

Chief of Station, Bogota

Chief of Station, JMWAVE

Chief, Western Hemisphere Division

JRCIP/Operations

Possible CIA/AR Support of Cuban Exiles' Plan to Establish Guerrilla Training Camp in Colombia

Reference: HLBA-5290, paragraph 2 of enclosed Contact Report AFH-68

Action: Bogota--Paras 2 and 3  
JMWAVE--Para 3

1. Around the first of October the FRD was integrated into the CRC, with Dr. Jose MIRO Cardona as Chief and Tony VARONA, former general coordinator of the FRD, as deputy chief. In the reorganization resulting from the merger, it is noted from a recent listing of personnel that the following now comprise the CRC delegation to Colombia:

Eddy LEAL	\$300.00 a month
Maximo BORCHIDO	300.00 " "
Roberto RUIZ	150.00 " "
Roberto HALFOH	150.00 " "

2. We assume Eddy LEAL is the LEAL (fnu) mentioned in reference as one of the two Cubans who have proposed the setting up of a guerrilla training camp for Cubans in Colombia and claim to have means to infiltrate back into Cuba. We cannot identify the other Cuban, APOYTE (fnu). BORCHIDO and RUIZ are the former FRD delegates. As you know from previous correspondence, HALFOH, the defector from Chile, has a somewhat questionable background. The only Headquarters trace on Eduardo LEAL is HKH-1667 dated 4 June 1958, thermostated copies of which are enclosed. Please forward field traces on LEAL and APOYTE at your earliest convenience, together with pertinent comments on the recent activities and standing in the Cuban exile community of BORCHIDO, RUIZ, and HALFOH.

3. For WAVE: In view of the derogatory information in the enclosed HKH-1667, which implies LEAL's affiliation with Venezuelan Communists in 1958, please make a thorough check on his background through AMOT's and advise soonest.

Enclosures: 1 (HKH-1667)  
1 (Para 2 of AFH-68--to WAVE only)

Distribution:  
3 - BOOO w/1 encl.  
2 - JMWAVE w/2 encls.

CROSS REFERENCE TO

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4. As you are probably aware, infiltration of bodies and materiel into Cuba has become increasingly difficult and there is every indication that tightening of internal control measures will continue. Any large-scale training for guerrilla operations, as implied in reference, would be impractical and wasteful without substantial assets for infiltration of the trainees and of materiel to supply them. We would be interested in detailed information on the "means to infiltrate" claimed by LEAL and APONTE, but it is extremely doubtful they have any infiltration assets that would justify training for guerrilla operations under the present circumstances. It is suggested they be advised to begin training on a small scale of a few Cubans to infiltrate for the purpose of intelligence gathering. In this way they would be able to test their infiltration capabilities and to gain intelligence needed on conditions inside, prevailing internal control measures, etc., before making any decision on undertaking or training for sabotage and guerrilla-type operations.

5. Headquarters cannot say whether or not the CRC is behind the training plans mentioned in reference, but efforts will be made to determine the CRC role if any. With regard to assistance, Station Bogota and Hegrine should limit themselves to the above suggestions and should monitor the results to determine the possible future utility of the Cuban group in Colombia. At the present time it appears that GIAGAR would be wasting its time and money on a group which has yet to prove its claimed capabilities.

6. The Station should be particularly careful in its discussions of this matter not to imply KUBARK or ODYOKE interest in or support of local FRD or CRC groups. On occasions these groups have engaged in activities which have been or might be harmful to ODYOKE relations with the local governments concerned.