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JUNTA DEL GOBIERNO DE CUBA EN EL EXILIO

PAULINO SIERRA MARTINEZ

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to him. He would only say that he received some "help" from honest American sources, and claimed he could get backing in a monetary sense from a number of other sources if he could get the green light from the United States Government.

Early in the interview, SIERRA tried to give the impression he was in contact with high government officials, and he had the moral support of the United States Government. When pressed for the identities of the officials he had contacted, he said he had talked to somebody in the State Department; had received no authorization from anyone to do anything, but merely had friends who had friends in the government. SIERRA went to great lengths to assure the interviewing agents of his great honesty, sincerity, patriotism and religious convictions.

SIERRA finally admitted he did make a sizeable contribution to TONY CUESTA of Comandos L. He claimed the money was not given to Comandos L to purchase arms.

On September 23, 1963, MIGUEL DOTRES, an officer in the organization of ALDO VERA SERAFIN, advised VERA's anti-CASTRO group has an 83-foot ex-Coast Guard cutter, the "Soresma". DOTRES said \$5,000.00 is needed to replace the boat's gasoline engines with diesel engines, and it was planned this boat would be used to transport Cuban exiles from Miami to Nicaragua for future military action in Cuba.

On September 26, 1963, ALDO VERA SERAFIN, 1382 Northwest 34th Street, Miami, advised he has an anti-CASTRO

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group of about twenty individuals, and his group is in the process of making repairs on the "Soresma". VERA stated that so far, PAULINO SIERRA's group has donated about \$900.00 for repairs to the boat, and it is expected a considerably large amount of money will be received from SIERRA in the future.

J. W. VAN GORKOM, President, and WILLIAM B. BROWDER, General Counsel, Union Tank Car Company, 111 West Jackson, Chicago, Illinois, advised on October 1, 1963, PAULINO SIERRA was employed by that company's Legal Department when he arrived in Chicago as part of a group of Cuban exiles being resettled in the Chicago area. He gained confidence of the company, because of his excellent work in both foreign and domestic legal assignments, and his apparently sincere desire to free Cuba from communist domination. Company officials encouraged SIERRA in all efforts to unite Cuban exile groups, by continuing to pay his salary, although not now engaged in company business, even though the company has no past or future interest in Cuba and the company is not acting for any business or government interests.

In early June of 1963, SIERRA brought FELIPE RIVERO DIAZ, CARLOS RODRIGUEZ QUESADA, Dr. MANUEL LOZANO PINO, ALBERTO CARRIDO, JUAN MEDINA VEGA and GILBERTO RODRIGUEZ, described as Cuban exile leaders, to Chicago, showed them through the well-appointed company offices, and introduced them to company officials. The company denied it entertained the group, or assisted with their expenses, but admitted it has provided SIERRA with a letter of introduction to the Government of Colombia.

