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Chief, Task Force U

Chief of Station, JMKWAVE

GYROSE/Operational

The Op That Failed/MRR

ATTENTION REQUESTED: KUTUKE, FM

1. On 14 August 1962, Victor Martinez Zambrano, A 12 829 951, born 22 January 1933, Havana, Miami address: c/o Cuban Refugee Center, was interviewed.

2. Source was an asylee in the Argentine and Brazilian Embassies and left Cuba and lived in Argentina and Brazil. Prior to that he was a hot-shot activist of the MRR in Havana. His chief was Jorge Vindara Hernandez who was apprehended by the Cuban security forces and executed in November 1961. During Jorge's lifetime he and the source participated in various actions. The source remembered one caper when Jorge asked him to provide a reception site for a seafaring at Canasi, Matanzas Province, at a date prior to that of Playa Giron. Source said he organized a 13-man reception group, and the landing was made. Eighteen men were infiltrated and 20 were exfiltrated. He said he knew none of the men, and did not ask their names. Supplies were also brought into Cuba at the same time.

3. During the summer of 1961, after Playa Giron, the source was approached by "El Mejicano", an MRR leader. He asked the source if he could again repeat the good work he did at Canasi and provide another reception group for a sea operation. The source said that by this time the situation had so changed that he told "El Mejicano" that he was out of his cotton-picking mind, that such operations were now impossible.

4. In September 1961, the source organized the operation which failed, the plan to assassinate Carlos Rafael Rodriguez. He got 9 men together and set up an ambush along the Via Blanca in Matanzas Province. He explained that he placed two men up in front as spotters. Four more were on one side of the highway, and further down the road he placed the remaining men to finish off the job in case everyone else missed. The lookouts, he said, spotted Carlos Rafael, but one of the fellows, the
one who carried the hand grenade, pulled the pin prematurely, and the grenade went off. The man with the grenade was critically wounded, another was killed, and "Chuchu" was wounded in the leg. All who could ran. The source went back to Havana, and eventually went into asylum. He believes "Chuchu" is in the United States, and one Joaquin Roberto Fuentes is in exile in Brazil. RE MTAR ACTIVITIES NO 1 AUG 62

5. Prior to entering the embassy, the source was in hiding. During this time his brother, Jose Martinez, of Mayta Rodriguez, Santo Domingo, Havana, made contact with Fellers (RN), a Cuban newspaperman in Havana. For the sum of one thousand pesos he obtained a Cuban passport for the source. It took him about 15-20 days to do this, but it was done without problems. Source had nothing further to say on this because he said that all arrangements and contacts were made by his brother. Passport in hand, the source entered asylum.

Nelson L. Raynack