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10 June 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECTS: STURGIS, Frank Anthony
 aka: FIORINI, Frank
 #353 459

HUNT, Everett Howard, Jr.
 #23 500

1. In his book, Give Us This Day ("The Inside Story of the CIA and the Bay of Pigs Invasion..."), on pages 98-103, Everett Howard HUNT, Jr., gives an account of some of the activities of Pedro Luis DIAZ LANZ who defected from Castro Cuba in mid-1959 as the first chief of Castro's air force. HUNT points out that in October 1959 DIAZ LANZ piloted a small plane dumping hundreds of anti-Castro leaflets over Havana. DIAZ LANZ's copilot on the flight is identified as Frank FIORINI, aka: Frank STURGIS. HUNT goes on to describe what would appear to be personal contacts with DIAZ LANZ in the Miami area, utilizing the services of Bernard BARKER in his contacts with DIAZ LANZ and other Cubans. HUNT further describes his attempts to involve DIAZ LANZ with the Agency in the invasion, but HUNT's overtures were not accepted by Headquarters. The concluding paragraph of this account states:

"After the invasion the Kennedy Administration could not do enough for Manuel RAY. A cozy post was secured for him in Puerto Rico as Chief of Munoz Marin's housing projects. I am sure that no equal effort was made in behalf of Pedro Luis DIAZ LANZ, for our national tradition has become one of shabby discrimination against known anti-Communists."

NOTE: HUNT's contacts with DIAZ LANZ occurred during the period circa October 1960 to circa November 1961 while HUNT was assigned to JMARC, Miami.

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2. Office of Security files #202 792 and 351 502 concern Pedro Luis DIAZ LANZ but reveal no use of DIAZ LANZ in the Cuban invasion or other Agency operational matters. File #202 923 concerns Marcos DIAZ LANZ, the brother of Pedro Luis DIAZ LANZ. The file reflects that Marcos DIAZ LANZ was the Deputy Chief of Castro's air force until his defection in July 1959, effected by this Agency by his exfiltration from Cuba clandestinely. For the purposes of instant memorandum, it is of note that this file contains an Agency Information Report stating "According to [redacted]

[redacted] Commandante Pedro Luis DIAZ LANZ, former inspector of the Cuban rebel airforce, Captain Sergio DIAZ, and Captain Frank FIORINI, also formerly with the rebel airforce, arrived in Guatemala on 30 December (1959) and immediately contacted him. They had a card from the Guatemalan Ambassador in Washington and said that they had been in the United States the first part of December and had talked with important officials of the government. The three wanted to talk with President Miguel YDIGORAS Fuentes to obtain moral support for their anti-Castro activities." There is information showing the mutual involvement of Frank FIORINI with the DIAZ LANZ brothers in anti-Castro activities until at least the summer of 1963.

3. Information in the file of Frank Anthony STURGIS, aka: Frank FIORINI (#353 459), reflects that from circa May 1960 to at least January 1961, STURGIS was living in the Miami area training a group of Cuban and American volunteers for a military invasion of Cuba. By October 1960, the FBI had determined that STURGIS's only activities in anti-Castro matters were in conjunction with the activities of Pedro DIAZ LANZ, who was one of the leaders of the anti-Castro group, "Liberation Alliance." Reportedly, STURGIS' invasion group in January 1961 was calling itself, "Brigada Internacionale," with variations of "International Anti-Communist Brigade" and "Anti-Communist International Brigade." One of the sub-units of the "Brigade" was identified in the press in July 1961 as being a paratroop unit called "Intercontinental Penetration Force" or INTERPEN. The Commander of INTERPEN was identified as Gerald Patrick HEMMING, Jr., (#429 229). The Office of Security file of STURGIS contains nothing further until October 1968, when his arrest was announced in October 1968--while still heading the "International Anti-Communist Brigade"--for his

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involvement in a group attempting to enter Guatemala to "clean out anti-Guatemalan guerrillas." At that time FIORINI claimed that two men who were sponsoring his operation were Bob HOWELL, allegedly a friend of the Kennedy family, and a General BIDDLE, member of the (John) Birch Society.

4. To return to the events of the early 1960's, in July 1962 an article appeared in the New Orleans States Item by Bill STUCKEY, concerning an anti-Castro training base established on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain. This unit was identified as INTERPEN, headed by Gerald Patrick HEMMING, Jr. The article inferred that INTERPEN was still part of Frank FIORINI's (STURGIS) "International Anti-Communist Brigade." This particular unit received nationwide publicity in 1967 when New Orleans District Attorney GARRISON alleged that INTERPEN was involved in the assassination of President John F. KENNEDY and that INTERPEN members were connected with CIA.

5. The above noted Bill STUCKEY who wrote the July 1962 press article about INTERPEN and HEMMING is identical with the William STUCKEY who interviewed Lee Harvey OSWALD during a public broadcast in New Orleans in August 1963. According to testimony in the Warren Commission hearings by William STUCKEY and Carlos BRINGUIER (Cuban Student Directorate delegate in New Orleans) in early August 1963, Lee Harvey OSWALD came to BRINGUIER's New Orleans clothing store announcing that he, OSWALD, was a former Marine trained in guerrilla warfare who wanted to join an anti-Castro guerrilla group in New Orleans. (NOTE: Many of the INTERPEN group were ex-Marines, as was Frank FIORINI.) BRINGUIER claims he stalled OSWALD and several days later encountered OSWALD on the streets of New Orleans passing out "Fair Play For Cuba" leaflets. The encounter led to a disturbance, and OSWALD and BRINGUIER were arrested. BRINGUIER subsequently alerted STUCKEY to OSWALD which resulted in the broadcast interview. It is of note that BRINGUIER inferred he was knowledgeable of the anti-Castro guerrilla group training on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain and even collected funds for the travel of two of the members to Miami when the group was disbanded.

see attached copy

6. The individual in INTERPEN of most interest to GARRISON was Loran Eugene HALL, aka: Lorenzo PASCILLO, aka: Skip HALL (OS#348 627), who ostensibly arrived in Dallas, Texas, in October

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1963, remaining until after President KENNEDY was shot. GARRISON also alleged that HALL was involved with the "Minutemen." The HALL file reflects that in August 1963 HALL was in Southern California, where he spoke before numerous meetings of the John Birch Society attempting to raise funds for an anti-Castro planned invasion of Cuba scheduled for mid-September 1963.

7. In June 1972 Frank STURGIS, E. Howard HUNT, Bernard BARKER, and others were arrested while burglarizing the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee at the Watergate, Washington, D.C.

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