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PLACEMENT IN DETENTION
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DIAZ, PEDRO
CABELL, EARLE

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : File

FROM : Chief, Alien Affairs Staff

SUBJECT: LANZ, Pedro Diaz

DATE: 7 July 1959

1. Reference is made to the attached memorandum dated 6 July 1959, from the Chief, Personnel Security Division, pertaining to certain activity which occurred over the past weekend concerning the subject's detention by the I&NS.

2. On this date inquiry was made of Mr. Tom Flores, WH Division, with regard to this matter. He declared that everyone on a working level in the I&NS was most cooperative with the Agency with regard to the subject. He indicated, however, that it appeared that General Swing was taking a "hard nosed" approach in view of an interest in the subject by the Committee on Internal Security, headed by Senator Eastland. Mr. Flores indicated he felt it would not be desirable to attempt to have the subject released from detention until General Swing decides that such action is propitious.

3. On this same date inquiry was made of Mr. H. D. Nice, I&NS, with regard to this matter. He declared that there was "nothing you or I could have done" to have precluded the situation that arose over the past weekend. He declared that someone in this Agency had misinformed General Cabell to the effect that the Immigration Service was holding the subject in detention and would not permit CIA representatives to talk to him. The fact of the matter according to Mr. Nice, was that General Swing had ordered that the subject's parole be revoked and he be placed in detention for three reasons. The first being it was the subject's ~~one~~ desire to be afforded protection; secondly, it was a suggestion of the CIA representative in Miami, Bernard Reichardt, (who had the opportunity to interview the subject); and thirdly, because General Swing became aware of the fact that several different components of the U.S. Government were evidencing a primary interest in the subject. It was made clear to Mr. Nice that certainly General Cabell did not wilfully attempt to deceive the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization Service, and if in fact he did give the impression that


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he believed that the Service would not permit CIA to interview the subject, such an impression was merely due to the fact that he did not have complete information at his disposal.

4. Mr. Flores, mentioned above, indicated this date that complete coordination has been effected with the various Government Agencies interested in the subject, and now there is a complete meeting of the minds with regard to the fact that the CIA has primary interest in the subject for intelligence purposes. Mr. Flores mentioned that when Mr. Reichardt contacted the Immigration people in Miami on Tuesday, 2 July 1959, the Immigration people were just about ready to release subject from custody. It was pointed out by Mr. Reichardt, however, that to publicize the fact that the subject had been afforded asylum in the U.S. could possibly have had disastrous results with regard to our relationship with Cuba. When this fact was called to the attention of the Service, it was at that point undoubtedly that General Swing was contacted, and he in turn undoubtedly was in contact with the Internal Security Committee, which resulted in his decision to revoke the parole of LANZ and place him in detention for the time being.

5. This matter was effectively handled by the Chief, Personnel Security Division, over the past weekend after efforts to contact Messrs. Cotter and Pennington were unsuccessful. Unfortunately, Mr. Massett, who was available at home during the period in question, was not contacted. A memorandum will be directed to the Physical Security Division to assure that the identity of all professional members of this Staff, along with their home phone numbers, are available to the Night Security Officer.


William J. Cotter

OS/AAS/WJC:es 8 July 1959

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