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OPERATION MONGOOSE
CASTRO

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

NO OBJECTION *excused*
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
2/23/94

No DoD objection to public disclosure
pursuant to P.L. 102-526, except for
CIA exc. on (1)(B) 2/8/94

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

J 1 FEB 94
(1)(B)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

HARVEY, WILLIAM ~~COMINT~~
MCCONE
HELMS
MATAHAMBRE COPPER MINES

DATES:

~~11/14/62~~
11/3/62

CATEGORIES:

MONGOOSE ✓
SGA

OCCURRENCE: Harvey states, "On 3 November, 1962, a fragmentary [redacted] report was received, reflecting the arrests by the Cuban authorities in Panar del Rio, of the infiltrees. It was impossible to determine, definitely, whether this report referred to the two members of the Matahambre sabotage team."

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: 11/14/62, Memorandum of William Harvey, (00757)

STAFF: PGW

FILE:

DATE: 6/30/75

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

No DoD objection to public disclosure
pursuant to P.L. 102-526, except for
CIA deletions (U) (A) 2/18/94

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

1 FEB 94
(1)(A)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Lansdale Lt. Col. Patchel Bruce Chever Sec. Gilpatric	13 Nov 62	✓ MONGOOSE Cuba

OCCURRENCE:

Lansdale states, "This news came as a surprise, since I had no information about the Matahambre sabotage operation since 4-5 Oct and asked ~~Bruce Chever~~ (in Bill Harvey's absence) specifically for information about all CIA action teams inside Cuba on 30 Oct and again on 31 Oct so that I could give a firm report to Dept. Sect. Gilpatric prior to negotiations with the Soviets. ~~Chever~~ had not mentioned the Matahambre sabotage team when I asked about action teams inside. ~~Chever~~ did mention that two action teams were inside (one small one in Central Cuba, and one with about 200 men in Western Cuba), that these teams were under orders not to take actions, but to collect intelligence.

TOP SECRET

SOURCE:

Lansdale's memo for the record, 13 Nov 62

STAFF:

PGW
6/30

FILE:

DATE:

NO OBJECTION *as reviewed*
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
2/25/94

No DoD objection to public disclosure
pursuant to P.L. 102-526, except for
CIA deletions (1A & B)
2/18/94

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

JC 1 FEB 94
(1) (A)
(1) (B)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u> <u>KIRKPATRICK</u> William Harvey DDP Gen. Lansdale Mr. Halpern Walter Elder CHEEVER DCI	<u>DATES:</u> <u>11 114 / 62</u> Nov. 21, 1962 <i>10 730 / 62</i>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u> Special Group Augmented Operation Mongoose Cuba
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OCCURRENCE:

With regard to paragraph 2 of Lansdale's memorandum to SGA dated 14 Nov. 1962 Harvey states: "The statement that Operation Mongoose had had no information on this operation since early October was patently false. Specific references made to the pen ultimate paragraph and Lansdale's memorandum concerning a report for the CIA which he used as a basis for memorandum dated 31 Oct. 1962 to Oswald Kirkpatrick. This refers to a telephonic conversation on the evening of 30 Oct. 1962 between Lansdale and **Cheever** which is referred specifically in paragraph 2 on pages 7 and 8 of my reference memorandum. I have discussed this matter in detail with **Cheever** and clearly recollects that his conversation with Lansdale on that date took place as reflected in my reference memorandum. During this conversation there was no discussion of previous operations except a brief discussion of the COBRA and **AMTORFD** teams and Lansdale did not ask, according to **Cheever's** recollection, any specific questions concerning assets inside or prior operations which would logically have led to the discussions at the time of the Matahambre operation."

