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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

PR 10 201

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COUNTRY Cuba/Nicaragua/Venezuela/Colombia RREPORT NO. CSDB-3/657,607 (44 USC 2107 Note) NW 53217 6/20/17

SUBJECT Support of Luis Somoza for Military Plan of Carlos Prio Socarras to Liberate Cuba DATE DISTR. 31 October 1963

NO. PAGES 2

REFERENCES TDCSDB-3/657,108

DATE OF INFO. 16 October 1963

PLACE & DATE ACQ. United States, Miami (19 October 1963)

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: A Cuban exile who was prominent in politics at the Provincial level in Cuba, source is well known by the Cuban exiles and has reported objectively on their political maneuvers. This information was obtained from Orlando Puente Pérez.

1. Orlando Puente Perez, secretary to former Cuban President Carlos Prio Socarrás, said that while on a trip to the West Coast in mid-October 1963 he had talked with Luis Somoza, former Nicaraguan President, who was planning to make a trip to Japan. Somoza asked Puente to tell Prio that the latter could count on Somoza's full support, and as soon as he returned from Japan, a mobilization of men in Nicaragua would begin for attacks against Cuba. According to the present schedule, such attacks would start taking place in early December 1963. Puente strongly asserted that all equipment necessary to wage a campaign against Fidel Castro is available, including aircraft and trained pilots.
2. Prio has delegated to Puente the responsibility of completing the details of the plan with Jaime Varela Canosa, President of the Association of Veterans of the Bay of Pigs (AVBC); Aldo Vera Serafin, leader of American Patriotic Action Movement (MAPA); Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, leader of the Second National Front of the Escambray (SFNE), and Nino Diaz, all of whom have agreed to participate in Prio's plan by contributing men. According to Puente, Somoza has decided to let Prio himself carry out the plan for the fight against Castro. Puente feels that, despite Prio's indecisive character, he has decided to spend the money needed for the job, since he feels that this is his last opportunity to vindicate himself in the eyes of Cuban and United States nationals.

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SAS/Intel	1 SAS/WAVE	1 W/IVY	2 WH/ECGQ	1 WE/MA29	2	
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3. Puente said that Prio had several interviews in Miami before departing for New York; he has held meetings in New York, where he has many friends, and he also held a large meeting in New Jersey on 10 October. Puente commented that he does not wish to leave Prio "alone," as Prio has been meeting many elements who have caused him to utter negative statements.
4. Puente said that Prio had instructed him to depart for Colombia and Venezuela on 20 October to make final arrangements for the plan.

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