- News article -

Afony April 1976

- Dispatch to Chief from Chief - DELETED - GET FULL COPY

Progress Rept 1-31 Aug 63.

W/ help of Fiorini able to keep informed of activities of Diaz Lanz Bros. in attempts to mount airraid over Cuba. Information then passed to local security agencies in time for them to thwart plans.

- Daily Summary - Aug 63

Flight of 28 July over Havana aborted - bomb
defect caught planned.

Postponed to 31 July or 1 Aug. Fiorini to head
for Marathon keys - as decoy for FBI surveillance

Diaz Bros to leave cars at home to appear as
though they are home, but will attempt to
reach Heir Williams Ranch where plane to
be used for raid is located. Fiorini said
plane will carry several bombs made of
100 lb practice bombs cut down to smaller size and filled w/ nuts and bolts for sharpnel.

Ramon Garcia - former Cuban Airlines pilot
to have participated in raid.

- 8 May 63 - Fiorini told source he had been
approached by Hareos to patch up differences
and cooperate in "anti-Castro activity". Said
Money from Cuban in Wash. who had helped before. Only told that in operation would be air strike - Pedro would be pilot. Kent gave turn indirect channels. Anz bros. assisting in sale of yacht.

"Fiorini had been warning / The bros. until a falling out. Union is now evidently being repaired."

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20 Mar 63 - Memo to S.J. Grojan, atty to Director.

Investigation by US. Army, hampered by story - but it appears. WM. Johnson, Swaner, Fiorini made 27 Oct 61 over-flight - Caraguay for leaflet drop. Perre claims he went as observer.

8 Dec. Swaner intercepted in Nassau jet in Nassau by Johnson, Perre, Fiorini. Tried to get permit to fly to Great Exuma Island, but permit denied. Plane impounded.

10 Dec. Leaflets found on Norman Cay.

14 Dec. Thompson flew to Ft. Lauderdale to pick up Johnson. At some point Johnson left group, and Fiorini. Swaner & Thompson flew to Andros Island.


18 Dec. Perre, Fiorini, Johnson charter plane in Miami for trip to Bimini and Cay Sal. Perre identified as CBS photographer looking for photos of pink flamingos. Plane flew cross-pattern over Cay Sal, and returned to Miami. No info re. whereabouts of Thompson. Swaner and plane until last story plane shot down over Cuba.
Johnson, Borini, Rokke claim CIA sponsorship. In fact, have had none. Sponsor appears to be Sergio Rojas fantamaring - possibly overzealous - some of his activities had been CIA sponsored.

March 62, Raymond J. Dwyer rep'ing Finger poss. litigation as. insurer of aircraft. Approached CIA re: poss. govt. involvement - which was denied. No indication from Castro's speeches to what happened.

No agency info on other "elements of incident as reptd" in references, including:

- Mrs. Swaner's story of having driven Swaner/Thorner/Borini to Ft. Lauderdale to load boat w/ leaflets.

- $500.00 checks reptdly given to Swaner & Mrs. Thompson by Borini.

- Mrs. Swaner's reptd trip to Andros Island w/ her son and friend of her husband.

- Mysterious phone calls to Mrs. Swaner, Mrs. Thompson & others.

- Role of Gene Asbury and Norman Gratsky (Gradsky?)

Ref. to Martino - prob. John Vincent Martino. Sentenced to 13 yrs prison in 59; released Oct. 62 - not dec'd as reptd. Was not, is not employed by CIA.
24 Oct 59 Routing & Record Sheet to Hunt reed 30/10 forwarded 2 Nov of Diaz Lanz file.

- CIA Watch office 24 Oct 59: into that plane from P. D. Diaz Lanz to drop leaflets and prob bombs over Havana 24 Oct 59
  for fly 25 Oct 59 piloted by Lanz to disrupt Castro rally

- Dispatch 23 Oct 59: re leaflet
  attached sample of leaflets dropped from Diaz Lanz's plane 21 Oct 59

- Dispatch 18 Sept 59: to Chief WHD from Havana CGB
  re: Operational [PDL] group

Cryps: [PDL]

Subj. said he had gone to Miami and talked w/PDL [redacted]; who told him that he needed a man for his Miami organization; the person he had in mind was a captain in the Cuban Air Force, who was willing to join him. He enquired the subject to see his Habana contact and arrange for officer's exfiltration. Subj. asked whether his Habana contact (Gebraide or Raynold) had this capability, and PDL was advised that they did. Ciaction assumed that PDL's obtained his
2/24/48

Lanz 207

11110666

PLDL

ROS

SECRET

- Exfiltration info from QDCHAR. Subj. also said that QDB14S has ODYOEKE contacts in Miami.

