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Two particular points emerged from the reinterview of the CIA source: (1) Source reported that a CORU meeting was held in the Dominican Republic some time between 19 and 21 June, 1976, probably in Bonao, and identified the following Cuban exiles as having been in attendance: (S)(u)

~~JORGE ALONSO PUJOLS, VERNESTO HERNANDEZ, PABLO MARTIN, FRANK TEIRA, LUIS ROSS, JOSE AGUILA, WILFREDO BLANCO, LEVI MARRERO, JOSE LUIS PRADO, ANDRES SARGEN, JORGE MAS CANOSA, JUAN PEREZ FRANCO, FREDDY LUGO, GERMAN LOZANO, ORLANDO BOSCH, FERNANDO BUENO, and GUILLERMO NOVO.~~ (S)(u)

Secondly, the source identified ROLANDO NOTERO HERNANDEZ as the individual CASTRO said had contact responsibilities between Cuban exiles in Miami and Cuban exiles in Santiago, Chile. (S)(u) FLA Chile

In order to fully comprehend the significance of the statement by the source that a CORU meeting was held in the Dominican Republic between 19 and 21 June, 1976, it is necessary to set forth the aggregate of information available to the OO regarding the CORU meeting in the Dominican Republic in June, 1976, inasmuch as upon close analysis it becomes apparent that there were in fact, if the source's information is accurate, two meetings in the Dominican Republic by CORU, the latter of which was previously unknown to the Bureau. (S)(u)

- A. Information Regarding the CORU Organizational Meeting in the Dominican Republic in June, 1976, from MM 1337-S (S)(u)

MM 1337-S advised on June 10, 1976; FRANK CASTRO, GUSTAVO CASTILLO and OSCAR ANGULO, of the Frente de Liberacion Nacional de Cuba (FLNC), met in the Commodore Hotel, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. FLNC matters were discussed, as well as status, health, and similar trivia of its members. FRANK CASTRO presented a plan that he wanted approved by the people meeting at the hotel. He wanted this plan approved because he intended to present it to a Congress of Cuban Exile Groups meeting in Santo Domingo the next couple of days. FRANK CASTRO's plan was to form a National Directorate, made up of a delegate from each Cuban exile organization represented, or a delegate from each organization that would form part of the (S)(u)

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SUAREZ ESQUIVEL then spoke of a good friend that all present people shared. He said that this person was RAFAEL VILLAVERDE of Miami, who heads a federally funded program for Cuban exiles. He said that VILLAVERDE had been very, very useful in assisting Cuban people and in the movement of equipment and materials and other acts which were helpful to the several groups represented. (X) (S) (u)

BOSCH then spoke of two countries which are not friends of FIDEL CASTRO's Cuba. These are Chile and Costa Rica; however, actions will be taken against them because of treatment to Cuban exiles by those countries. BOSCH specifically mentioned that ROLANDO OTERO, a U.S. fugitive, was returned to the U.S. by Chile. Source advised that "everyone" knows that BOSCH was jailed in Costa Rica during the last time that he was there, February, 1976. The meeting then ended. (X) (S) (u)

On May 12, 1977, MM 1337-S advised that in June, 1976, he had been present at a meeting that had been held in the mountains of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in which the following individuals were present: GUSTAVO CASTILLO-FLNC; FRANK CASTRO-FLNC; OSCAR ANGULO-FLNC; ORLANDO BOSCH - AC; GASPAR JIMENEZ - AC; Dr. JUAN B. PULIDO - MNC; JOSE DIONISIO SUAREZ ESQUIVEL - MNC; JUAN PEREZ FRANCO - M-17; ROBERTO CARBALLO - Brigade 2506; ARMANDO LOPEZ ESTRADA - Brigade 2506. (X) (S) (u)

DIEGO BORGES, a member of FLNC in Puerto Rico, was not present in the meetings even though he was used as a driver. This was the meeting in which CORU was formed. (X) (S) (u)

