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Agency Information

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Document Information

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ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES.
VECIANA, ANTONIO.
LEADS & INFORMATION.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FILES

ANTONIO VECIANA BLANCH #AA 90 49 16

Third agency information:

1. CIA Msg dtd 252226Z Sept 62, RE: Current plans of Alpha 66
-

-- 1/23/74 Review of file - certification file conforms with DA policies currently in effect.

-- Msg DA IN 278336 202230Z Oct 62

1. According to Dup 750 (source) Veciana reported A66 will conduct 2 actions within next 10 days. Veciana departing Puerto Rico for Miami 20 Oct. Said action at La Isabela (Cuba) did occur but not as reported in the press. Original intent to sink Soviet ship, however mine, which was to be used was lost. Consequently attack made on beachside camp. Estimated 5 Cubans or Russians wounded.
2. Dup 742 reports next action of DRE will be to attempt to assassinate a prominent Cuban Communist before the end of October.
3. Comment: Veciana's description of La Isabela probably much more accurate than his press releases. Both previous A66 operations carried out while Veciana still in Miami. Still no conclusive evidence operation at La Isabela actually took place.

(Reverse side carries routing information.
Action officer signature appears to be W.N.Wood
or W.J. Wodd 10/22/62.)

Department of Defense notes
Antonio Veciana #AA90 4916

P. Orr

3rd Party info

1. CIA Msg dtd 252226Z Sept. '62, re Current Plans of Alpha 66.

- 1/23/74 - Review of file - certification file conforms w/DA policies currently in effect.

-Msg DA IN 278336 202230Z Oct. '62

FROM: CGANTCOMC/USAR CARIB Fort Brooke PR
TO: ACSI, DA WASH, DC
INFO: CGUSARCARIB Fort Amador CD, DIO Tenth Naval
District, San Juan, PR
NR: ANTGB 80
From G2 for G2

(Declassified from confidential)

1. According to (Dup 750), Veciana reported A66 will conduct 2 actions within next 10 days. Veciana departing PR for Miami 20 Oct. Said action at La Isabela did occur, but not as reported in press. Original intent to sink Soviet ship; however, mone which was to be used was lost. Consequently, attack made on beachside camp. Est. 5 Cubans or Russians wounded.
2. (Dup 742) reports next action of DRE will be to attempt assassinate prominent Cuban communist before end of October.
3. Comment: V's description of La Isabela probably much more accurate than his press releases. Both previous A66 ops carried out while V. in Miami. Still no conclusive evidence op. at La Isabela actually took place.

(Reverse side carries routing information. Action officer's signature appears to be W.N. Wood or W.J. Wood. 10/22/62.)

Antonio Veciana #AC 64 3175

- 7/23/74 - review and certification file conforms w/DA policies currently in effect.
- Registration request terminated w/out prejudice 7/22/66 - service #SD 10721
- Memo for record 4/19/66
Re: Veciana

P-747

1. 4/19/66 telephone request received from (DASCO) from Mr. [] CIA (W), regarding Veciana.
2. [] stated he was departing immediately for N.Y. where was to meet a Mr. Cogswell, not further identified. During this contact, [] expected to meet an acquaintance of Veciana, not further ID'd, and perhaps V.
3. Purpose of call was to ascertain if Detachment A had any objection to CIA (W) poss. coming into contact w/V. It was emphasized by [] that no contact w/him was planned. [] was informed that no objection was present, but if contact was made, a report detailing the circumstances was desired.

Signed: John F. McGowan
Mjr. 41S - LANTCOM Desk

Memo Cont'd.

MFR - V. former treas. of A66 and SAFE on whom 01 was est. on 11/19/62 for project. AUTOBOAT (C). "He was initially contacted to est. meeting w/3 frogmen of the SNFE who had been drawn (sucked up?) to the side of the Soviet ship which they were attempting to sabotage." Thru V. c/o met Meriora (sic)...who arranged the meeting w/3 frogmen. Subsequent to debriefing of frogmen, periodic contact was maintained w/V., with the last contacting taking place in early 1963.

Memo - Routing Slip to Mjr. McGowen

Note. Ref. p. 748

Agency wishes to use 748 for intro to another individual. They need immed. reply on this. Discussion will be by telephone between desk officers. Agency man leaves by plane at 11:45. Ron Butler 4/19/66

Antonio Veciana #AC 64 3175

Ltr. 4/13/63 from Veciana, A66, NY, NY to Joe Kent, PR.

