

MEMORANDUM

April 26, 1996

From: Christopher Barger
To: Mary McAuliffe
cc: Jeremy Gunn, Manuel Legaspi, Kevin Tiernan, David Marwell, Michelle Seguin, Bob Skwirot, Dennis Quinn

Subj: DRE files in the segregated collection
File: 4.20.2

On Friday, April 19, 1996, Manuel Legaspi and I did an initial overview of DRE files contained in the CIA segregated collection. As a general observation, the documents should be relatively routine for review; there are only a few issues that appear for which the Board has not provided guidance or established a precedent. Those issues will have to be presented to the Board for discussion; however, the proportion of documents containing such issues is small.

There were several items that might be of significance in the search for additional records or information. These include:*

- References to a possible meeting between representatives of an exile group and representatives of the FBI on April 2, 1963. A document states that FBI had a "private talk" with these exiles after a group meeting on that date.
- There are suggestions that high ranking members of the DRE had access to, meetings with, and a relationship with Fletcher KNIGHT. A document dated February 22, 1963, references a "gentleman's agreement" between KNIGHT and certain exile leaders.
- A reference that might suggest conclusively that the name "Doug Gupton" is neither a pseudonym nor a true name, but an alias used in the field. This is included in a comprehensive report from July 1962 regarding JMWAVE.

After reviewing these documents, several questions occurred to me in relation to our future review and searches for additional records:

- Would it be advisable for ARRB staff members Legaspi and Barger to speak with HSCA staff members Hardway, Lopez and Palmer regarding records that they either reviewed or requested during the HSCA investigation?
- Is Luis Fernandez Rocha still alive? Could Legaspi and Barger contact him?

- The CIA has provided an explanation of the digraph “ZR” where it appears by itself in a document or in relation to a name; we may wish to request an explanation of what it means when in conjunction with a crypt, i.e., what do ZR-crypts mean or refer to?

These questions are preliminary in nature and do not reflect ARRB policy.

* These items are discussed in such a way as to make it possible to include them in an unclassified memo. More specific details can be given orally by the author.

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