

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90135-10273
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 105-82298-108

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 56829 Date:
04-13-2018

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : USA
FROM : USA
TO :
TITLE :
DATE : 02/13/1961
PAGES : 12
SUBJECTS :
ELOY GUTIERREZ MENOYO
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Confidential
RESTRICTIONS : Consulted
CURRENT STATUS : Withhold
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 09/25/1998
OPENING CRITERIA : APPROVAL OF USA
COMMENTS : RPT; REFERRED TO USA

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Comandante - one gold star on each epaulet
Comandante who is chief of a province - star with a circle

Ministry of Defense - Shield with star in center on epaulets

Militiamen Uniform: The trousers worn by both army personnel and militia-men are identical: dark olive green. However, all militiamen wear a light blue shirt of the type worn by farm workers in the U.S. All militia-men wear black French-type berets. Black low quartersshoes or either black or brown combat boots may be worn with the uniform. In general, all militia-men uniforms are fairly-well standardized. None of the militia wear ranks in line with their theme of equality. However, some of the more eccentric chiefs do wear some insignia in individual cases to advertise their positions, but the exact type or types of insignia is unknown to source.

19. (C) INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCIES: 1. G-2 - The Chief is Ramiro Valdes. - The G-2 for the Cuban Revolutionary Forces (CRF) represents all the military and civilian agencies alike. As such he also supervised all G-2's of the other armed forces. He has unquestionable control over all investigations both within Cuba and abroad. G-2 personnel in Cuba have been likened to "gestapos" in both tactics, procedures, and power. Although source has no personal knowledge of the key G-2 personnel outside of Valdes, he is aware that most of their key personalities have been recruited from the ranks of the Socialist Youth of Cuba, a known Communist youth organization. One other facet of this organization is the fact that although Valdes is nominally the appointed head and chief of G-2, the person that answers to Castro direct on all intelligence matters is Falbio Bravo, who is the replacement personally appointed to take the place vacated by the former head who was recently killed in a light aircraft accident. *Cuba*

2. G-5 - The head Inspector General is William Galvez; nothing further to report.

3. Investigations Department, Office of the Cuban Prime Minister - Dissolved in late 1960 or early 1961; nothing further known.

4. Investigations Department, National Institute for Agrarian Reform - Antonio Nunez Jimenez, Head.

5. Technical Judicial Police - Dissolved at some unrecalled time and was absorbed by the National Police.

6. Movement of Revolutionary Workers - Not known to source. He believes it to be the same as the Cuban Federation of Labor (CTC).

7. Committee of Revolutionary Women - Vilma Espin, wife of Raul Castro, President.

20. (C) SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS: 1. The Popular Socialist Party - Blas Roca - Secretary General.

2. The Twenty-sixth of July Movement - Emilio Aragonés, Head. *Cuba*

3. Revolutionary Directorate:

purges.

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21. (C) ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES: Source claims that he has very little in the way of definitive information on the counter-revolutionary movements. However, he does recall having heard variously from unrecalled sources that there is an estimated 600 counter-revolutionists located within the Escambray Mountains. He does not know the names of any of the opposition leaders nor of any connections these groups may have with exile elements in the United States. Neither does he have any idea as to their planned operations or aims. What he does know is that it has been reported to him variously from unrecalled sources that because of militia raids and patrols, these counter-revolutionist have been forced to remain well dispersed; in addition, it is also reported that they are not too well equipped with the result that, to date, they have been unable to consummate any formidable attacks and therefore pose no particular threat to the Castro regime. Source is of the opinion that such forces would serve to be successful and effective if not annoying to the Castro regime but lack the proper organization and leadership.