JOSE SUAREZ ESQUIVEL from MNC stated that the political aspect of this group should be separated from the military and that the military coordinators would get together for a meeting. During this meeting it was discussed that no action should be carried out in the U.S., but JOSE SUAREZ and JUAN PULIDO were not in favor. SUAREZ stated that MNC was planning a very important kidnaping that would produce big money. MNC would use their name and would make a good money contribution to CORU. (S) (X) (u)

On the following morning, after this meeting in Santo Domingo had terminated, MM 1337-S met SUAREZ by coincidence at the airport. JOSE SUAREZ was coming via Puerto Rico in a clandestine fashion. In running conversation between SUAREZ and MM 1337-S, SUAREZ had made a statement something to the effect that there was a "son of a bitch" "LETELIER" in Washington that they would have to do something about. MM 1337-S did not know anything about "LETELIER," did not give it much importance. (X) (S) (u)

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and at that time did not make any connection between the kidnaping planned by the MNC and LETELIER; however, MM 1337-S feels that the name mentioned was in fact "LETELIER." (S) (X)(U)

B. Information Furnished by Venezuelan Intelligence Services on March 9, 1977 to AUSA EUGENE M. PROPPER (S)

On March 9, 1977, Dr. RAFAEL RIVAS VASQUEZ, Deputy Director, DISIP, advised that in June, 1976, two meetings were held in the Dominican Republic which were attended by leaders of the principal Cuban exile organizations. They had two meetings, the first one, and the larger of the two, was a political meeting to agree on a political strategy for the various exile Cuban groups. The other one, a much smaller meeting, was strictly operational and was attended by 6 people. Its purpose was to decide on terrorist activity against Cuba. DISIP learned from a source that the following people attended the operational meeting: ORLANDO BOSCH, GUILLERMO NOVO, LUIS POSADA, an unidentified representative of the Brigade 2506, FRANK CASTRO and ARMANDO LOPEZ ESTRADA. PROPPER volunteered that one of his sources identified ROBERTO CARBALLO, present Head of the Brigade 2506, as its representative at the meeting. According to RIVAS, a map was marked up during the meeting, showing the various divisions of responsibility. For example, POSADA's group was assigned all of South America and the Caribbean was a target of opportunity for all groups. Mr. PROPPER asked who had been assigned North America. RIVAS said he did not know, but that he had a copy of the map. PROPPER asked for a copy of the map and RIVAS agreed to furnish it. PROPPER explained that he speculated that North America may have been divided in two by a horizontal line, running across the U.S. at the level of Washington, D.C. If so, the territory north of the line may have been assigned to the NOVO brothers, who worked primarily out of New Jersey (although one of them, IGNACIO, actually lives in Florida); the Brigade 2506 may have been assigned North America south of Washington, D.C. (X)(S)

Subsequent to that meeting, said RIVAS, POSADA's group had carried out a number of operations. These were: bombing of the Air Panama office in Bogota (carried out by LUIS OPOSADA, HERNAN RICARDO and OLEG GUETON RODRIGUEZ); bombing of the Cuban office in Panama (RICARDO and GUETON) (S)

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bombing of the Guyanan Consulate in Trinidad (RICARDO and GUETON); bombing of the BWIA facility (which also services Cubana) in Barbados (RICARDO and FREDDY LUGO); and, finally, the bombing of the Cubana airliner on October 6 (RICARDO and LUGO). RIVAS explained that under Venezuelan law, there is no way to bring GUETON to trial, so he is free, "walking the streets." He also said that during the meeting in Trinidad to decide what to do with HERNAN RICARDO and FREDDY LUGO, none of the other countries, including Cuba, wanted to try the two. In effect, he said, Venezuela got stuck with them. He demurred when asked when the trial of the four accused of the Cubana bombing would take place, saying he was only in charge of the investigation and was not following the trial aspects of the case. (X)(S)

Dr. RIVAS said that ORLANDO BOSCH told DISIP that he was told of the bombing of the Cubana airliner before the fact (BOSCH arrived in Caracas in September, 1976, for some fund raising activities), but that he neither planned nor participated in the bombing in any way. RIVAS asserted that DISIP believes BOSCH was more involved in the Cubana bombing than he will admit, but that he was probably not responsible for it. RIVAS does not believe BOSCH is dumb enough to come to Venezuela to raise money and also complicate things for himself by the bombing. (X)(S)