- Doc. cross ref for 201-259120 (Lanz 201 file)
  Re: Ricardo Lanz Loria y Valle - ca. 1928, age 31, passport 09552, & Diaz Lanz, age 32, passport 10693 left Costa Rica for Miami, Fla on 24 Dec 58 and re-entered Costa Rica from Mexico on 31 Dec 58

- Memo for record 7 Aug 54
  Re: Conversation approx. one wk prior. Between Eugene R. Gonzalez and Mr. Alfonso Moscoso, former amb. from Ecuador to US & ex-brother-in-law of former President Galo Plaza of Ecuador.

  Moscoso told me in strict confidence that his good friend, Ecuador amb to US & ex-brother-in-law of former President Galo Plaza of Ecuador, was said to have info and documents proving Diaz Lanz received approx. $100,000 from pro-Batista groups to defend his reinsfty before U.S. long.

- Dispatch 7 Aug 54 to Chief WH DIV from Miami (Karnley) & Re: Meeting w/ QDB14S, QDCHAR, QDCOVE

  Outlined plans in meeting. Subjs. will recruit groups which bear Batista trait. Suggest propaganda program discussion of pass. aid; possible procedures - i.e. transmitter on boat broadcasting from various positions in the Caribbean Sea.
QDCOVE described as leader of group, most intelli-
group was cautioned about need for security.
"However, there is a close and apparently
unshakeable relationship with people like
Frank Piorini & other people w/whom
they were close during the revolution. I have
repeatedly cautioned them about Piorini specifical-
y for they have always responded by recognizing
that Piorini is a threat in that he
talks too much. But as and if (sic) we
proceed with this group, it has to be done with
the expectation that Piorini and others are going to
be frequently around this group and we will
have only the word of these people that he and
others are not being informed of their activities."

- In March QDCOVE went to Belo, w/ rank of Amb.
to negotiate deal re: arms. Deal cost $8 mil which
QD love personally paid thru letters of credit.

- Dispatch 4 Aug 59. To Chief WH Div from Miami Charlie.
Report on Miami base involvement in arrival of
Pedro Diaz Land in U.S.

laza party - Díaz along his wife Tania, Sergio Diaz
Arnell; Carlos Echebayan. Echebayan & Arnell had
charters boat to pick up Diaz & W. wanted to
hold party several days - Diaz concerned
about his brother Andres.
QDARUM, QDARBOR assisted hiding Diaz.
Major Otto of Army visited, wanted to talk to
Díaz despite CIA's attempts to let him rest.
Tentative plan was Diaz would taken from JNS,
pot in a secure place, moved to another area
in country, put thru intensive interrogations
then removed to foreign area where he would be
harassed. Gen. Cabello expected to discuss matter w/som

2/24/40

RE: Turn over of Diaz to law enforcement. Complications have arisen in different versions of what passed between Gen. Cabell and Gen. Swing; appearance of Eastland Committee rep.

- Article: Drew Pearson - Wash Post - 7-24-59 - "Defeats Cuban Chief Exploited.

- Memo for Record 15 July 1959
  Re: Testimony of Diaz Lanz. (Testified 14 July)
  Prominent communists:

- Sp. lang. article 17 Jul 59. "Verdadera Estatura Cubana de Pedro Diaz Lanz

- CIA Memo of conversation, 10 July 59.
  Re: Tel. conversation w/ Herbert Aree, Dir of Intelligence Bureau of Immigration. w/ J. J. Flores

- Draft Memo for Record 8 Jul (initiated), 8 July 59
  Re: Diaz Lanz case.
  Info reud from friend of Diaz in Miami - name of Beyer Biondi, Sergio Diaz & Carlos Echegoyen (former civilian in Cuban AF-Dwell), who had obtained boat in Miami which was used to bring Diaz from Cuba, had gone to see Beyer imned. after their release in July; they were accompanied by Frank Pioini, etc.
2/4/70

SECRET

Pedro Diaz Lanz

O.D.O

2/4/70

SECRET

citizen w/ reputation as shady businessman who lives in Miami.