22. (C) CUBAN CIVILIAN MILITIA: Source stated that to his knowledge, there is a force of approximately 30,000 (sic) combined Castro militia and military *Cuba* troops within Las Villas Province under the command of one Derminio Escalona. The Primary mission of these troops is to counter and negate any efforts on the part of the 600 counter-revolutionaries in the Escambray Mountains from attacking any of the Castro fortifications. Although it is known that there is at least one regiment of militia assigned to each province, source has no definite knowledge of the names of its principal or subordinate commanders, weapons, strength, status of training, etc. He does recall that the militia-commandante at Camaguey Province is one Papito Cerguera and that Raul Castro and Armando Acosta are the Chiefs of the tactical forces within Oriente Province. Source added that consonant with Fidel Castro's concerted effort to centralize and nationalize all of Cuba, one of his prime objectives has been to nullify the potentiality and fighting effectiveness of the original Rebel Army which fought Batista. Along these lines, the former Regular Army virtually lost its identity and is methodically being replaced in strategic positions with trusted pro-Castro militia-men. Army personnel have been constantly shifted to prevent them from consolidating and they are relegated to such menial tasks as road building, crop harvesting and other such agrarian but un-military type duties. In Castro's mind, it is his intention to merge the militia with the more trustworthy elements of the armed forces into a single entity loyal only to Castro himself. Towards that end, it is source's impression that Castro has been eminently successful, since armed forces personnel and former Rebel Army forces have been so distributed and scattered and kept on the move that it is not possible for them to band together into any effective fighting group of opposition. Source added the foregoing in answer to queries and pointed questions on detailed order of battle information. His reply was that under the chaotic and total lack of organization within the Cuban Armed Forces, this confusion was designed to prevent any military coups d'etat from formulating; and since the Rebel Army had no distinct Table of Organization or strength breakdown, neither does the present armed forces or the militia follow any such distribution or orderliness. Commanders are usually district chiefs and not even they are ever totally aware of whom or how many troops they have under their control at any given time. It is source's opinion that Castro has been able to continue to retain control of Cuba by taking advantage of and perhaps even fostering this anomaly of deranged disorder within the Cuban Armed Forces to impose some method to his madness.

Cuba
Chief of

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~~Lazaro Pena~~ - known Communist Party Member
~~Anibal Escalante~~ - known Communist Party Member

Cuba }

16. (C) ORDER OF BATTLE: Source stated that because he has been virtually on a reserve status since Castro reorganized the armed forces, he is not aware of the composition, strength, organization, materiel, leadership, or training of the current Cuban Revolutionary Army. However, one fact which he is certain of is that the morale of that portion of the Revolutionary Armed Forces with which he does come in contact is decidedly low and dwindling daily, and desertions are rampant. It is source's belief that a larger majority of the original Rebel Army is not, and has never been, Communistically inclined. As a matter of fact, and politics in general played little importance in the makeup of most of the revolutionaries; they were interested primarily in ridding Cuba of the Batista dictatorship. And with the present infiltration of known Communist elements, most of these original revolutionaries are in a quandary as to their true status. Their relationships within the Rebel Army in connection with the Castro regime have steadily worsened, mainly because of Castro's open distrust of them as brought out in his replacement of Rebel Army men in strategic positions with militia personnel. This is all part and parcel of Castro's aim of surrounding himself with only those lieutenants whom he can trust implicitly and who will follow him blindly. Source feels also that virtually all key staff position personnel in the Rebel Army have been replaced by well known communists. As examples, Comandante Felix Torres; Comandante Armando Acosta, who is in command of the Las Villas area; and Comandante Juan Escalona, the assistant to Raul Castro; are all known to be established Communist Party members.

17. (C) SECURITY AND DEFENSE MEASURES IN CERTAIN INSTALLATIONS: Source stated that he is unaware of any of the security and defense measures which may be in effect in any of the following named installations. In his estimation, they are indefensible with the present capabilities of the Cuban Armed Forces, and can be considered to be completely vulnerable to any concentrated, organized attack.

1. Airfield at San Antonio de los Banos
2. Jose Marti International Airport
3. La Cabana Fortress (Havana)
4. Castillo de Atares (Havana)
5. Campo Libertad Airfield (Havana)
6. IVRA Building (Havana)
7. Managua Army Camp (Appr 15 miles SE of Havana)

18. (C) UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIAS: Rebel Army: Their uniforms are made from the same tropical worsted material which is worn by U.S. troops during the summer with the exception that they are dark olive green in color. Both officers and enlisted personnel wear identical uniforms. The cap used is identical to the U.S. Army field cap or fatigue cap without stiffeners or rank; within the Cuban Revolutionary Army, they are known as "combat caps." One other cap often used for different occasions is a garrison type cap with visor similar to that issued to the French Army. Officers are distinguished by this cap with gold braid on the visor together with rank insignia. Still others wear black French beret type caps; there is no exact uniformity in the hats or uniforms worn.