Indicates 40% equipment confiscated but still have enthusiasm to go forward. Wishes to maintain contact. Says press conference by A66 in Washington probably mistake since it made U.S. govt. also resp.

- Attached info re press conference in Washington, D.C. March 19, 1963
Gave press release signed by Veciana and Cecilio J. Vazquez (SNFE). Make point that actions independent of any U.S. agency, not mounted from U.S. soil, but attempting to show ability, courage and strength to overthrow communist govt. of Havana.
W/V. at conf. were Dr. Herminio Portell-Vila of Wash., DC and Luis Felipe Anany, Sr. of Wash., D.C.
Remarks by either Veciana or Vazquez at press conf. indicate they regard it as improper to criticize any department of the U.S. govt., but one (V or Vazquez) felt that the U.S. policy during the Cuban crisis in October 1962 constituted another Munich.
- Msg. to (or from?) Mjr. J.A. Wathington
Major AIS
OIC, USA OSD Field Def. #1

April 1963

List of aliens served w/ prevention of departure
V's name included.
V limited to Dade Cty.

ANTONIO C. VECIANA BLANCH

3rd PARTY INFO

1. FBI Report, dated 14 Nov 62 from San Juan, Subject: Operation Alpha 66, Internal Security - Cuba, 2 p.
2. CAS Msg 895, dated 1 Jul 63, subject: Plans of Two Cuban Exile Groups to Infiltrate a Team Into Cuba.
3. US Army Report, dated 10 Jun 66, subject: Antonio Veciana Blanch, 2 p. Report contains CIA info on subject.
4. US Army MFR, dated 25 Apr 66, subject: Veciana, 1 p. Report has CIA info on subject.
5. FBI Report, duplicate of Item 1 above.
6. FBI Report, dated 12 Oct 62 from San Juan, subject: Operation Alpha 66, Internal Security - Cuba, Neutrality matters, 3 p.
7. FBI Report, dated 8 Aug 62 from San Juan, Subject: Operation Alpha 66, Internal Security - Cuba, Registration Act - Cuba, 6 p.
8. FBI Report, dated 30 Sep 65, subject: SNFE, 1 p (p #3).
9. FBI Report, dated 12/22/64 concerning Blanch, 1 p.
10. FBI Report, dated 22 Oct 62, subject: Same as 6 above, 3p.
11. FBI Report, dated 4 Mar 63, Miami, Subject: Same as Item 6, 5p.
12. FBI Report, dated 6 Feb 63, Subject: Comandos L66, Inc., Internal Security - Cuba, 3 p.
13. FBI Report, dated 4 Feb 63 from San Juan, Subject: Alpha 66, Incorporated, (A-66 Inc.), Internal Security - Cuba, Neutrality Matters, 4 p.
14. CIA Msg dated 271759Z Dec 62, Subject: SIGMA II - Alpha 66, 2 p.
15. CIA Msg dated 081509Z Dec 62, Subject: Possible Imminent Anti-Castro Raid on Cuba, 2 p.
16. CIA Msg dated 081509Z Dec 62, Subject: Pirate Ship Attack on Cuban Coast, 3 Dec 62, 2 p.
17. CIA Msg dated 111729Z Jan 63, Subject: EDDIE MOR, 2 pg.
18. CIA Msg dated 121900Z Nov 62, Subject: Alpha 66, 2 p.
19. CIA Msg dated 162218Z Nov 62, Subject: Alpha 66, 2 p.