Memorandum dated Nov. 21, 1962 (01151)
FILE:

STAFF:

Paul Wallach

DATE: July 1, 1975

NO OBJECTION *as requested*
 NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
2/23/94

No DoD objection to public disclosure
 pursuant to P.L. 102-526, except for
 CIA deletion (1)(A) *2/18/94*

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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 RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
 AS SANITIZED
1 FEB 94
 (1)(A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
Lansdale <u>Gilpatric</u> Bundy McCone Johnson Taylord RFk Parrot (MATAHAMBRE)	14 Nov 62	MONGOOSE

OCCURRENCE:

Lansdale states, "On October 30-31 for an 'Eyes Only' back-ground memorandum requested by Roswell Gilpatric, information was requested from CIA on the current status of all operations. CIA reported all militant operations have been ordered held at a stop, although the volatile Cubans were frustrated and not under complete control. The Matahambre operation was not mentioned by the CIA in reporting in operational teams inside Cuba, although I asked for specifics on militant teams inside. Two action teams CIA reported as being inside Cuba were described as in place only collecting intelligence, not actions, (sabotage, etc.)*"

*NB: A hand-written note next to the above statement by Lansdale reads, "Harvy/ Chever say he did not ask."

<u>SOURCE:</u> 14 Nov 62 special memo for the Special Group Augmented, prepared by Brig. Gen. Lansdale (00761)	<u>STAFF:</u> PGW 6/30
<u>FILE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u>

NO OBJECTION *as raised*
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
2/23/94

No DoD objection to public disclosure
pursuant to P.L. 102-526, except for
CIA deletions (1)(A) and (B)

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

1 FEB 94
(1)(A)
(1)(B)

CARD #1

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Special Group (Augmented); MONGOOSE; <u>Lansdale</u> ; Taylor; Johnson Gilpatrick; McCone, R. Kennedy, Limnetzer	4/9/63	Special Group Augmented; MONGOOSE ✓ <i>(CNR) (1/1/75)</i>
<p><u>OCCURRENCE:</u> Memo from the Special Group (Augmented) from Lansdale re: Operation MONGOOSE progress, dated 31 May 1962. CIA attempting to recruit [redacted] an official in an airlines office in Havana. The CIA team in Pinar del Rio province was successfully resupplied by maritime means on 24 May. "Fracturing the regime has been given priority attention by CIA. A senior case officer has been assigned full time to the specific action, and has preferential use of CIA assets. Of twenty-four desirable defection targets, CIA has found several who seem vulnerable [redacted]."</p>		
<p>[redacted]. CIA awaits approval for "Voice of Free Cuba" which it can now put into operation immediately: CIA is prepared to disseminate leaflets on Castro's failure to Cuban population via balloons; CIA requests group approval for defense support in training of twenty-man teams for possible use in beefing up resistance groups in Cuba; and CIA asked the group for approval before</p>		
<p><u>SOURCE:</u> <i>proceeding with the counterfeit currency proposal under Task 23.</i> continued on Card 2</p>	STAFF:	<i>di Genova</i>
<p><i>Memo for the Special Group (A); Lansdale, re Operations</i> <u>FILE:</u> <i>Mongoose progress, 31 May, 1962 (00335-37)</i></p>	DATE:	<i>2/1/75</i>

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

1 FEB 94
(1)(A)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
BRUCE CHEEVER , DESMOND, FITZ, GERALD, MCCONE, HELMS	Apr 12, 1963	Cuba MONGOOSE

OCCURRENCE: Desmond Fitzgerald states "The decision of the U.S. government to stop hit and run raids by the Cuban exile groups while the variety of effects depending upon where one is viewing the decision. (Looks at Castro's viewpoint, and to Castro elements within Cuba, the Cuban exiles, etc.)"

SOURCE: Memo from Fitzgerald to the DCI, Apr 12, 1963
(02619)

FILE:

STAFF:
Wallach

DATE: July 2, 1975

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

J 1 FEB 94
(1)(A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

BRUCE CHEEVER, DESMOND,
FITZGERALD, MCCONE, HELMS

DATES:

April 12, 1963

CATEGORIES:

Cuba
MONGOOSE ✓

OCCURRENCE: Fitzgerald states "The activist Cuban exiles will probably not be deterred by the order (to stop hit and run raids). They may even profit by the decree. It will now be a greater honor to engage in operations against Fidel. The double jeopardy arising from the threat of detention by U.S. agents and the chance for martyrdom at the hands of Fidel will be an even greater challenge. Actually the supply of recruits for such hit and run raids may run shallow but not dry."

