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Agency Information

AGENCY : ARMY
RECORD NUMBER : 198-10007-10026

RECORD SERIES : CALIFANO PAPERS

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM : [Restricted]
TO : MR. CALIFANO

TITLE : BIOGRAPHIC SUMMARIES ON OFFICERS OF THE CUBAN REBEL ARMY IN EXILE AND
RECOMMENDATION FOR THEIR TRAINING IN U.S. SERVICE SCHOOLS OR TRAINING
CENTERS

DATE : 03/29/1963
PAGES : 4

SUBJECTS :
CUBAN OFFICERS IN EXILE - TRAINING

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Not Marked
RESTRICTIONS : 1A
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 04/08/1998

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS : Califano Papers, Box 2, Folder 11. Letter from [withheld] to Califano re: training of Cuban officers in
exile.

JFK Review

Department of the Army EO 13526

☒ Declassify ☐ Exclude ☐ Exempt

Authority _____

☐ Refer To _____

Review Date 1990615 By JMK/Califano

Miami, Florida
29 March, 1963

Dear Mr. Califano:

In my conversation early this week with Dr. Miro Cardona and Dr. Ernesto Aragon, who has been spending a few days here, I was told that you were under the impression that you did not have a list of "Rebel Army" officers and their biographic sketches. As you have been told Dr. Miro would like to have a few of them included in the training of Cuban officers. In my various memoranda to Washington on this subject I have made recommendations in this regard and have sent lists and biographies.

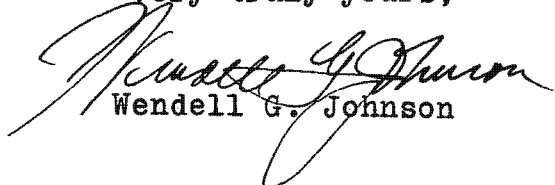
With all the various lists and categories of Cuban officers that have been discussed and included in memoranda to you, it is little wonder that you should be confused on this matter and not realize that the names of a number of these officers were among those sent to you, along with my memorandum to you of 12 January, 1963 and the one of 23 January, 1963.

However, as these lists and biographic sketches may have been sent on to other offices or erroneously filed, I am including herewith copies of the biographies which I have had made, these being split into two groups for the reasons indicated on the covering memos. I am also including a paraphrase of my original memo of transmittal on these, dated 12 June, 1962.

In my memorandum of last fall, I listed the names of several officers among the "Rebel Army" category who Dr. Miro considers would be suitable to send to the anti-guerilla operations course in Panama. I do not seem to have a copy of that memo but I recall that Ricardo Lorie was one of those he recommended. I suggested that four to six officers be sent to that course, including some regular (professional) officers and some "rebel" or "Liberation Army" officers.

If I can be of further assistance, please call on me.

Very truly yours,


Wendell G. Johnson

Miami, Florida
29 March, 1963

Subject: Biographic Summaries on Officers of the Cuban Rebel Army in Exile and Recommendation for their Training in U.S. Service Schools or Training Centers.

Following is a paraphrase and summary of a memorandum of transmittal which I sent through my channels to Washington on 12 June, 1962, along with biographic sketches of "Rebel" officers, copies of which are enclosed herewith: Dr. Jose Miro Cardona, President of the Cuban Revolutionary Council has declared frequently that he would like to have some of the officers of the Cuban Rebel Army in Exile trained in U.S. Service Schools after or during the training of regular officers of the Cuban Armed Forces, who are now in exile.

On 29 May at a meeting in Miami with a Representative of the Department of Defense and Dr. Miro, the matter of training officers of the Rebel Army (Army that fought in the campaigns against Batista, under Castro) who are anticommunist and are now in exile, was discussed briefly.

A few days later, Dr. Miro and his military assistant, at that time Captain Ernesto Despaigne, brought me biographical sketches of 48 officers of the Rebel Army, who are now in exile, almost all having participated in the campaigns of Castro in 1958, and some also saw action in the 1961 invasion of Cuba.