List of Documents from V. File - 1/30/64

To: USAFAD

<u>Control #</u>	<u>Clas.</u>	<u>No. Copies</u>	<u>Description of Doc.</u>	<u>Date of Doc.</u>
FD #0297/63 (SD-S217-62)	SC	1	Carbon cy, ltr. audition (c) re: A-66	10/22/6
FD #0297/63 (line crossed out)	S	1	Draft of contact w/V.	11/1/62
	C	1	Photo cy, FBI rept. A66	11/14/6
FD #0197/63 (SD-S15-63)	SC	1	Carbon cy, ANTBG Msg 103 fr. King	1/16/63
FD #0297/63 (SD-S28-63) (USADSD/8458)	SC	1	Ltr., USAOSD, Re: A66 w/1 incl: Thermofax cy M/R Re: Ct Rt - Ao VA Be (cont) dtd. 1/23/63	1/29/63
FD #0297/63 (SD-S86-63)	SC	1	Carbon cy ANTBG Msg. 127 fr. King	3/31/63
	CC	1	Carbon cy Msg. for Washington to ACSI	4/1/63
(line crossed out)	C	1	Thermofax cy, rept. on A66	undtd.
FD #0297/63 (SD-S195-63)	S	1	Carbon cy, CAS Msg. 895 fr. CAS	7/1/63

-Ltrs. from Veciana to Joe Kent, Kent Associates, PR

3/30/63 (in Spanish) from Miami

3/15/63 " from Pittsburg, Pa.

(re travel? - Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles mentioned)

12/27/62 (in Spanish) from Miami

Note with address of Luis Duany

2244 Wash. Ave.

Silver Spg., Md. 585-7448

w/note: " Washington will contact V. at the above address:
a "Mr. Conway" will contact him @ 1100 hrs.,
22 Jan. 63.

-Classified doc. - Mail control record

#0297/63"B"

From: AT

Dt. Rcvd: 11/29/63

File: Dup 748

Summary: SD-586-63 ANTGB Msg. 127, c cy, dtd. 31 Mar. 63,
2 pgs. - nothing follows.
Note - transferred to Hq.

-FD #0297/63 "B" - SC - 1 - carbon copy ANTGB Msg. 127 from
King SGD King. Exclusive for Boucher (underlined in red)
AUDITION(C) AUTOBOAT(C)

V. called Kent from Miami on 3/31. Said he received
notice from U.S. Dept. of Justice - Prev. of departure.
Requests Kent's assistance in coming to San Juan. Will
appear before Mr. Savage, Rm. 215, Immig. Hq., on 4/1 w/request
to come to San Juan. Aware Kent wants Menoyo to come to
Miami, but states Menoyo does not wish to leave base.

V. will remain at tel. until he hears from Kent.
No promise given; request advice.

V. now aware desire Menoyo come to Miami.
Assisting him may convince Menoyo to come.

At bottom:

Grover C. King
Lt. Col. AIS

SD-S86-63

-Classified doc. mail control record and receipt

#0297/63 "D"

From: AT

Rev'd.: 11/29/63

File: DUP 748

Summary: Ccy, letr, subj. - Assignment of code number (V), 1 pg., dtd. 1/30/63, SD-527-63
Nothing follows.

Note: transferred to Hq.

-1/30/63 - Assignment of Code #

To: Cmding Ofcr
USAOSD (9874), Wash., DC

DUP 748 assigned to V.

Signed: Grover C. King
Lt. Col., AIS
Commanding

FD #0297/63"D"

SD-527-63

-Ltr. 1/29/63 from J.E. Boyt, Col., Infantry, Commanding,
U.S. Army Operational Survey Detachment

To: Chief AUTOBOAT, San Juan

1. Mr. Phillip Conway (Capt. Arms) and Mr. Harold Parker (Lt. Col. Drashpil) met V. on two occasions, 11/22 and 11/23.
2. ISR being conducted on Dr. Duany, since he met Conway and Parker. V. says he would not be returning to PR for at least 60 days. Intends to spend month in NY and go from there to Chicago. Was given the Jackson telephone No. "Aside from a sympathetic audience, he was given no promises and was told only that we would look into the possibilities for release of the boat. We would expect to be in periodic contact with him on that matter and you will be informed of any significant developments. Parker and Conway only identified themselves as 'interested parties.'"
3. "AESI has expressed interest in exploring the possibilities for assistance to V. in order that the potential of the group can be exploited for intelligence purposes. You will be informed of any recommendations or directed courses of actions as appropriate."

FD #0297/63 USAOSD/8458 "C"

Attached:

-Memo FR

Re: Contact w/V.

1/23/63

1. Two members of USAOSD (using assumed names) met w/Veciana on 1/22. Purpose of meeting was primarily to gather details on a boat, used by org., which had been confiscated by U.S. Customs. V. was also queried on the capabilities and mission of the group, his role, and what assist. might be provided org.
2. Background of V.
3. V. said purpose org. was to cause war in Cuba by conducting raiding ops., est. guerrilla groups in Cuba - to harass and destroy troops and strategic facilities as to make populace aware that overthrow poss. Envisions internal Cuban uprising thru external Cuban refugee action.

