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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 75609A
14 August 2014

JOHN GREENEWALD

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 14 November 2013 for "A copy of the Intellipedia entry (from all three Wikis that make up the Intellipedia) for the following: BAY OF PIGS." As stated in our initial response letter, dated 16 December 2013, your request was assigned Case Number 75609. A copy of your request is enclosed. Your request has been processed under the FOIA.

For your information, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intellipedia. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search of all three levels of Intellipedia for "Bay of Pigs" and located one document that is responsive to your request. This document required consultation with elements external to NSA. The consultation has been completed and the responsive document is enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the enclosure

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities (in this case, internal URLs), as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We

have determined that such information exists in these records, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you request against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

The Initial Denial Authority for NSA information is the Associate Director for Policy and Records, David J. Sherman. Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. Any person denied access to information may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days from the date of the initial denial letter. The appeal shall be in writing addressed to the NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority (DJ4), National Security Agency, 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248. The appeal shall reference the initial denial of access and shall contain, in sufficient detail and particularity, the grounds upon which the requester believes release of the information is required. The NSA/CSS Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent any unusual circumstances.

The CIA has also asked that we protect information pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(1) , (b)(3) and (b)(6). Those deletions have been marked with the code OGA (Other Government Agency). Any appeal of the denial of CIA information should be directed to that agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pamela N. Phillips".

PAMELA N. PHILLIPS
Chief
FOIA/PA Office

Encls:
a/s

Jefferson, Judith A

From: donotreply@nsa.gov
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2013 7:53 PM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: john@greenewald.com
Subject: FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John Greenewald

Email: john@greenewald.com

Company: The Black Vault

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Postal 2nd Line: None

Postal City: [REDACTED]

Postal State-prov: California

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Country: United States of America

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Work Phone: [REDACTED]

Records Requested: To whom it may concern,

This is a non-commercial request made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. S 552. My FOIA requester status as a "representative of the news media." I am a freelance television producer often working on documentaries related to my FOIA requests, my work is commonly featured throughout major news organizations, and I freelance writer for news sites as well. Examples can be given, if needed.

I hope a full fee waiver for this request can be considered, because all documents received will be available FREE OF CHARGE in their entirety on <http://www.theblackvault.com>. This site, run entirely by me, has been around for 17 years, and literally served more than 8,000 people a day on average. I have a unique way of disseminating this information, and can offer additional details, if needed. If a full fee waiver is denied, I please ask you contact me with a quote on how much fees will be.

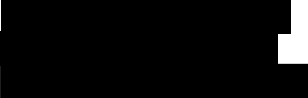
I prefer electronic delivery of the requested material either via email to john@greenewald.com or via CD-ROM via postal mail. Please contact me should this FOIA request should incur a charge.

I respectfully request a copy of the Intellipedia entry (from all three Wikis that make up the Intellipedia) for the following entry:

BAY OF PIGS

Thank you so much for your time, and I am very much looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.



(U) Bay of Pigs



(b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

~~SECRET~~

You have new messages (last change).

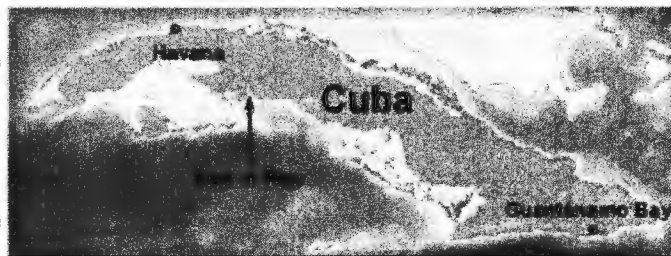
(U) The **Bay of Pigs** refers to an inlet on the south coast of Cuba, where the Central Intelligence Agency landed roughly 1,500 anti-Castro Cuban paramilitary volunteers on April 17, 1961. The government of Fidel Castro responded swiftly to the invasion and crushed it after three days of fighting. The operation, **JMATE**, proved an international embarrassment to the CIA and to the new administration of President John F. Kennedy.



