

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

July 16, 1996

To: Jeremy Gunn, Christopher Barger, Joseph Freeman, Douglas Horne
cc:

From: Manuel E. Legaspi

Subject: Veciana/Questioning

OBJECTIVES

1. Ensure that a complete historical record has been compiled as it relates to Veciana's anti-Castro activities and his relationship with Maurice Bishop.

A. Questioning Veciana on "Bishop" issues that may not have been fully explored by the HSCA.

B. Questioning him on leads that might lead to

1. the identification of individuals who might corroborate or rebut his HSCA testimony (to the extent that this had not been already done) and
2. The identification of records pertaining to his relationship with Maurice Bishop.

Recommendation: That a thorough examination of the relevant Veciana files (immunized testimony, investigative files) in the HSCA collection be conducted before the interview takes place. I have taken note of the (seemingly) relevant files currently located in the microfilm rolls of the CIA segregated collection:

Reel 17, Folders O and P (Antonio Veciana Blanch)

Reel 25, Folder M (Alpha-66, DCD File)

Reel 52, Folder E (Cesar Diosdado)

DRAFT QUESTIONS

1. Are you now in a position to provide information on the individual previously identified as "Maurice Bishop?"

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2. Are you currently in the possession of any materials or records relating to the investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy?
3. Is there anyone you can identify who could possibly provide additional information on the true identity of Maurice Bishop?

A. You have stated that you utilized an individual to act as an "intermediary" when you were traveling or otherwise not accessible. How much did your "intermediary" know about your relationship with Maurice Bishop? In your opinion, could this intermediary provide further evidence which could eventually identify Bishop?

B. You have stated that Bishop referred you to a "Mr. Melton," who, as part of the anti-Castro efforts sponsored by Mr. Bishop, trained you in various intelligence and operational methods. Are you aware of any information which could possibly help in identifying Melton? (I am in the process of checking HSCA and CIA files on this topic)

4. You have referred to a March 1963 press conference (Fonzi, p. 132) which was carried out at Bishop's urging, where you announced a successful raid on a Soviet ship docked in Cuban waters. Bishop apparently made arrangements for two high-level government officials to attend the press conference. Who were these officials? Were you aware of the existence of a relationship between Bishop and these officials?

5. Regarding your position with the United States Agency for International Development: how sure are you that Maurice Bishop, or elements of the U.S. intelligence community, had something to do with getting you that job? Can you detail your official responsibilities as an AID employee? Were your superiors aware that you spent much of your time conducting anti-Castro efforts while on the job? (Note: we need to ask the State Department for info that was not already asked for by the Blakey/HSCA)

6. Why do you think Cesar Diosdado questioned various Cuban exiles after the assassination? What is your opinion as to his motivation? Sponsors?