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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ROUTINE

Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY: CUBA

TDCS DB-315/00576-65

DATE OF INFO: 17 FEBRUARY 1965

DISTR. 18 FEBRUARY 1965

SUBJECT

DECISION OF ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA TO USE A CUBAN PILOT ON THE MIAMI AIR STRIKE SCHEDULED FOR 16 FEBRUARY 1965

PLACE & DATE ACQ. UNITED STATES, MIAMI (17 FEBRUARY 1965)

REF IN 82931

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL

FIELD REPORT NO. UFG-6727

A MIAMI BUSINESSMAN WHO WAS A RESIDENT OF HABANA FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THE SOURCE HAS CONTACTS WHO RECOGNIZE HIM AS A CHANNEL TO U.S. INTELLIGENCE. THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM FRANK FIORINI.

1. AT ABOUT 4:00 P.M. ON 17 FEBRUARY 1965 FRANK FIORINI SAID THAT ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA, LEADER OF THE MOVIMIENTO INSURRECCIONAL DE RECUPERACION REVOLUCIONARIA (MIRR) INSURRECCIONAL MOVEMENT FOR REVOLUTIONARY RECOVERY) AGREED TO LET THE CUBAN PILOT FLY THE MISSION SCHEDULED FOR 16 FEBRUARY INSTEAD OF THE AMERICAN PILOT. (FIELD COMMENT: THE SAME SOURCE REPORTED THAT BOSCH HAD SCHEDULED AN AIR STRIKE AGAINST THE CITY OF HABANA FOR 16 FEBRUARY IN A B-25. AN AMERICAN PILOT WAS TO FLY THE AIRCRAFT BUT WAS TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CUBAN PILOT.) THE CUBAN PILOT HAS BEEN TRAINING IN THE B-25 AND APPARENTLY IS EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO MAKE THE TRIP TO CUBA.

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HE HAS HAD PREVIOUS TRAINING IN A SEA FURY AND IN A TWIN-ENGINE SEAPLANE, PRESUMABLY A PBY. FIORINI SAID THE B-25 WAS PURCHASED IN TUCSON, ARIZONA, NOT IN TEXAS AS HE PREVIOUSLY STATED.

2. THE CUBAN PILOT IS THE SAME PERSON WHO WAS TO MAKE A BOSCH-FINANCED RAID IN A SINGLE-ENGINE AIRCRAFT AGAINST AN UNSPECIFIED TARGET. THE PLANE WAS TO LEAVE FROM THE KEY WEST AREA.

3. FIORINI SAID THAT BILL JOHNSON, AN AMERICAN PILOT WHO HAS BEEN ARRANGING THE SUPPORT ASPECTS FOR BOSCH'S RAIDS, RECEIVED AN UNIDENTIFIED SUM OF MONEY FROM BOSCH ON 17 FEBRUARY.

4. ACCORDING TO FIORINI, IF THE RAID HAD NOT TAKEN PLACE ALREADY, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE WITHIN 24 HOURS.

5. FIELD DISSEM: CINCLANT, CINCSO, COMWESTFOR, MIAMI REPS OF STATE, FBI, BORDER PATROL, CUSTOMS, I&NS, AND USCG.

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