See the Wikipedia article
Bay of Pigs



(NSA's Wikipedia mirror)



Map of Cuba

Contents

- 1 (U) Background
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- 3 (U) See also
 - 3.1 (U) CIA Declassified Official History
- 4 (U) References

(U) Background

(U)After three years of guerrilla warfare, Fidel Castro entered Havana on January 1, 1959 at the head of a ragtag army, forcing dictator wp:Fulgencio Batista to flee. Within a year, Castro proclaimed himself a communist, allied with the Soviet Union, and seized American and foreign-owned businesses and property.^[1] The establishment of a Communist state 90 miles from Florida raised concerns in Washington. In 1960 and 1961, the CIA began developing plans to oust the Cuban revolutionaries by force.

(U) Preparation

(U) CIA's initial anti-Castro project called for infiltrating 30 Cuban exiles to form guerrilla groups. The new DD/P Richard M. Bissell, Jr., having received President Dwight D. Eisenhower's approval on March 17, 1960 for general anti-Castro operations, greatly expanded the project's scope and by fall 1960 planned for an amphibious assault by 1,500 men supported by B-26 bombers piloted by Cuban exiles. CIA determined that the Cuban population would readily join the invaders against Castro's regime. Through 1960 and into

1961, CIA trained Cuban exiles, formed into wp:Brigade 2506, in Guatemala and Nicaragua.^[2]

(U) President elect John F. Kennedy received a briefing on CIA's Cuba project in late November 1960, as well as an update during presidential transition briefings in early January 1961. Any doubts that Kennedy may have had about the operation, now ready to launch, were put to rest by Bissell, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara. In reality, preparations for invasion were a badly kept secret, considering the involvement of 1,500 Cuban exiles openly recruited in Miami by CIA's E. Howard Hunt.



Brigade 2506 in training, 1961

(U) The Operation

(U) Any remaining element of surprise was completely lost on April 15, 1961 when 6 Cuban-piloted B-26 bombers struck two airfields, three military bases, and wp:Antonio Maceo Airport in a failed attempt to destroy the Cuban air force. President Kennedy canceled a second air strike on 11 targets planned for D-Day, following Soviet and Cuban charges at the United Nations that the original attacks were made by the United States. When the actual invasion began on April 17 at the Bay of Pigs, 90 miles south of Havana, Castro's air force dominated the invasion beaches and sank or disabled a command vessel and two supply ships. This resulted in a loss of an entire battalion, critical munitions and supplies, and communications equipment. Pleas by the invading force for American air and naval support further out to sea were refused at the highest levels. Yet, these were not the only reasons for failure. Once the rebels landed, they quickly found that the expected popular support never materialized, and to the contrary, the small invading force faced a far larger and fully mobilized Cuban military. Within three days, the invasion was crushed. Of 1,500 men, 114 were killed, and 1,189 were captured, with the remainder having either never landed or succeeded in making their own way back. The prisoners were repatriated in 1962 in return for a ransom of \$53 million in food and pharmaceuticals. Cuban military losses were estimated at 1,400 killed.^{[3][4][5][6]}

(U) Aftermath

(U) The Bay of Pigs proved a major embarrassment for the new Kennedy administration as well as for the CIA.^[7] While the president launched an investigation under General Maxwell Taylor, CIA conducted its own internal review under CIA Inspector General wp:Lyman Kirkpatrick. The internal CIA report was highly critical of the DD/P, yet proved controversial within the Agency. The Taylor report, delivered to the president in mid-June, was not circulated, but also criticized CIA conceptualization and planning. By November 1961, both DD/P Bissell and DCI Allen W. Dulles had left CIA on Kennedy's wishes. President Kennedy's disenchantment with CIA's handling of the Bay of Pigs operation prompted a significant cutback in CIA Cuban operations, as well as in similar paramilitary operations taking place elsewhere in the world, most importantly in South Vietnam.,Ref>Kornbluh, Peter. 1998. Bay of Pigs Declassified: The Secret CIA Report on the Invasion of Cuba. The New Press ISBN 1-56584-494-7 ISBN 978-1-56584-494-0</ref>



