In a review of its own files in March 15, 1962, the C.I.A. noted that

Vesuvius had contacted the Agency three times—in December 1960, July 1962, and April 1966—for assistance in getting a license to operate a restaurant. (Country file 261-31-2966) On Dec. 18, 1965-21; 3/15/65-75 3/21(2); 78 05/21(2). According to the C.I.A. "officials continued to become, expressed no interest offered no encouragement and have not contacted them on this matter. Thus, this has been an agency relationship with Vesuvius.

The Committee's review of the Agency's files basically confirmed the results of the meeting with Vesuvius in 1960 and 1962. However, a review of files dated July 7, 1962, revealed that contact with Vesuvius had been made by an agent, Skeeve, I and that Skeeve had given Vesuvius $5000 for operational activity. (Skeeve file
IN 24738, 7/2/62)
On August 17, 1978, the Committee deposed John A. McConne, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency from October, 1961 until April 30th, 1965. (Classified Top Secret testimony, 8/17/78, p.4)

During the course of the deposition, the following questions and answers were recorded: XXXXXXXXXXX

Q: Do you know or did you know Maurice Bishop?
A: Yes.
Q: Was he an agency employee?
A: I believe so.
Q: Do you know what his duties were in 1963?
A: No.
... Q: For instance, do you know whether Maurice Bishop worked in the Western Hemisphere Division or whether he worked in some other division of the CIA?
A: I do not know. I do not recall. I knew at that time but I do not recall.
Q: Do you know whether Maurice Bishop used any pseudonyms?
A: No, I do not know that. (Ibid, pp. 45,46)
David Atlee Phillips testified before the Committee in Executive Session on April 25, 1978. He said he never used the name Maurice Bishop. He said he did not know of anyone in the CIA who used the name Maurice Bishop. He said he had seen Antonio Veciana only twice in his life, the second time the very morning of his hearing before the Committee when Veciana, who had testified earlier, emerged from the hearing room while he, Phillips, was in the hallway. Phillips said the first time he met Veciana was at a meeting of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers in Reston. He said that Veciana was brought to that meeting by an investigator from Senator Schweiker's office, but; said Phillips, Veciana was not introduced to him by name but only as "the driver." He said Veciana asked him some questions in Spanish but at the time, he didn't know who Veciana was or why Senator Schweiker's office had sent him to the meeting.

Phillips also testified that he had never used the name Frigault and had never used a Belgian passport.

Phillips was shown the sketch of Maurice Bishop but could not identify it as anyone he knew. He said, however, "It looks like me."
footnotes for VECIANA - Phillips section

of David Atlee Phillips

Hearings Before the House Select Committee on Assassinations

182. Executive Session, classified testimony, 4/25/78, p. 89.

183. Ibid.

184. Ibid, p. 86.

185. Ibid.

186. Ibid.

187. Ibid, p. 95.

188. Ibid, p. 88.

189. Ibid, p. 90.
insert Veciana write up

insert GUPTON

The Committee staff interviewed Doug Gupton on August 22nd, 1978 at CIA headquarters. Gupton said he worked for the CIA from December, 1951, until his retirement in June, 1978, much of that time on the Covert Action Guidance Staff. Gupton confirmed that he was in charge of propaganda operations at the Miami JM/WAVE station and that his immediate superior was David Phillips. Gupton acknowledged that Ross-Crozier was a case officer who worked for him and that he saw Crozier on a daily basis. Gupton said he does not recall whether E. Howard Hunt or David Phillips ever used the name of "Knight." He said he does not recall Phillips ever using the name of Maurice Bishop. When told about Crozier's recollection of him referring to Phillips as "Mr. Bishop," Gupton said: "Well, maybe I did. I don't remember." He also said, however, that he never heard the name of Bishop while he was stationed in Miami. When shown the sketch of Bishop, he said it did not look like anyone he knew.

Explaining his working relationship with David Phillips, Gupton said he was in contact with him regularly in Washington by telephone and cable and that Phillips visited Miami "quite
often." Gupton said, however, that there were two sets of operations. His set of operations was run out of Miami and he kept Phillips informed of them. Phillips ran another set of operations personally out of Washington and, Gupton said, Phillips did not keep him briefed about them. Gupton also said he knew that Phillips used many of his old contacts from Havana in his personal operations.
170. Staff interview, 8/28/78, JFK Document No. 002101

171. Ibid.

172. Ibid.

173. Ibid.


175. Ibid.

176. Ibid.

177. Ibid.

178. Ibid.

179. Ibid.

180. Ibid.

181. Ibid.
On August 10, 1978, B.H. (Balmes Nives Hidalgo Jr.), a former covert operative of the CIA, was interviewed by the Committee in a special closed session. B.H. was a CIA agent from 1952 to 1970. Between 1960 and 1964 he was assigned to Cuban operations. As such, he testified, he was involved in "day-to-day" operations with David Atlee Phillips. He characterized Phillips as "an excellent intelligence officer" and "a personal friend."

When asked if he knew an individual named Maurice Bishop, B.H. said:

"Again, Mr. Bishop was in the organization but I had no personal day-to-day open relationship with him. Phillips, yes; Bishop, no. I knew them both."

