOVIETS AND WILL NEVER FORGET THE TREATMENT HE RECEIVED FROM THEM IN THE FALL OF 1962. CASTRO IS MUCH CLOSER TO THE CHINESE LINE BUT REALIZES HE CANNOT EXIST WITHOUT SOVIET AID. HE INSISTS THAT THE CUBANS BE TRAINED AND ASSUME CONTROL OF ALL SOVIET EQUIPMENT IN CUBA. BECAUSE CASTRO BECOMES ENRAGED OVER BEING CALLED ANYONE'S STOOGES AND FEELS SO STRONGLY AND PROUD OF THE INDEPENDENT POSITION HE HAS TAKEN, SUCH AS NOT AUTHORIZING GROUND INSPECTION AND NOT SIGNING THE PARTIAL TEST BAN TREATY, IT IS BELIEVED THAT HE WILL INSIST THAT THE SOVIETS LEAVE WHEN THE CUBANS ARE TRAINED AND CAN HANDLE THE EQUIPMENT.

3. MIG-19 PILOTS HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA. SOME, SUCH AS ^(Alvaro Quintana)PRENDES AND VERONITA (SIC), RECEIVED MIG-21 TRAINING EARLY IN CUBA AND MORE PILOTS ARE PRESENTLY TRAINING IN CUBA. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: PRENDES IS PROBABLY CAPTAIN ALVARO PRENDES QUINTANA; VERONITA IS POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH CAPTAIN ENRIQUE VARONA.) THE MIG-21'S ARE CONTROLLED BY THE CUBANS, BUT THE SOVIETS REMAIN AS ADVISERS.

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4. THE KOMAR VESSELS ARE CONTROLLED AND MANNED BY THE CUBANS WITH SOVIET ADVISERS.

5. THE CUBANS ARE BEING TRAINED TO HANDLE THE CRUISE MISSILES. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: SOURCE IS NOT CERTAIN BUT BELIEVES THAT THE CRUISE MISSILES ARE ALREADY UNDER CUBAN CONTROL.)

6. THE CUBANS ARE NOW RECEIVING CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION IN THE OPERATION OF SAM'S IN PINAR DEL RIO. THE SAM'S ARE STILL UNDER SOVIET CONTROL.

7. THE CUBANS ARE ALSO RECEIVING COMMUNICATIONS AND RADAR TRAINING. CASTRO HAS TAKEN ENGINEERING STUDENTS OUT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HABANA FOR TRAINING, WHICH IS INDICATIVE OF THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHES TO THE TRAINING OF CUBANS AND THEIR ASSUMING CONTROL.

8. THE CUBAN ARMY IS ORGANIZING AN ARMORED DIVISION WHICH WILL BE UNDER THE COMMAND OF MAJOR ASEVEDO. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH ROGELIO ACEVEDO GONZALEZ WHO WAS PROMOTED TO MAJOR IN EARLY JANUARY 1963.) NEW TANKS WITH INFRARED FIRING DEVICES HAVE ARRIVED IN CUBA WITHIN THE PAST THREE TO FOUR MONTHS. IT IS ASSUMED THAT THESE TANKS ARE FOR THIS DIVISION.

9. NO SOVIET TROOPS HAVE PARTICIPATED OR ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE CUBAN ARMY ANTI-INSURGENT OPERATIONS IN THE MOUNTAINS. REGULAR ARMY DIVISIONS ARE PERMANENTLY STATIONED AT CAMPS THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND, AND MILITIA DIVISIONS ARE ORGANIZED OR ACTIVATED AS THE NEED ARISES.

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10. FIELD DISSEM: CINCLANT, CINCSO.

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