They said Schroeder (INS) told Diaz he is to appear before Senate Sub Committee to receive 100% US govt support in overthrowing Castro.

- Prior to Diaz' departure the Cuban Air Force purchased one C-46 and one B-25 aircraft in Miami area. Aircraft in Byers' custody but in Fiorini's name. Fiorini (until 7/3) trying to get Byers to sell aircraft & turn $ over to him (Fiorini). On 8/2, Fiorini asked Byers to hold C-46 for revolutionary plans & sell B-25. Fiorini accompanied by Selvio Diaz on 8/2.

- Discussion paper - 7/10/59 re Diaz - publicity on Diaz Lanz arrival.

- Cable from Dir to Foreign L.A. Station 2/7/59
  - Requests max. press and radio exploitation of defection 20 time of Diaz Lanz w/ recommendations on particular story.

- Dispatch 2/7/59 to Chief WHD from COS Havana re Diaz Lanz - misc. enclosure - 2 copies of letter from Diaz Lanz to Cuban President.

- Cable 2/2 June 59 to Dir from Havana
  - re: departure of Diaz Lanz for U.S. Requesting ODURGE not divulge entry PBPRIME of pedro Diaz Lanz.

- Cable 21 June 59 to Dir from Havana
Information Report 15 Jun 59

Re: Chief of Air Force's confidential statements about need for counter-revolution against Castro.

Source: US businessman, operator of private consulting company. Also rep. for major US aircraft manufacturer. Spoke at length w/ source regarding symptoms of Castro's communist tendencies.

Cable 7 Jan 59 to Dir from Santiago de Cuba:

Re: Fidel Batista stymied Bayamo rebels.

q. Cuban air force demobilized. Will be built up from scratch. Former officers to be investigated for atrocities. Many to be court-martialed. Source: Fiorini (F) from Diaz Lanz, Chief, Rebel Air Force.

Cable 25 Nov 58 to Dir from Mex. City: (CIA) Nico Zamaida.

Rept 3 tons Cuban rebel arms confiscated. 11 Cubans, 1 American captured — of Cubans: Pedro Ruiz Lanz (probably Diaz Lanz) and Amer. Frank Fiorini. Fiorini named co-pilot and owner plane C-46. Fiorini known as "Francisco" among Cubans.

Af interest: absent name Ricardo de la Torre.

Cable 22 Nov 58

Rept Cuban rebels and Amer. w/C-46 captured at Apatzingan airport, Michoacan. Captured (partial list) Diaz Lanz, Frank Fiorini.

Cable 14 Nov 58

Rept Ricardo de la Torre — brought air plane flying from Ariz., scheduled for departure 12 or 13 Nov for Venezuela. Rex. enroute Venezuela. Diaz Lanz will prob. accompany de la Torre.

Cable 11 Nov 58 to Dir from San Francisco: Fiorini left Mex.
for Frisco by car - car night 4 Nov. meet pilots.
De la Horie and Diaz Gerry Arriz. but expect return
Governor Hotel - Post. Kingman, Ariz re: planes.

Cable 2 Nov. 58 to Dir from Hex City.
Man trav. w/ subjs. identified as Frank Brinini
Man prob. Pedro Luis, Diaz Lanz and Ricardo de
la Horie, Post. going Venezuela.

Cable 30 Oct. 58 to Dir from Hex City.
Ric de la Horie and Diaz Lanz arr. Hex City by Car
27 Oct 58. Believed had visa trouble at border.
Unidentified man accompanied them.

Cable 18 Aug. 58 to Dir from San Juan.
Jamaica police questioned Figueroa 14 Aug seeking identities
addresses. 5 Aug. Figueroa contacted by Diaz Lanz,
pilot of Beechcraft plane N-48-Q, who visits Kingston
often and believed by Jamaica police to be Fidel
Castro's courier or pilot. Figueroa said Diaz only brought
personal greetings.

201 file request
To RI/Analysis section 5 July 1959.
non sensitive
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