

JUN 1965

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VLM : Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: Approach to the DCI by Mr. Marshal Riggs on behalf of Mario Garcia Kohly

1. The DCI may wish to consider advising the Department of State and the White House that Mario Garcia Kohly is attempting to use well placed individuals to intercede on his behalf with high level U.S. Government officials, and that further approaches are to be expected.

2. The following information is furnished with reference to the recent approach to you by Mr. Marshal Riggs on behalf of Mario Garcia Kohly:

a. Mario Garcia Kohly is well known to the Agency as a gifted charlatan, who is talented in impressing people with access to high level government circles. His schemes appear so plausible that in the past he has periodically gained access to U.S. officials for discussion of these. Most recently Garcia Kohly was the subject of newspaper publicity in connection with his participation in "Minute Men" activities including the caching of arms in nearby Virginia.

b. The Agency has no operational relationship with Garcia Kohly and was not connected with the counterfeiting of Cuban currency, for which he was convicted to a prison term.

c. Garcia Kohly made a similar approach to Mr. George Beedy, Press Secretary to the President on 20 June 1965 using Mr. Dennis Chavez, son of the former Senator, as his intermediary. A copy of the Memorandum to the DCI on this approach is attached for your information.

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... is trying to locate and recover the miss- \$500,000 in American currency. With an outburst of ing millions. In 1960, while he was still Vice Presi- temper, Kohly ordered the CIA representative out of

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8. The Agency has no reason to question the good intentions of Mr. Diggs in the present approach, or of Mr. Chavez in the earlier one. Further, as is known both are reputable individuals and have probably been solicited to act on behalf of Garcia Robly by honest conviction. Unfortunately, both have been victimized by a plausible and convincing "confidence man" who enjoys no support among responsible Cuban circles and even inside Cuba.

9. It is to be expected that in the proximate future Garcia Robly will use every connection he has to try to obtain agency or other U.S. Government intervention on his behalf. He was to have begun serving his sentence on 6 July 1965. It is not known if he actually did so.

Jacob D. Esterline  
Acting Chief  
Western Hemisphere Division

cc: DDCI

DCWHD/C [redacted] swk (9 July 1965)

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Attachment: As stated

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