Although he couldn't describe Bishop's physical characteristics, B.H. said he had seen him "two or three times" in the "hallways or cafeteria" at CIA headquarters in Langley. B.H. said he thought Bishop worked in the Western Hemisphere Division and that he had a position "higher than me." He could not be more specific. The two or three times he saw Bishop, he said, was between 1960 and 1964 when he himself was in Cuban operations, although, he said, he didn't know if Bishop worked in that area also.
Asked how, if he didn't personally know Bishop, he knew the person he saw at CIA headquarters was Maurice Bishop, B.H. said: "Someone might have said, 'That is Maurice Bishop,' and it was different from Dave Phillips or Hal Swenson, guys that I know."  

However, when shown the sketch of Maurice Bishop, B.H. could not identify it as anyone he recognized.
footnotes for VECIANA -- B.H. section

Committee Interview of Balmes Nives Hidalgo, Jr.,

194. Classified Top Secret closed session, 8/10/78, House Select Committee on Assassinations.

197. Ibid, p. 29.
199. Ibid, p. 31.
201. Ibid, p. 31.
203. Ibid, p. 35.
204. Ibid, p. 33.
On August 10th, 1978, in a closed session of the Committee, [name] said:

On August 10th, 1978, [believe: Nieves Hidalgo Jr.] a former covert operator of the CIA, was interviewed by the Committee in a special closed session. He was a CIA agent from 1952 to 1970. (A) Between 1960 and 1964 he was assigned to Cuban operations. When asked if he ever knew an individual named Maurice Bishop, he said:

"Again, Mr. Bishop was in the organization but I had no personal day-to-day open relationship with him. Phillips, yes; Bishop, no. I knew them both..." (Ibid. p. 32)

Although he couldn't describe Bishop, he said he had seen him "two or three times" (Ibid. p. 33) in the "hallway or cafeteria" (Ibid. p. 33) at CIA headquarters in Langley. He said he thought Bishop worked in the Western Hemisphere Division (p. 31) and that he had a position "higher than mine." (p. 32) He could not be more specific. He also mentioned Bishop the two or three times he met Bishop. He said this was between 1960 and 1964 when he himself was a Cuban operator, although, he said, he didn't know if Bishop worked in that area also (p. 33)

Asked if he didn't personally know Bishop, he said he knew that the person he saw at CIA was..." (Ibid. p. 8.)
As such, he testified, he was involved in the same operations with which Maurice Bishop was involved. He said his involvement was in "day-to-day" operations with David Phillips. He characterized Phillips as "an excellent intelligence officer" and "a personal friend." (Ibid. p. 29)

Headquarters was Maurice Bishop, H. said: "Someone might have said, "That is Maurice Bishop," and it was different from Dave Phillips, or Hel Swenson, guys that I know." (Ibid. p. 33).

Hanson, when shown the sketch of Maurice Bishop, H. could not identify it as anyone he recognized. (p. 33)
In a review of its own files on March 15, 1978, the CIA noted that Veciana had contacted the Agency three times -- in December, 1960; July, 1962; and April, 1966 -- for assistance in plots against Castro. (Classified file 201-312966. Dir: 188531, 3/15/78, 78 0421219) According to the CIA: "Officers listened to Veciana, expressed no interest, offered no encouragement and never recontacted him on this matter. There has been no Agency relationship with Veciana." 

The Committee's own review of the Agency's files basically confirmed the stated conclusions about the meetings with Veciana in 1960 and 1966. However, a review of files dated July 7, 1962 revealed that contact with Veciana had been made by an asset, SKEWER-1, and that SKEWER-1 had given Veciana $500 for operational activity. (Classified file IN 24738, 7/7/62)
In Vitek - Cuban Intelligence Service - camo-flea program.

4/60-Pick

*Recommended for agent handler*

In Wash 1963: chief PM Section, foreign ops.
Branch of DDP/SA-5 General Aff. 1965

-didn't speak Spanish before 1965.

1966 back to HQ, Colombia desk (Next to 60 Wabash)
Oct '60 - in Cuban stuff, headquarters.

[Signature]
Guy Vitale - Born 16 Dec 1917

Retired 28 Feb 1969

13 Dec 1965: Reassigned from WH/C - Miami Operation Branch, PA Section to WH/C

12 Dec 1962: Promotion - 12 Task Force W E5/C1 Branch

12 March 1962: Reassignment and Transfer to DDP/VN 4, Use Funds (Bancroft, R. E5/C1)

20 June 1960: Reassignment from Athens Section, 81st Staff, Records Integration Section to CS/VS Development Supplement, E5 Div.

1967 - Working as an intelligence assistance maintaining project and agent 201 files for the Branch's PM program

11 May 1960 - Name from Chief, Central Cover Division to Chief, Records Service Division, effective 1 April 1960 requesting record be blocked to deny Agency Employment.

Fitness Report:

11 Nov 1960 - Generally (improving) assigned G3 Section, E5 Section as intelligence detail

12 Feb 1962 - DDP/VN 4: "His ability to function as an agent handler is extremely commendable.

21 Nov 1962 - Recommendation for promotion from supervisor C.W. Hicks (doing mostly records work)

1963-1968 - Records indicate a headquarters support
to IM/WAVE type of record keeping and briefing duties. Comment on 11 July 1966: "Mr. Vitalo's principal qualification is his background knowledge of the operational history of Cuban paramilitary operations." Refer to his several years of handling records in headquarters support of W/ Cuban paramilitary BASE OFFICERS.

The 1960s appear to have been involved with Eastern European Div. FG. Off.

4/10/61 4/10/61 TDY to Vieques Island, Puerto Rico.