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REINALDO PICO

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

105-3902

Miami, Florida
May 22, 1961

Re: Cuban Situation

3/10/95 5668 Sld/GAT
(JFK)

It is to be recalled that on April 17, 1961, an unsuccessful attempt was made by anti-Castro Cuban exiles under the general leadership of the Revolutionary Council, of which Dr. Jose Miro Cardona is President, to liberate Cuba from the Communist regime of Fidel Castro. Fidel Castro publicly announced that his forces had captured approximately twelve hundred men of the liberation forces who landed at Bahia de Cochinos (Bay of Pigs).

At 6:40 a.m. on May 20, 1961, Mr. Jules Dubois, Coral Gables, Florida, who is the Miami correspondent for the "Chicago Herald Tribune," advised that at 6:00 a.m. that day, he received a long distance telephone call, collect, from Havana, Cuba. He recognized the caller as a friend of his, Ulises Carbo, who had been taken prisoner by the Castro forces at Bahia de Cochinos. Carbo told Mr. Dubois that he and nine other prisoners, all captured at the same place, were being sent by plane to the United States by Fidel Castro as a committee of ten to negotiate with the United States Government for the exchange of United States tractors and bulldozers for the prisoners captured during the April 17th liberation attempt. Carbo mentioned that this was the plan which Castro had revealed during a speech the preceding night in Cuba. Carbo told Mr. Dubois that the

ENCLOSURE

Re: Cuban Situation

did not possess information concerning their specific schedule.

On May 22, 1961, MM T-2 and MM T-3 advised that on May 21, 1961, Reinaldo Pico Ramon had told them that Fidel Castro, in discussing the exchange of invasion prisoners for five hundred tractors and ten buses, indicated that Cuba, for its own utilization, did not find it urgent to have the tractors; however, the possession of such tractors by Cuba would make it possible for Cuba to liquidate certain economic obligations with Communist China. Pico indicated that he felt that Castro intended to export from Cuba to China the tractors received.

Both MM T-2 and MM T-3 have furnished reliable information in the past.

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