Dr. RIVAS said BOSCH told him that he believes the NOVO brothers were responsible for the Cubana bombing. BOSCH also told RIVAS that the Cuban Exile umbrella organization, CORU, was responsible for the machinegunning in Rome of Chilean Christian Democratic leader BERNARDO LEIGHTON. RIVAS said that DISIP believes that CORU was also responsible for the attempt on the Cuban Consul's life in Merida, as well as the kidnaping (in conjunction with a right wing Argentine group called Trinchera) of two Cuban embassy clerical employees in Buenos Aires. (X)(S)

- C. Information Concerning CORU Meeting in the Dominican Republic in June, 1976, From May 13, 1977 Edition of New Times Magazine Article Entitled, "I Am Going to Declare War" By BLAKE FLEETWOOD.

FLEETWOOD's article is a result of a four-hour interview of ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA, who was at the time of the interview incarcerated in Caracas, Venezuela, for his role in the October, 1976, bombing by anti-CASTRO exiles of a Cubana airliner plane, which cost the lives of some 73 people. The interview contained the following information 4

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regarding the June, 1976, meeting in the Dominican Republic by anti-CASTRO Cuban exiles (u)

BOSCH's plotting culminated in a secret meeting of the top terrorist leaders of the hemisphere in the Dominican Republic. "The story of CORU (Coordination of the United Revolutionary Organizations) is true," he told me. "There was a meeting in the Bonao mountains of 20 men representing all different (Cuban exile) activist organizations. It was a meeting of all the military and political directors with revolutionary implications. It was a great meeting. Everything was planned there." (u)

The top men from Alpha 66 (New Jersey), Abdalah (a New York-based youth group), the 2506 Brigade (veterans of the Bay of Pigs invasion), FLNC, F14 (New York City) and Accion Cubana (a group BOSCH headed) met for two days in the Bonao mountains in early June, 1976. They decided to band together under an umbrella organization, CORU, with BOSCH as the only identified spokesman and leader. (u)

"At last we had all the Cuban revolutionary fighters and leaders together after 17 years. We decided to upscale the action after that. We wanted to beat the guy (CASTRO) or at least make his life impossible. I told them that we couldn't just keep bombing an embassy here and a police station there. We had to start taking more serious actions--hijacking." (According to a Cuban exile newspaper, one of the resolutions that came out of that meeting was a vow "to begin attacking CASTRO's planes in the air.") (u)

"I accepted the leadership of CORU because I wanted to set everything up on an organized basis. We were tired of being frustrated and not accomplishing everything that we wanted to do." BOSCH brought the other leaders up-to-date on the kind of help they could expect in Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Chile. Then the group dispersed. In the 11 months since that meeting, BOSCH boasts, CORU has been responsible for over 50 bombings in Miami, New York, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico, and Argentina. (BOSCH refused to admit any personal involvement in bombings within the United States; police sources say the leaders had agreed not to take credit for actions within the U.S. because the FBI was putting too much heat on them.) (u)

D. Information Furnished By RICARDO MORALES NAVARRETE, Official of the Venezuelan Intelligence Services (DISIP) (S)(u)

On May 9, 1977, RICARDO MORALES NAVARRETE advised that a [DISIP official] LUIS POSADA, attended one of the CORU (S)(u)

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meetings that were held in Costa Rica in June, 1976. [] during the interview in fact said Costa Rica, but it was evident from the rest of his conversation that he meant the Dominican Republic). [] did not know which specific meeting POSADA attended, but stated that another Venezuelan had also been present and it was Dr. AURELIO ALVAREZ ECHESARTI. Others present at the CORU meeting as reported to [], since he was not present, were FRANK CASTRO, member of the FLNC, OSCAR ANGULO, FLNC, ORLANDO BOSCH, Accion Cubana, JOSE DIONISIO SUAREZ ESQUIVEL, one of the NOVO brothers representing MNC (Movimiento Nacional Cubano). During one of these meetings, it was discussed that CORU would not have any more actions in the U.S., but DIONISIO SUAREZ was not in agreement because he said they already have an operation going in the U.S., but they would be able to comply after ninety days. ~~XXX~~ (S) (u)

