

DISPATCH

SECRET

PROFESSIONAL ACTION

Chief of Station, USWAVE

X

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NO INDEXING REQUIRED

ONLY QUALIFIED DESK

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MICROFILM

Deputy Chief, WHD for Cuba

TYPIC/AMBUD Benefit Payments

1. The following conclusions have been reached on the basis of discussions with Alice D. CAPONONG at Headquarters on 29 July:

A. The present program for vocational rehabilitation of wounded members of the Brigade will be continued without change until its normal termination date. Medical rehabilitation will continue without interruption.

B. Present payments to the dependents of imprisoned Brigade members will be continued without interruption until the prisoners can be recovered from enemy hands.

C. Payments to dependents of imprisoned persons on the "Heroes and Martyrs" rolls will be continued without interruption until these are recovered from enemy hands.

D. Those listed as missing from among Brigade members and "Heroes and Martyrs" rolls must now be considered killed in action.

E. We will undertake an investigation of the circumstances of all persons receiving payments as dependents of dead or missing Brigade and/or "Heroes and Martyrs" lists to determine whether continued financial assistance is still warranted.

2. The investigation should be initiated with a questionnaire to be sent by ANTIKI/1 to each recipient of assistance requiring him (or her) to provide information on his (or her) current marital status, income, living conditions, dependents, etc. When replies to the questionnaires have been received, the ANTIKI/1 office will undertake an investigation of each case. It is contemplated that the investigations will actually be carried out by Cuban social case workers of the Refugee Center working under direction of a senior American official of the Refugee Center. For the purposes of this investigation, the investigators will operate as employees of the ANTIKI/1 office. Station JMWAVE is requested to attempt

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WH/C/COPS		dap
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DCWHD/C	John Hart	

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DISPATCH

to arrange for this with the Refugee Center either on a free or a reimbursable basis. If the Refugee Center is unable to provide this personnel, JMWAVE will then seek assistance from the Florida State welfare system via Mr. Gordon Zaich of the Florida State Vocational Rehabilitation Office.

3. Station JMWAVE will also utilize its independent assets to run bank and credit checks to supplement the investigations conducted by the social workers.

4. The American social worker from the Refugee Center will, in conjunction with the AMBUD case officer, prepare individual recommendations for continuation or termination of assistance using the results of the investigation and the credit and bank checks. In general, the criteria to be used for recommending termination or continuation of benefits will be the following:

A. Widows who have remarried or who have contracted stable common law marriages, will normally not be eligible for further benefits. If these women have minor children, these will continue to receive benefits at a scale to be determined.

B. Parents of Brigade and/or "Heroes and Martyrs" dead are to be evaluated for further assistance on the basis of other income, age and health. Recommendations in each case will be governed by individual circumstances.

C. Other relatives or persons receiving dependency benefits will be recommended for termination except in cases of demonstrable hardship. Minor children will continue to receive assistance until age 18.

5. When the investigations and recommendations have been completed, Station JMWAVE will forward these to Headquarters which will, if warranted, make appropriate proposals to the 303 Committee for authority to carry out the recommendations.

Edward D. SABETAY

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2 - COS, JMWAVE