TOP SECRET

SOURCE:

(02620)

FILE:

Memo from Fitzgerald to the DCI, Apr. 12 1963

STAFF:

DATE Wallach
July 2, 1975

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

1 FEB 94
(1) (A)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
<p>BRUCE CHEEVER DESMOND, FITZGERALD, MCCONE, HELMS</p>	<p>Apr 12, 1963</p>	<p>Cuba MONGOOSE ✓</p>

OCCURRENCE:

Fitzgerald states it is too soon actually to state definitely what the effect of this policy (i.e. stopping raids) will have on our recruitment program. The Agency's problem is not the number of recruits, but their quality. The unemployed, poorly educated, hungry are always with us. Some of the more discerning Cuban types will avoid recruitment as they are convinced that a principle reason for the U.S. action is to control who fights Castro in order to insure who will succeed him.

TOP SECRET

<p><u>SOURCE:</u> (02621)</p> <p><u>FILE:</u></p>	<p>Memo from Fitzgerald to the DCI, Apr. 12, 1963</p>	<p><u>STAFF:</u> Wallach</p> <p><u>DATE:</u> July 2, 1975</p>
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NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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AS SANITIZED

[Handwritten signature] 1 FEB 94
(1) (A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
BRUCE CHEEVER , DESMOND FITZGERALD MCCONE HELSM	Apr 12, 1963	Cuba MONGOOSE ✓

OCCURRENCE: Fitzgerald states Another advantage arising from the scrutiny of U.S. agents will be the improvement and control and better clandestine security practices on the part of the exiles. But as the U.S. restricts and apprehends these men, confiscating goods and funds, the loci power will have a tendency to move back to its traditional center: the exile-monied interests such as the bosches, prlos and Batistas.

TOP SECRET

<u>SOURCE:</u>	Memo from Fitzgerald to the DCI, Apr. 12, 1963 (02620)	<u>STAFF:</u>	Wallach July 2, 1975
FILE:		DATE:	

NO OBJECTION *revised*
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
NSA 2/23/94

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AS SANITIZED
JL 1 FEB 94
(L)(B)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
JOHNSON KILPATRICK MCCONE	Sept.16,1963	MONGOOSE ✓ SPECIAL GROUP

OCCURRENCE:

On September 16, 1963 a memorandum reported that "all members of the special group have approved project [] (having to do with certain [] activities in the area of Cuba.)"

TOP SECRET

<u>SOURCE:</u> Memorandum dated 16 September 1963 for members of the Special Group from Mr. Parrott	<u>STAFF:</u> Kelley
<u>FILE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u> 6/28/75

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

No DoD objection to public disclosure
pursuant to P.L. 102-526, except for
CIA deletion. (1)(A)
[Signature] 2/18/94

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AS SANITIZED

[Signature] 1 FEB 94
(1)(A)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
PRESIDENT KENNEDY BUNDY ROBERT KENNEDY HELMS RUSK MCNAMARA	Nov. 12, 1963	MONGOOSE ✓ PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL

OCCURRENCE:

On November 12, 1963 a meeting on "Cuban Operations" was held with "Higher Authority" (President Kennedy). Present were Mr. RUSK, Mr. MCNAMARA, Mr. ROBERT KENNEDY, Mr. BUNDY, Mr. MCCONE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KILPAGRICK, Mr. VANCE, Mr. HELMS, Mr. FITZGERALD, ~~MR. CHEEVER~~, Mr. STEAKLEY. Mr. MCCONE gave a brief summary of recent developments inside Cuba and Mr. Fitzgerald reported on Cuban operations under six main headings. (Mr. FITZGERALD's discussions of these headings is contained in separate cards.)

