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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-118615)

DATE: March 28, 1963

FROM : SAC, MIAMI (105-7313) (P)

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Classified by SP8 mac/ise
Declassify on: OADR

SUBJECT: CAPTURE OF EIGHT COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES
BY CUBAN ARMED FORCES, FEBRUARY 21, 1963
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA;
NEUTRALITY MATTERS

(JFK)

all info contained herein is unclassified except where otherwise noted

ReBuairtel to Miami, 3/21/63.

On March 25, 1963, MM 639-S advised that ROY EMORY HARGRAVES returned to the United States from Elbow Cay, Cay Sal Bank, Bahamas. He was accompanied by two unidentified Cubans. These Cubans were both members of a dissident group of the 30th of November organization. One of the Cubans resides in an apartment house in the neighborhood of S. W. 6th Street and 4th Avenue, Miami, Florida. The residence of the other Cuban is unknown.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF CLASS DATE 9-21-81

Informant advised that only GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, Attorney CHARLES WASHMANN, and informant, know of HARGRAVES' account of the expedition, and that he returned with two Cubans who also participated. FLA ENGLAND

Informant said that HEMMING may or may not know the identity of these two Cubans, although he does know of their assistance. HEMMING and HARGRAVES are presently very friendly, are getting along quite well, and it is extremely doubtful if HEMMING would furnish any information concerning this matter to the FBI. It is noted HEMMING has not been cooperative in the past when interviewed by the Miami Office.

Informant continued that the regular members of Intercontinental Penetration Forces (INTERPEN) do not know of HARGRAVES' trip with the counterrevolutionaries who were captured; his account of this military venture; or who may have returned with him.

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - New York (info) (RM)
- 1 - San Juan (info) (RM)
- 2 - Miami

RJD/neb
(6)
Classified By
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification

S. A. Richard M. Alu
Date JAN 24 1977

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NAT. INV.

Copies made
102-2828-556/94
Re Hargraves
For review at FBIHQ by
HSCA re 1-26-28 request
(See Bufile 100-217290)
931-10023

Office advised by R/S 3/27/63
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE
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REASON-FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 1, 3, 3
DATE OF REVIEW 3/28/93

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Cubans consider their first allegiance to Cuba and not to the United States, and always say that no one yet has ever been prosecuted under the United States Neutrality Act. Informant stated that families and friends of the Cuban refugees would never testify against them, and to testify for the Government would cause people to think that person is pro-CASTRO, or a member of the Cuban G-2. (u)

A review of files of anti-CASTRO organizations reflects that the majority of these groups' activity is conspiring to violate the Neutrality Act. The majority of these organizations have elaborate plans to attack Cuba. These groups are in frequent contact with Government representatives asking for arms, equipment, and transportation to facilitate military expeditions. These organizations openly solicit funds for these purposes, buy large quantities of equipment from Army-Navy stores, openly buy arms and ammunition, and freely own and use boats in a manner which frequently violates the laws relating to the operation of boats.

United States Customs advised that there are nearly 150,000 Cubans in South Florida. There are hundreds of miles of coastline from which these Cubans can leave for the Bahamas, which are only fifty miles away.

Mr. GREG BENTLEY, British Intelligence, Bahamas, advised that the Bahama Islands cover thousands of square miles of ocean, that the British have only three patrol boats, and seldom ever patrol the Cay Sal Bank Islands, which are the closest to Cuba. (c)

United States Coast Guard advised they have planes, ships, and helicopters, which are in constant patrol in the Bahamas, photograph the boats used by Cuban exiles in the South Atlantic and Bahamas, but are more interested in intelligence than enforcement of the law relating to the equipment used on these boats. *Not class full Coast Guard letter 11/2/83 9145 cc 1 Dms*

ANTONIO PEREZ, Cuban fisherman in Miami, advised that a great number of Cuban fishermen arrive and depart daily from Miami to and from the Cay Sal Bank, and a number of these fishermen, such as PEREZ, carry arms and equipment

REVIEWED BY ^{USSS} FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

3. ON 7-23-97 dat/BC

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to anti-CASTRO groups operating out of Cay Sal. PEREZ explained that he has no difficulty entering and departing from Miami with arms, and the fishermen think they have United States Government sanction because they are never stopped or prosecuted.

Inasmuch as the Cuban exiles present a unique problem and cannot be counted on to testify as witnesses in a conspiracy case, Miami Office feels that military expeditions could best be averted by enforcement of existing Customs laws pertaining to entry and departure of boats, the exportation of guns and articles of war, and the use of Coast Guard boats and airplanes which are available for this purpose.

However, the Miami Office will have MM 639-S attempt to identify the two Cuban companions of HARGRAVES who returned to the United States with him, and will continue investigation in an attempt to develop a prosecutable case against captioned individuals for conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act. X(u)

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