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03 [redacted]

DRAFT
E.Davis:bjl
8 October 1959

Staff of Surpassing for Cuba - [redacted] H.W. Davis

03

SUBJECT: Political Organizer - Edward G. Tichborn (P)

1. The senior KUCAGE Staff has recruited a number of individuals who have had extensive experience in politics, particularly as campaign managers and political organizers. Very recently one of these organizers was sent (to [redacted] 24 where he was in contact with the Station and the two principal agents of a political action project. In addition to his conversations with these individuals he also traveled around the area and talked to a number of unwitting individuals prior to meeting again with Station personnel and the principal agents. As a result of his conversations and of his delving into the local political scene, he was able to come up with an exceedingly informed assessment of the local political scene as well as concrete recommendations in regards to the organization of the political action factions being supported by KUBARK, plus recommendations as to how they should proceed towards meeting their immediate problems which ~~were~~ included the melding of a number of divergent fact~~ors~~ions into a coercive organization capable of united action against the Communist at the polls. The Station was very pleased with the results of this individual's TDY and the Station has followed his recommendations almost to the letter in their recommendations to Headquarters.

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2. Working along the same line it is Headquarters' feeling that Mr. Tichborn could perform a very useful service through consultation with the Station, Tony Varona and Sanchez Arango, as well as through his independent observations and contacts which a short TDY would give him an opportunity to make. It is proposed, therefore, that Mr. Tichborn be sent to your Station on TDY to consult with Station personnel. We should like to have your comments on this proposal as well as whatever ideas you may have on how to get Mr. Tichborn into contact with Varona and Arango. Obviously this should not be too difficult once the project is approved and you have a working relationship with Varona. However, in the interest of expediency, we would prefer that Mr. Tichborn be sent immediately, even before the final project approval. Although Mr. Tichborn's prime responsibility at the moment would be directed towards better implementing Project AMPATRIL, it would also be expected that the Station would render him every assistance in trying to identify and possibly talk with political groupings other than those represented by Varona, Arango and the Montechristi Group which Project AMPATRIL foresees supporting at this time. In the event other groups turn up which are deemed worthy of support, Project AMPATRIL will be amended to include them. Mr. Tichborn

3. Mr. Tichborn was born in Denver, Colorado, 1920. BA, University of Denver, 1944; Graduate School of Economics, Harvard University, 1944-45; LLB, Harvard Law School, 1948; graduate study, Universidad Nacional de Mexico, 1955. He is a practicing attorney

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and has had a great deal of political experience. He ran unsuccessfully for a high office (on the Democratic ticket in California in 1958;) He is a Phi Beta Kappa; was president (of the Harvard Law School Forum) and has published a number of articles on law and labor. He is an ~~American~~ citizen of Mexican parents, who speaks native Mexican, and has a typical Mexican appearance; ~~Once on the ground~~ he would pass for a Mexican. He has on several occasions visited in Cuba and at the time of his recruitment ~~he~~ evinced great interest in the situation in Cuba and asked the recruiter what action, if any, ~~the U.S. Government~~ was taking in Cuba. This was an unsolicited inquiry as Cuba had never been mentioned in the course of recruitment. Needless to say, his recruiter made no statement which would indicate any active role on the part of ~~the U.S. Government~~.

4. A cabled reply is requested.

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