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ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES

SECRET

The March 26, 1963, raid against the Soviet ship off Cuba was conducted by five members of L-66 under the leadership of Antonio Cuesta del Valle with Ramon Font Saumel as second in command. The raid reportedly was accomplished with the use of a 23-foot Fiberglas boat powered by twin 210 horsepower Chrysler engines capable of a speed of 55 miles per hour. Reportedly, armament on the boat included a .30 caliber light machine gun, a 22 millimeter antitank rifle, various detonation devices, and a homemade torpedo which was powered by a seven and one-half horsepower outboard motor. The boat was loaded with fifty pounds of explosives.

On March 27, 1963, a U. S. Coast Guard representative at Miami advised that on March 24, 1963, the Coast Guard had observed the fifty foot yacht "Alisan" at an unnamed island located between Anguila Cay and Damask Key in the Cay Sal Group, approximately seventy miles from Caibarien, Cuba. Eight men, some Cuban in appearance, were observed on board the yacht.

On March 27, 1963, Lucia Fernandez, wife of Santiago Juan Antonio Alvarez Rodriguez, advised our Miami Office that her husband had departed from the United States about fifteen days previously on his yacht the "Alisan" en route to Anguila Cay. She said that she expected his return to the United States sometime this week. Fernandez denied any knowledge that her husband was connected with the group L-66 or its leaders.

A source who has furnished reliable information in the past has advised that the "Alisan" has on numerous occasions in the past engaged in military-type expeditions against the northern coast of Cuba, operating from the Cay Sal Bank in the Bahamas.

On March 28, 1963, our Miami Office interviewed Antonio Perez Quesada, who claimed to have piloted members of the L-66 group from the area to a location in the Bahama Islands from where the attack on the Soviet vessel was launched. Perez, who entered the United States in January, 1961, as a refugee from Caibarlen, Cuba, and who is thoroughly familiar with the coastal area near Caibarien, advised that he was recently recruited to pilot a boat to Cuba by Antonio Cuesta of the Commandos L-66. Perez said that on March 18, 1963, he piloted a 22- or 23-foot speedboat (unnamed) powered by two Chrysler motors from North Miami Beach to a location about one mile from Cat Cay in the

Para 2 does not warrant classification per DOT/uscs letter 3/8/82-2-SP-1 G5K/GBG 6/2**3**/82