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- Ranks: Enlisted men (stripes are gold in color):
- Soldier - no stripes
 - Private First Class - one stripe
 - Corporal - two stripes
 - Sergeant - three stripes
 - Sergeant Major - four stripes (three up and one parallel)
- Officers:
- Sub-lieutenant - One gold bar on each epaulet
 - Lieutenant - two gold bars on each epaulet
 - Captain - three gold bars on each epaulet

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11. (C) ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTALION: According to source, a total of approximately 10,000 revolutionary soldiers have been trained in the use of anti-aircraft weapons at Pinar del Rio; militia chiefs have received identical training at Matanzas. However, the actual training sites, type and degree of training, etc., are unknown to source. He does recall it mentioned that instructors employed were mostly of Czech extraction. He denied any knowledge of a particular anti-aircraft battalion presently or previously employed in Cuba.

12. (C) RURAL POLICE: According to source, the Rural Police, per se, no longer exists. At one time, exact period unrecalled, there were plans made to establish such a Rural Police organization and an academy was organized to effect such a force. However, the entire matter lasted but about 30 days and was dropped completely.

13. (C) SOVIET BLOC ARMS AND EQUIPMENT: Source stated that he has no personal knowledge concerning the type, numbers, capabilities, or any other information on Soviet Bloc arms and equipment which might have been brought into Cuba. He reiterated that he and his group were issued only obsolete and older equipment while all foreign and newer type weapons were passed to the civilian militia.

14. (C) POLITICAL INFLUENCE: In source's decided opinion, at the time of his departure from Cuba, the only group which can be considered to be at all loyal to the Castro regime is the Civilian Militia, and the loyalty stems more from Castro's constant reminders to them that they are the principal force to deter invasion from outsiders than any deep seated allegiance either to Castro or his regime. With regard to the militia-men, source feels that they are composed mostly of farmers and workers and generally people without any actual combat experience. As a result, their very wearing of uniforms, standing guard duty and participating in parades are treated more in the light of boy scout games than as a formidable military force. For the same reason, source feels that, should any major opposition be imposed upon the militia, they would commence to scatter, disband, and disintegrate in disorder. Along the same lines, source feels that a majority of the key militia chiefs is not in total agreement with all of Castro's extreme policies; however, the dread and fear of imprisonment, reprisals and death are the only forces which keep them in line. Coupled with this is the undeniable fact that with the nationalization of all industries and business, they all realize that their jobs and very existence, as well as that of their families, depend to a great degree on their outward enthusiasm for militia affairs, since everything is now being controlled by the government, no matter what and where their personal sentiments might lie. Source is of the opinion that this drive for survival more than any singular allegiance to the regime is the prime motivating factor holding the militia together, and accounts for its apparent loyalty to the Castro regime.

15. (C) POSSIBLE DEFACTORS: In source's estimation, the following is a list of high Cuban officials who are the most apt to defect or join counter revolutionaries, if given the opportunity. Source bases this assumption on the statements made by them in his presence in reaction to current affairs in Cuba.

~~Alfredo Lagura - Minister of Justice~~
~~Pipen Saranjo - Minister of Government~~
~~Faustino Perez - Ex-minister of Recuperation of Properties~~
~~(fnu) Otuski - Ex-minister of Communications~~
~~Noelio Marsoli - Secretary General of the Confederation of Cuban Workers~~
~~Comandante Rolando Cubela - Presidente of the Federation of Uni-~~

~~versity Students~~

~~(fnu) Mazon - (exact position unknown)~~

Counter to the above, source declared that the following named officials are the ones he deems most dedicated to opposing the United States and its policies:

Cuba
~~Comandante Felix Torres - known Communist Party member~~
~~Comandante Armando Acosta - known Communist Party member~~
~~Comandante Ramiro Valdes - Chief of G-2~~
~~Blas Foca - Secretary General of the Popular Socialist Party (Communist Party) of Cuba~~

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