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SECRET

Fernandez, Echevarria

C-O-P-Y

MO/1326

12 December 1960

06
[Dear Cleve,]

CUBA

In my MO/1269 of 16th November, I mentioned the FERNANDEZ opposition group. I have now received a further more detailed report on this group, and as it may be of interest to you, I attach a copy.

We have no information on the identities of the rich American businessman said to be financing the group.

Yours sincerely,

06
[Dr. Cleveland C. Gram]

03
[Redacted]

ATTACHMENT

SECRET

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3/970

The Cuban Anti-Castro Guerilla Organization of AlbertoFERNANDEZ

1. Alberto FERNANDEZ (the son of Pico FERNANDEZ Casas), the wealthy land-owner who raised three million dollars for Fidel CASTRO's cause before the overthrow of BATISTA, and who was, until recently, the head of the Institute de la Asucar (Sugar Institute), has set up a guerilla organization of 400 of his ex-employees inside Cuba. This organization has the backing of rich American businessmen, and it is FERNANDEZ's intention to expand this force and keep it well supplied with money, arms and ammunition with which to carry out acts of sabotage.
2. FERNANDEZ has asked the following three persons to help him:
 - (1) Eduardo FERRER, the former Inspector General of the Cuban Air Force, who left Cuba in July 1960.
 - (2) Teddy WHITEHOUSE, a pilot of British extraction, who earlier in 1960 was responsible for setting fire to sugar crops from the air.
 - (3) Geoffrey ROBERTS of Butler, Roberts Associates, Inc. who was R.C.A.'s representative in HAVANA and who was in charge of all microwave and airway installations of R.C.A. until he had to leave the country. He has provided FERNANDEZ's organization with all frequencies of Si band equipment and microwave equipment used by the Cuban Government and they are now able to intercept messages sent out on these channels.
3. The organization has two 40ft. motor cruisers and is about to purchase two more. These craft will be used as mother ships

for/ ...

-2-

for supplying equipment to Cuban anti-Castro guerillas and it is planned to work them from British cays off the Cuban coast. They are to be supplied by light aircraft which can land on these cays; each boat will have a fast hydroplane for delivering supplies to the interior.

4. At the request of the Frente Revolucionario Democratico (F.R.D. - Revolutionary Democratic Front) FERNANDEZ's organization recently brought TEJERA (fmu) from Cuba by boat to the United States. Apparently TEJERA had been a close intimate of Fidel CASTRO, the Cuban Prime Minister, and was brought out of Cuba at the request of the United States Government.

5. Alberto FERNANDEZ has been asked by Manuel Antonio (Tony) VARONA of the F.R.D. to take over the Oriente Province for the F.^R.D. when that organization makes its planned invasion of Cuba.