Does not desire direct U.S. participation, has no political aims, other than to overthrow Castro. This is reason V. did not cooperate with other refugee groups, and why they did not desire to work w/CIA, because aims would be subverted to political ones.

Claims several military bases in Caribbean. Bases manned by small groups w/mil. experience. Also had assets in Cuba. Maintain Hq. in PR, Miami, and NY and plan to establish offices in Washington, Chicago and LA.

4. Latest plan to collect funds for purchase of eight boats for use in their raiding activities.

Already have four boats. Need boats, food, radios. Will purchase transceiver equipment.

5. V. gave doc. re: Customs-seized boat. Boat owned by Cuban-American who is not member of org. Boat worth \$2000. Supplies and equipment aboard - 10 M-1 rifles w/ammo., food, fuel, 10 watches, kw generator. Total value about \$8,000.
6. Requested assistance in release of boat. Pleaded for funds (10,000) and more freedom of movement.

Signed,

William C. Arms
Capt.
LA desk

1/16/63 FD #0297/63 "E" S Msg. ANTGB 103

From King SGD King. Exclusive for Boucher (underlined in red)

1. 1/16/63 rcvd. from V. - A66 plans eight commando-type actions within next 60 days. Raids by 5-man commando parties. Two will be demolitions men.
2. Ordered 12 fiberglass boats - 18 ft. @ \$2000 ea. Three delivered already. Remainder within 45 days.
3. Has 1,000 lbs. C-3 explosives w/time-fuse pencils, 60 submachine guns, 40 machine guns, 400 hand grenades.
4. Will depart PR 1/18/63 for Wash., DC. Requested AUTOBOAT furnish him name of someone to see in reference to getting boat released (confiscated 10 or 11/62).
5. Request AUTOBOAT be sent name or agency for V. to contact.

-Draft of contact w/Veciana 11/1/62

FD #0297/63 "F"

Jeff W. Bocher
Colonel, GS
Chief, Collection Div.

Veciana contacted initially to contact two frogmen involved in attack on Russian target. Meeting arranged. Capt. Hubbard and Col. King in meeting. Discovered V. working w/SFNE, thought given to consideration of utilization of V. for intelligence purposes as Menoya has ISR from 1961 and known to have contacts in Cuba. Picked up ISR from CIA 11/2/62. V. gave Army two rifles, ammo. - taken from Russians. Operation discussed but stymied by lack of clear policy on actions against. Matter brought to higher levels; i.e., General Landsdale.

Some discussion of possibly passing info to CIA for their recommendation. This suggestion turned down by Landsdale, who felt CIA, when informed, then took over op. Also in no better position to determine national policy.

Persons involved in discussions - Col. Boyt, Col. Rolfe, Cols. Albrow and Boucher, Col. DePuy of Special Warfare and Generals Landsdale and Leonard.

Meeting 1/22 and 23 indicates poss. of exploiting A-66 if they can successfully run raids into Cuba and infiltrate island. Approval must be obtained and must be in line with national policy. Next step will then be develop further rapport; complete coordination w/DCSOPS should be effected to assure max. intelligence collection and operational application.

Prepared by: Lt. Col. Drashpil
Coord.: Maj. Swatford, Capt. Arms.

Boat - Sigma - Raimundo Molina Gonzalez

Pat Harris (Capt. Hubbard) contacted Nazairo, Banos, V. 3/31/63
Menoyo (DUP 749) told not to come to Miami

Milford P. Hubbard
Capt. A-1S

V. told AUTOBOAT can't help him gain permission to enter PR at this time. Not able to send rations to Menoyo camp yet. Requested assistance in prep. of statement re: JFK crackdown on raids. Expressed feelings of good fortune they had found agency they could trust.

4/1/63 Harris met V. and Banos.

Menoyo and Mugult at Williams Island base camp. Since Harris told them to remain there, they may form opinion Harris was aware of pending British raids and had placed them in position to facilitate capture.

Examination of weapons captured in Cuba - doubtful group landed. Weapons could have been obtained elsewhere.