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On May 10, 1977, [] furnished the following information with regards to the June, 1976, meeting in the Dominican Republic of the anti-CASTRO Cuban exiles: (u)

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With regards to the June, 1976, meeting in the Dominican Republic of the anti-CASTRO Cuban Exile Organization, [] stated that LUIS POSADA attended the meeting as an Agent for DISIP. MORALES continued that upon POSADA's return to Caracas, [DISIP] learned that JOSE DIONISIO SUAREZ had attended the meeting as the representative from the CNM. [] confirmed the presence at the meeting of ORLANDO BOSCH, ROBERT CABALLO, and ARMANDO LOPEZ ESTRADA. MORALES further stated that FRANK CASTRO had been the individual who had organized the meeting, and that it had taken place with the knowledge and blessing of the Government of the Dominican Republic. POSADA also reported that all of the groups attending, with the exception of the CNM, were in favor of confining any actions against the Cuban Government to areas outside the U.S. POSADA also reported that actions against the Cubana Airlines were discussed and that as a result, subsequent actions were taken. (S) (u)

OTHER 1c

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[] continued that on the evening of May 9, 1977, he was talking to FRANK CASTRO, who is now residing in Miami, Florida. [] stated that CASTRO advised him during the telephone conversation that during the meeting, JOSE DIONISIO SUAREZ had made the statement that the CNM had one contract with the Chileans in the U.S., which still had to be carried out, and this was the LETELIER killing. (u)

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An analysis of the above information reflects several obvious factual conflicts. Dr. RIVAS VASQUEZ advised in March, 1977, that one of the DISIP sources had reported two meetings in the Dominican Republic in June, 1976. A larger one, which was a political meeting, and the smaller one, which was strictly operational, whose purpose was to decide on terrorist activity against Cuba. Among those present at the operational meeting, according to the source, was GUILLERMO NOVO. MM 1337-S, who was also in attendance at the June, 1976, meeting, advised that the meetings were held in the Dominican Republic on June 11, 12, and 13, 1976, and that the representatives from the Cuban Nationalist Movement were Dr. JUAN PULIDO and JOSE DIONISIO SUAREZ, not GUILLERMO NOVO. Moreover, MM 1337-S presented the conference more as one continuous than as two separate meetings, but did advise that the conference contained discussions of future terrorist activities. (S) (X) (X)

BOSCH, through BLAKE FLEETWOOD, confirmed that the meeting had taken place in June of 1976 in the Dominican Republic and had been attended by all of the military and political directors of the different Cuban exile groups. BOSCH also confirmed through the FLEETWOOD article that CORU had been formed at that meeting, and that he himself was the leader. (U)

[] in his statements confirmed that the meeting had taken place and stated that it was only one of the CORU meetings held in June, 1976. [] further, [] advising that his information came through DISIP agent [] LUIS POSADA, stated that JOSE SUAREZ, not GUILLERMO NOVO, had been the representative from the Cuban Nationalist Movement. (S) (X) (X) OTHER 1c OTHER 1c

As can be seen from the above, several distinct references were made to two meetings in the Dominican Republic in June of 1976. They can either be interpreted as two meetings at the same three-day conference or as a continuous meeting over a period of several days, which obviously involved more than one physical encounter of attendees, which would thereby explain the apparent conflict. This in fact was the original interpretation by the OO as regards to the above point inasmuch as MM-1337-S reported the presence of SUAREZ at the June, 1976, meeting and this was corroborated by another source. The OO was therefore persuaded to believe that in fact SUAREZ did attend the meeting, and that the information provided by DISIP which indicated that GUILLERMO NOVO had been the representative at the meeting, had been simply an error. (S) (X) (X)

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