

Memorandum

TO: Jeremy Gunn
FROM: Eric Scheinkopf
RE: Church Committee documents on Operation Mongoose - Box 11, Folder 2
FILE NO.: 4.21.5 (Church records at NARA)

The following are three documents from August 1962 that concern Operation Mongoose.

The first document concerns the minutes of an SG(A) meeting on August 10, 1962 at which representatives from State, the White House, DoD/JCS, CIA and USIA were present. McCone noted that the Soviets might consider establishing an MRBM base in Cuba. General Lansdale gave a brief explanation of the four possible courses of action that were outlined in recent papers. Lansdale also said that during Phase 1, which was completed by that date, that a great deal had been learned about Cuba but that there was not "yet a true assessment of resistance potential."

During the meeting the objectives of MONGOOSE were discussed. The course of the conversation led General Taylor to say that "we should consider changing the over-all objective from one of overthrowing the Castro regime to one of causing its visible failure." It was noted that in this context McCone then presented an alternate plan, "called hereafter the 'CIA variant'" to the "stepped-up Course B" described by General Lansdale. The "CIA variant" was to be prepared by August 15, 1962. Under the cc to General Lansdale of this memo is a date that appears to be 7/9/63.

The second document is an August 13, 1962 memo from Lansdale to William Harvey of the CIA, Robert Hurwitch of the State Department, General Benjamin Harris of the Defense Department and Lon Wilson of the USIA. Lansdale begins the memo by saying that in compliance with the "desires and guidance" expressed in the 8/10/62 meeting on Mongoose, an outline of an alternate Course B will be produced for submission. The Cia paper "Operational Plan (Reduced Effort)" was to be used as the starting basis. Papers were required from each of these individuals for a meeting on the 14th to complete the outline paper for submission. One of Mr. Harvey's assignments was redacted.

The final document is an August 14, 1962 memo from Harvey to the Deputy Director (Plans). In this memo, Harvey recommends excising from an August 13, 1962 memo written by Lansdale the four words "including liquidation of leaders."