KEY subject: Station Plan for Exploiting Cuban Students in Paris

ACTION: See paragraph 6

REFERENCE: OPFA - 63904, 7 March 1962

1. BACKGROUND: During the past several months, the Station has been monitoring the activities of the most active Cuban Students in Paris who offer operational potential for local anti-Castro activities. According to comments from AMOSG/1, AMOSG/7, Subject of reference, and other Station contacts who have met some of the Cuban students, IDEN A and IDEN B appear to be the most promising candidates for clandestine exploitation.

2. STATION PROPOSAL: The Station is currently thinking of organizing a base for Cuban operations utilizing the combined talents and services of IDEN A and IDEN B. The objectives of this base would be as follows:

(a) Carry on investigations of Cuban Intelligence personalities and their activities in Paris;

(b) Spot, assess, and recruit resident and legal traveler candidates;

(c) Contact and debrief Cuban students arriving in Paris from Cuba or from bloc countries;

(d) Attempt to defuse Cuban officials either stationed in Paris or transiting Paris from bloc and other countries;

(e) Provide continuing CS information and personality assessments on all operational significant Cubans in Paris.

3. CREATION OF THIS BASE: The Station plans to use TUNES/1 as an outside Principal Agent, to set up this base, and direct it. TUNES/1 will come to Paris, rent an apartment under his name (like he did in the past on the TUNES/1 operational) and with Station assistance, establish contact with IDEN A and IDEN B. TUNES/1 will request their cooperation in a clandestine anti-Castro program as outlined in paragraph 2 above. Since both IDEN A and IDEN B have been attempting independently and separately to engage in various local activities against the Cuban Embassy and attempt to publish a monthly bulletin designed to counteract the...
Cuban Embassy’s propaganda effort, TUNEST/1 will offer these same assistance while stressing that he is not interested in local propaganda activity per se. TUNEST/1 will stress from the outset that this is a trial program and that should they lose sight of the proper objectives, he will cease supporting the publication of their bulletin. The Station feels that TUNEST/1’s past intelligence background, journalist experience, and knowledge of Spanish makes him a good choice for this assignment. The Station also feels that he will be able to guide, direct, and control IDEN A and IDEN B and keep them on target. Furthermore, TUNEST/1’s role in this activity will permit the station to engage in a wide range of anti-Cuban activities without bogging down in marginal contacts and involvement in the publication of a local bulletin. The Station is also planning to use Subject of reference to assist TUNEST/1 in this work. The subject of reference is on very close terms with IDEN A and IDEN B.

4. COST OF ESTABLISHED BASE: Apart from the initial outlay for a typewriter and a mimeograph machine, the main expense of this activity will consist of the rent for an office apartment rented by TUNEST/1 and used as the base for this operation; ratifications or expenses for TUNEST/1 while he is in Paris (no salary is planned at this time) and other expenses for the paper, office supplies and postage, etc. If necessary, and for security measures, Subject of reference could occupy the premises, which would also be used by TUNEST/1 when he is in Paris.

5. TIMETABLE: The Station feels that the success of this program will depend on a great extent on the speed with which we can contact IDEN A and IDEN B and direct their efforts in one direction. Already, both have made several calls on the U.S. Embassy in Paris, attempting to get support or sympathetic ear for their local effort. They have also approached AMAR/1 and Subject of reference for some form of assistance in publishing their monthly bulletin. Both have also expended considerable efforts in trying to arouse up student interest for local manifestations against the Cuban Embassy. They have also devoted much time attempting to convert “non-committed” Cuban students to their cause, rather than develop them as possible future resident type assets. In short, both IDEN A and IDEN B appear to have the energy, the interest, and the ability to carry on the program outlined in paragraph 2 above, but will need some strong guidance and soon to prevent their engaging in counterproductive work.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS: Headquarters’ action is requested on the following:

(a) Request Headquarters’ cable comments on their interest in the station’s proposal;

(b) Expedite FQA on Subject of reference and assign a cryptographer;

(c) Forward traces and process FQA’s on IDEN A and IDEN B for their use in the activities outlined in paragraph 2 above. Also assign cryptographer in the same series as Subject of reference. There are no station traces on either IDEN A or IDEN B.

Robert B. Oltendorf
IDEN A - Pedro RUIZ Quintero, born 1937 in Las Villas, Cuba, medical student in Paris. He is currently the President of the Cuba House and generally considered staunchly anti-Castro.

IDEN B - Rinaldo LAGO Carbonell, born 1930 in Havana, Cuba, law student in Paris. He claims to be the official representative of the Miro CARDONA group in Paris, currently living at the Cuba House in Paris and engaged in local anti-Castro activities.