These officers occupied positions from 2nd lieutenant to captain and two were majors (comandante) in the Rebel Army. Their educational background is extremely varied. Some are university graduates, some had a year or two of university, some finished secondary school. On other biographies no education entry is shown; this may be an oversight in some instances, but in many cases it may indicate little or no education - possibly only a few years of primary schooling. There are, however, enough of these men with adequate educational background to be able to attend and profit from a training course. Several of those in this group could readily take an officers' course at a school such as the Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Georgia.

Although it seems desirable to train the maximum number of prof. Cuban Army officers, it would undoubtedly be advantageous for the future of Cuba and for such action as may be taken at a future date against the Castro-communist regime, to train some of these officers who must have shown leadership ability in the revolutionary campaigns. Hence it is recommended that consideration be given to training some of these officers in training facilities of the U.S. Army, such as Fort Benning, Georgia and the courses for Latin American Officers in jungle warfare and anti-guerilla operations in Panama.

Inclosure: Biographies of Cuban "Rebel Army" officers.

29 March, 1963

ADDITIONAL LIST OF "REBEL ARMY" OFFICERS AMONG
CUBAN EXILES .

The attached biographic sketches were among the 48 transmitted to Washington, 12 June, 1962, but were not included in a revised list and biographies forwarded in November, 1962, returned to Miami, subsequently, and then resubmitted directly to Mr. Califano by memoranda of 12 January, and 23 January, 1963. Accordingly it is believed that this list of names and the attached biographies, corresponding thereto, should not be given consideration for training, at least not until after those on List B submitted on 12 January, 1963, and followed by biographies therefore on 23 January, 1963.

Attached are biographies of:

Roudo Rosell Del Rio
Manuel Rodriguez Treto
Jorge De Moya y Fernandez Marcado
Jose Antonio Rodriguez Del Rio
Aristedes Mendoza Amita
Jorge Marban Leyva
Eugenio Albo Perez
Jorge Roberto Arencibia
Eduardo Perez Gonzalez
Rodolfo Betancour y de Mateo
Arnaldo Gaston Bringuez Fernandez
Antonio Bustillo Perez
Osvaldo Carrasco Leon
Ariel Diaz Arce
Francisco Diaz de Armas
Gaspar Gimenez
Jorge Gomez Vera
Hector Hoces
Jose Lopez Castillo
Roberto Parson Ramirez
Jose Orlando Rivas Melo
Juan Tamayo Cordoviz
Oliverio Tomeu

29 March, 1963

LIST OF "REBEL ARMY" OFFICERS AMONG CUBAN EXILES

The attached biographic sketches include names shown on "List B, Officers of Rebel Army" transmitted by Memorandum for Mr. Joseph A. Califano, Jr., dated 12 January, 1963, Subject: "Training of Cuban Officers in Exile." but thirteen of the names on that list are not included in the attached biographic sketches. It is believed, however, that the missing biographic sketches were included with the ones I transmitted by Memorandum for Mr. Joseph Califano, Jr., dated 23 January, 1963, Subject: Transmittal of List of Officers of 2506 Brigade and Biographies of Officers on Lists A, B and C.

Attached are biographies of:

Ricardo Lorie Valls
Laureano Felipe Gutierrez Falla
Rafael Ribas Hechavarria
Eduardo Gutierrez Falla
Rafael German Candia Cervera
Juan Tamayo Cardoniz
Pedro Salas
Salvador Aldereguia Orse
Luis Barcena Serrano
Rafael Cieza Diaz
Eduardo Martinez Munoa
Jose Manuel Santiesteban Pavon
Jorge De Moya Fernandez Marcaño
Mario Gutierrez Mir
Jose Antonio Lao Coba
Blas Gilberto Pascual Salvador
Luis C. Posada Carriles
Juan Manuel Rodriguez Pineda
Pablo Manuel Duasso Delgado
Esteban Bernabe Sanchez Poccio
Fernando Ojeda Alvarez
Jaime Gomez Veraz
Antonio Crespi Larralde
Genaro Arroyo