

IA: Country

DISPATCH

DESENSITIZED

TO: Chief WE. ATTN: C WE 1

FROM: COS, JMWAVE: COS, ~~Madrid~~; COS, Paris; COS, ~~Geneva~~; CCB, ~~Geneva~~

SUBJECT: KEYWAY/FOREIGN/AMSHIP  
Meeting of 25 October 1961 with AMSHIP/1 and AMSHIP/2

- ACTUALS:
- REFERENCES:
- a. OISA-37858, 7 August 1961 (not to JMWAVE or Madrid)
  - b. DIR-19557, 13 September 1961 (not to JMWAVE, Paris, Bern or Geneva)
  - c. WAVE-1021, 30 October 1964 (not to ~~Madrid~~)
  - d. DIR-60138, 30 October 1961 (not to ~~Madrid~~)
  - e. ROME-

*Whip*

1. On the evening of 24 October 1961 SMITHAM received a telephone call from AMSHIP/1, who said that he and AMSHIP/2 would be in Rome until the morning of 27 October at the latest. An appointment was made for a meeting at the Hilton Hotel at 1200 hours on 25 October. SMITHAM and BUNCE kept the appointment.

2. We had planned to take AMSHIP/1 and AMSHIP/2 to lunch, but they were tied up and had, in fact, little anticipated free time before their departure. A brief talk was therefore held in the lobby of the Hilton--an unsatisfactory meeting site. AMSHIP/2 greeted us but immediately had to return to a store full of customers. AMSHIP/1 explained that he had recently been in Paris and Madrid and that Madrid was fully briefed on his recent activities. For this reason, and also because of the insecurity of the site, BUNCE did not take up the question posed in Reference b. For Reference c, we can explore this matter later if it is still necessary.

3. AMSHIP/1 said that business in Rome is looming and that he and/or AMSHIP/2 expected to be back in ten days, when they would again get in touch with us. BUNCE briefly explained to AMSHIP/1 that we should appreciate it if he would determine whether he has any trusted Cuban friends in Paris, Madrid, or elsewhere who knew Rafael AGUIRRE Batista (201-35144) well. He will check. AMSHIP/1 was asked if there was anything we could do for him and he said no.

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4. Shortly before SMITH and BENCE left, ANTHIP/2 rejoined the group. At this juncture SMITH was engaged in a conversation in Spanish with ANTHIP/1. ANTHIP/2, who spoke a little to one side and explained in German. ANTHIP/1 was not listening, in any case, that he had filled out the Form I which BENCE had given him but that there were a few items which he wanted to discuss with BENCE before handing the form over. He could not do so in the presence of ANTHIP/1 because, according to ANTHIP/2, ANTHIP/1 is not aware of ANTHIP/2's tie to KUEBCK, and ANTHIP/2 wants to keep it that way. (ANTHIP/2 is obviously well aware of ANTHIP/1's tie.)

5. ANTHIP/2 had to get back to Geneva not later than 27 October 1964 because as was reported in Reference a, Swiss authorities are continuing to insist that as a foreigner ANTHIP/2 cannot live in Geneva. He has now hired two lawyers and is prepared to make a fight of it, but he is obviously worried that he may be forced out, despite the fact that he grew up in Geneva and regards it as his home town.

6. ANTHIP/2 also said that the Rome store was doing very well and that he felt sure that he would be back in ten days. (BENCE Comment: In the past ANTHIP/2's visits to Rome have always been much more widely spaced than he had planned or expected.)

7. We have from DEVIGIL a report dated 23 October 1964 which merely states that ANTHIP/1 makes frequent trips between Rome and Geneva for unknown reasons and that he is often accompanied by ANTHIP/2. As Headquarters knows, we have surfaced ANTHIP/1 to DEVIGIL; and in accordance with the permission granted in OIRW-22967, 7 August 1964, we shall also surface ANTHIP/2, but only to DEVIGIL and only verbally. We shall not communicate anything about the activities of either outside Italy and shall relay information about any action in Italy only if DEVIGIL has a need to know.

8. The information in Reference c. about Juan ALMEIDA Bosque is very interesting. ANTHIP/2 has twice mentioned ALMEIDA to BENCE. ALMEIDA came out to the home of ANTHIP/2 and family in Havana with the intent of requisitioning it but instead became a firm friend and protector of the family. ANTHIP/2 describes him as simple, straightforward, likeable, and very popular with the Cuban people. It is believed that ANTHIP/2 described him as a militant. He fought bravely with Castro's forces at the time of the revolution, but his present important position is the result of his popularity and his value to the regime as a symbol, not of sophistication or a high level of intelligence.

9. I surmise his next visit to Rome ANTHIP/2 cannot get away from ANTHIP/1 long enough for the discussion of the DRQ I which BENCE would like for a debriefing on ALMEIDA's visit with ANTHIP/1 and family (if it materialized), or if ANTHIP/2's next trip is such a delay. BENCE feels that he should accept ANTHIP/2's repeated invitations and visit him in his home in Geneva. So doing would give the obvious advantage of enabling us to obtain whatever information he has more rapidly and more securely. It would have the further advantage of making it easier to persuade ANTHIP/2, who will feel more secure at home, that he runs no major risk in a return to an agent relationship with BLENK. One probable result of such a talk with ANTHIP/2 is his return as a renegade of his offer to bring his wife into the operational picture, per paragraph c of reference a. (According to ANTHIP/2, he and his wife served as a team for the COMINT officer listed in

CONTINUATION OF  
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OIRA-38607

paragraph 3 of Reference c.) In this event, BUNCE will request biographic data on the wife, make an assessment, and forward a recommendation to Headquarters. If the trip to Geneva does become necessary, we shall of course notify ~~Geneva~~ and ~~Geneva~~ in advance.

WALTER L. BUNCE

Distribution:

- 3 - WE
- 1 - WAVE
- 1 - ~~Madrid~~
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