

SECRET

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3 August 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Mitchell L. WerBell (201-259910)

At 1745 24 July 1959⁰³ a long distance call came in for Mr. [redacted] from Subject. Mr. [redacted] was on leave and the writer took the call from Subject identifying himself by first name only.

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2. Subject said he had obtained information in Miami from ~~PER [redacted]~~ crowd that BATISTA would enter Miami from the Dominican Republic clandestinely that night or the following morning, and would be stopping at the Biltmore Hotel. He said that he wanted this information given to General Cabell and wanted to know whether or not the Agency wanted him to attempt to obtain further information on the subject, which he said he believed he could do. I told him that he would be called later and he left the following numbers in Miami where he could be reached: Franklin 9-1675, which he said was the office from which he was calling; and Highland 8-8443 and Highland 4-5273, apparently homes which he expected to visit that evening.

3. I gave this information to Mr. Gomez, A/C/H, who was still in his office, and he instructed me to call Subject and tell him we were interested in any further information he could obtain concerning BATISTA's entry into the United States; and to ask Subject to report any such information to Mr. Justin Gleichauf, OC Contacts Representative in Miami, until Mr. [redacted] returned to Washington.

4. At about 2230⁰³ I reached Subject and told him his information had been passed up the line; that we were interested in any additional information he could obtain and asked him to get in touch with Mr. Gleichauf. During this conversation he said that a man named George Cox was in Miami at that time and in talking to him Cox had implied to Subject that he was employed by CIA. He asked for any information we might have on Cox, describing him as in his late fifties (50's); heavy drinker; loud talker; running around with Ada Falk, BATISTA's former mistress; and said he lived in Alexandria, Virginia, and was employed by Pertanti Construction Company in New York. I told him I had never heard of Mr. Cox but we would let him know later. Subject said that he had seen Cox first in the Dominican Republic where he (Cox) was trying to arrange BATISTA's illegal entry into the United States.

Martha R. Sharpe
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WA/III/AO

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