TOP SECRET

SOURCE:

Memorandum for the record dated Nov. 12, 1963
FILE: "Cuban Operations"

STAFF:

DATE: Kelley

6/28/75

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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AS SANITIZED

Q 1 FEB 94
(1) (A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

MCCONE HOOVER
HELMS
BUNDY
R. KENNEDY

DATES:

Mar 2, 1964

CATEGORIES:

Special Group
Mongoose

OCCURRENCE: Helms states that agency officers have reported plans of Cuban exiles to assassinate selected Cuban government leaders. Agency officers told Cubans that U.S. would not condone the planned actions. Plans included: Cuban exile approach to March 2, 1964 by businessman to discuss a plan which was "still in the embryonic state to assassinate Fidel Castro." Businessman has underworld connections with Cosa Nostra. Latter group has offered to assassinate Castro for \$150,000. Proposes to use 5 men. March 3, 1964 meeting in which Byron Cameron says he met an unidentified group which would be willing to assassinate selected Cuban officials for cash. Specifically the Cameron group is interested in assassinating Fidel Castro, Raul Castro, and Ernesto Che Guevera." "Cameron knows that he can indicted for conspiracy"

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: Memorandum for DCI McCone from Richard Helms re plans of Cuban exiles to assassinate selected Cuban government leaders, June 10, 1964 (03105-031110)

FILE:

STAFF:
diGenova
DATE:
7/3/75

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AS SANITIZED

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

jc 1 FEB 94
(1) (A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

MCCONE FITZGERALD
BUNDY PAPIGH
JESSUP RFK
STEAKLEY JMWAVE
JMWAVE VANCE

HUGHES
BOSCH, JOSE

DATES:

8/19/64
7/30/64
6/10/64

CATEGORIES:

SGA
MONGOOSE ✓
CASTRO

TOP SECRET

OCCURRENCE: According to the minutes of the 303 Committee on 7/30/64, "It was agreed that MR. FITZGERALD would contact SAM PAPIGH of the FBI in regard to the earlier report of an alleged plot with Mafia overtones to assassinate Castro and which the AG agreed to handle as a matter of law enforcement." (116) "The reference is clearly to a 6/10/64 memorandum information report from the DDP to the Director," (116) which was disseminated to the Spec. Asst. to the Pres. for Natl. Security Affrs.; ASst. Sect. for Inter-American Affairs, Dept. of State; Dir. of Intell. and Research, State Dept.; Director, DIA; The AG; the Director, FBI; DDCI and the DCI. The 6/10/74 report "related a proposal for the assassination of Castro that was made to prominent Cuban exiles. The Mafia appeared to be involved in the scheme." The asking price was \$150,000. JOSE MARIO PEPIN BOSCH, Preso of Bacardi Rum would contribute \$50,000. BOSCH approached the Chief of Station, JMWAVE, and suggested the U.S. government also contribute. This was rejected. The record indicates CIA's only involvement was to report information of its existence."

SOURCE: Last record of incident found by IG Rept. is memo from McCone to Bundy, 8/19/64, reporting the results of FBI intvws with the alleged participants. "Obviously nothing came of the plot." (117)

FILE:

IG REPORT 1967

STAFF
DATE:

Baron, 7/1/75

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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AS SANITIZED

8 (FEB 94)
(C) (A)

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

MCCONE FITZGERALD HUGHES
BUNDY PAPICH ~~BOSCH, JOSE~~
JESSUP RFK
STEAKLEY JMWAVE
JMWAVE VANCE

DATES:

8/19/64
~~7/30/64~~
6/10/64

CATEGORIES:

SGA
MONGOOSE
CASTRO

TOP SECRET

OCCURRENCE: According to the minutes of the 303 Committee on 7/30/64, "It was agreed that MR. FITZGERALD would contact SAM PAPICH of the FBI in regard to the earlier report of an alleged plot with Mafia overtones to assassinate Castro and which the AG agreed to handle as a matter of law enforcement." (116) The reference is clearly to a 6/10/64 memorandum information report from the DDP to the Director, (116) which was disseminated to the Spec. Asst. to the Pres. for Natl. Security Affrs.; ASst. Sect. for Inter-American Affairs, Dept. of State; Dir. of Intell. and Research, State Dept.; Director, DIA; The AG; the Director, FBI; DDCI and the DCI. The 6/10/74 report "related a proposal for the assassination of Castro that was made to prominent Cuban exiles. The Mafia appeared to be involved in the scheme." The asking price was \$150,000. ~~JOSE MARIO PEPIN~~ ~~BOSCH~~ ~~Preso of Bacardi Rum~~ would contribute \$50,000. ~~BOSCH~~ approached the Chief of Station, JMWAVE, and suggested the U.S. government also contribute. This was rejected. The record indicates CIA's only involvement was to report information of its existence."

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FILE:

DATE:

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
AS SANITIZED

J 1 FEB 94
(1) (A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:
MCCONE FITZGERALD
BUNDY PAPICH
JESSUP RFK
STEAKLEY JMWAVE
JMWAVE VANCE

HUGHES
~~BOSCH, JOSE~~

DATES:
8/19/64
7/30/64
6/10/64

CATEGORIES:
SGA
MONGOOSE ✓
CASTRO

TOP SECRET

OCCURRENCE: According to the minutes of the 303 Committee on 7/30/64, "It was agreed that MR. FITZGERALD would contact SAM PAPICH of the FBI in regard to the earlier report of an alleged plot with Mafia overtones to assassinate Castro and which the AG agreed to handle as a matter of law enforcement." (116) "The reference is clearly to a 6/10/64 memorandum information report from the DDP to the Director," (116) which was disseminated to the Spec. Asst. to the Pres. for Natl. Security Affrs.; ASst. Sect. for Inter-American Affairs, Dept. of State; Dir. of Intell. and Research, State Dept.; Director, DIA; The AG; the Director, FBI; DDCI and the DCI. The 6/10/74 report related a proposal for the assassination of Castro that was made to prominent Cuban exiles. The Mafia appeared to be involved in the scheme." The asking price was \$150,000. ~~JOSE MARIO PEPIN~~ BOSCH, Preso of Bacardi Rum, would contribute \$50,000. BOSCH approached the Chief of Station, JMWAVE, and suggested the U.S. government also contribute. This was rejected. The record indicates CIA's only involvement was to report information of its existence."

SOURCE Last record of incident found by IG Rept. is memo from McCone to Bundy, 8/19/64, reporting the results of FBI intvws with the alleged participants. "Obviously nothing came of the plot." (117)

FILE:

IG REPORT 1967

SCAFF
DATE:

Baron, 7/1/75

NO OBJECTION *as entered*
 NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
2/23/94

*DOD defer to CIA
 2/19/94*

July 1, 1975

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
William Harvey Gen. Lansdale Walter Elder DCI	<u>KIRKPATRICK</u> DDP Mr. Halpern <u>CHEEVER</u> Nov. 21, 1962	Special Group Augmented Operation Mongoose ✓ Cuba

OCCURRENCE:

With regard to paragraph 2 of Lansdale's memorandum to SGA dated 14 Nov. 1962 Harvey states: "The statement that Operation Mongoose had had no information on this operation since early October was patently false. Specific references made to the pen ultimate paragraph and Lansdale's memorandum concerning a report for the CIA which he used as a basis for memorandum dated 31 Oct. 1962 to Oswald Kirkpatrick. This refers to a telephonic conversation on the evening of 30 Oct. 1962 between Lansdale and Cheever which is referred specifically in paragraph 2 on pages 7 and 8 of my reference memorandum. I have discussed this matter in detail with Cheever and clearly recollects that his conversation with Lansdale on that date took place as reflected in my reference memorandum. During this conversation there was no discussion of previous operations except a brief discussion of the COBRA and ATTORNEY teams and Lansdale did not ask, according to Cheever's recollection, any specific questions concerning assets inside or prior operations which

SOURCE: would logically have led to the discussions at the time of the Matahambre operation."

STAFF:

Paul Wallach

Memorandum dated Nov. 21, 1962 (01151)

FILE:

DATE:

July 1, 1975