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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file.
One or more of the following statements, where indicated,
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Attempt to Recruit Cuban Nationals for Military Service

Commanding Officer
112th INTC Group
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Commanding Officer
Region V, 112th INTC Group
New Orleans, Louisiana

16 March 1962

1. On 12 March 1962, the undersigned was contacted by [redacted] [redacted] Camp Leroy Johnson, New Orleans, Louisiana, with the following report:

A Private First Class [redacted] a Cuban national serving with the 889th Transportation Company, 354th Transportation Battalion (Terminal), Camp Leroy Johnson, reported to his commanding officer that he had heard of an attempt by some Federal agency to recruit Cuban personnel for Airborne and Special Forces training, and that he desired to transfer to such an organization.

2. When contacted by a member of this office on 13 March 1962, [redacted] arranged for an interview of [redacted] who reported substantially the following:

On 11 March 1962, [redacted] was told by a friend, [redacted] a civilian Cuban refugee residing at [redacted] New Orleans, that [redacted] and five other civilian Cuban refugees of the New Orleans area were contacted by representatives of a Federal agency in an attempt to enlist them for military training. [redacted] believed that the meeting with the representatives of the Federal agency was arranged by [redacted] an official of the Cuban Center, a relief and recreation organization for Cuban refugees, at 2526 Barrou [redacted] New Orleans. Other persons who attended the meeting were [redacted] New Orleans; Jim Guzzo, whose address [redacted] and three other Cuban refugees whose identities are not known to [redacted] a US citizen of Cuban birth who is director of the [redacted] New Orleans, accompanied the Cuban refugees to the meeting as an interpreter. On approximately 5 March 1962, the group traveled to an area of New Orleans near the Industrial Canal which [redacted] believed to resemble an army camp. There the group was met by two men wearing civilian clothes who verbally identified themselves as a captain and a major of the Louisiana National Guard. Before the termination of the meeting, the group was joined by another person who was introduced as a colonel of the Louisiana National Guard. These individuals attempted to enlist members of the Cuban group for service in the National Guard with a six-month training period in the active Army, during which time they would receive special forces and airborne training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. [redacted] is not fluent in the use of the English language; therefore, he does not recall the names of the persons with whom the group met. [redacted] believes that [redacted] would know their names. During the discussion of training which would be given the men, the possibility of an invasion attempt of Cuba was mentioned. One member of the Cuban group asked if Cuban nationals serving in the US Army would be authorized to take part in an attempt by any group to invade or overthrow the present Cuban government. One of the individuals [redacted] approved absence without leave by stating "If you wanted to go, we wouldn't [redacted]

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MAR 23 1962

FBI - NEW ORLEANS

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SUBJECT: Attempt to Recruit Cuban Nationals for Military Service

JFK Act 6 (1) (B)

told you". Asked the question of age requirements for enlistment, the same officer replied that any age stated by the applicant would be accepted and that no documentary proof of age would be required. Concerning citizenship requirements for enlistment, the officer stated that the applicant would be required to sign a certificate of intention to become a US citizen. The pay offered for enlistment was that of a Private in the US Army without maintenance allowance for family support. All of the members of the Cuban group have the responsibility of supporting dependents; therefore, no member of the group indicated a desire to enlist. [redacted] knows of no other meetings scheduled between the representatives of the National Guard and any group of Cuban nationals.

3. It is believed that the meeting place of the Cuban nationals and the persons who identified themselves as officers of the Louisiana National Guard may be Jackson Barracks, a Louisiana National Guard cantonment area located on St. Claude Avenue and near the Industrial Canal in New Orleans. [redacted] who attended the meeting with the Cuban group, is influential in the affairs of the Cuban refugees of this area and is a member of the Cuban Revolutionary Front, an organization with headquarters in Miami, Florida. The files of this office contain no information concerning other members of the Cuban group who attended the meeting.

4. Further investigation in regard to this matter has been suspended pending receipt of instructions. Classification of this document is based upon the possibility that publication of this information may involve activities of another intelligence agency.

[redacted]

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