(b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

(U) Prisoners Return, 1962

~~(S)~~ After over a year and a half in captivity, more than 1,100 Cuban expatriate fighters captured during the Bay of Pigs operation in April 1961 were released from prison in Cuba in exchange for \$53 million worth of American pharmaceutical and medical supplies. The Kennedy Administration and Cuban leader Fidel Castro reached the deal after months of often tense negotiations interrupted by the Cuban missile crisis in October 1962. Soon after that situation was resolved, President Kennedy declared that he intended to get the prisoners released quickly; "We put them there, and we're going to get them out—by Christmas!"



President Kennedy holding the flag of Brigade 2506

~~(S)~~ DCI John A. McCone and other CIA officers played a large part in brokering discussions with US and Cuban officials, American drug companies, foreign financial institutions, and prominent American citizens to put together the complicated agreement. By Christmas Eve 1962, all but a few of the prisoners had been returned to the United States. At an emotional homecoming held at the Orange Bowl on December 27, 1962, the president accepted the commandos' flag and pledged that its colors "will be returned to this brigade in a free Havana."

(U) See also

- Cuba Invaded
- (U) Lessons Not Learned at the Bay of Pigs, George Mason University's History News Network By Howard Jones



Intelligence History Portal

(b) (3) -P.L. 86-36



- ~~(S)~~

(b) (1)

OGA

Groupthink

FOIA(b)3 - 50 USC 403g Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949

(U) CIA Declassified Official History

- Volume 1 Air Operations, March 1960 – April 1961 (p. 1–302)
- Volume 1 Air Operations, March 1960 – April 1961 (p. 303–506)
- Volume 1 Air Operations, March 1960 – April 1961; Photos (p. 507–541)

OGA

FOIA(b)3 - 50 USC 403g Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949

[Redacted]

(b) (3) - P. L. 86-36

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Volume 2 Participation in the Conduct of Foreign Policy (p.1-167) [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Volume 2 Participation in the Conduct of Foreign Policy (p.168-255) [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Volume 3 Evolution of CIA's Anti-Castro Policies 1959-January 1961 (p.1-203)
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Unclassified Report [Redacted]
- [Redacted] of the Taylor Committee Investigation of the Bay of Pigs

OGA
FOIA(b)3 - 50 USC 403g Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949

(U) References

- ↑ Bourne, Peter G. (1986). Fidel: A Biography of Fidel Castro. New York City: Dodd, Mead & Company. ISBN 978-0396085188.
- ↑ Bohning, Don (2005). The Castro Obsession: U.S. Covert Operations Against Cuba, 1959-1965. Washington, D.C.: Potomac Books, Inc. ISBN 978-1574886764.
- ↑ Pfeiffer, Jack B. 1979. Official History of the Bay of Pigs Operation, Vol.I Air Operations, Part 1
- ↑ Pfeiffer, Jack B. 1979. Official History of the Bay of Pigs Operation, Vol.I Air Operations, Part 2
- ↑ Pfeiffer, Jack B. 1979. Official History of the Bay of Pigs Operation, Vol.II Participation in the Conduct of Foreign Policy, Part 1
- ↑ Pfeiffer, Jack B. 1979. Official History of the Bay of Pigs Operation, Vol.III Evolution of CIA's Anti-Castro Policies, 1959-January 1961(14Mb)
- ↑ Fernandez, Jose Ramon. 2001. Playa Giron/Bay of Pigs: Washington's First Military Defeat in the Americas. Pathfinder ISBN 0-87348-925-X ISBN 978-0-87348-925-6

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(b) (3) - P. L. 86-36

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