

MEMORANDUM

June 27, 2017

To: Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

cc: Michelle Combs
Special Assistant for Research and Review

Bob Skwirot
CIA Coordinator

From: Manuel E. Legaspi
Analyst, CIA Team

Subject: NBR Information in CRC Financial Records in the Sequestered Collection Microfilm

Located within the CIA's Sequestered Collection are approximately 6,000 pages of financial records of the Cuban Revolutionary Council. The CRC, an umbrella group of anti-Castro organizations, was a U.S.-sponsored Cuban government-in-exile. Because its operations were largely financed by the CIA, CRC was required to provide accounting reports to the Agency. Over the past few months I have been reviewing these records to determine the extent to which this collection contains information that can be declared to have "no believed relevance (NBR)" to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

After my review of the records and a discussion of the issues, it is my recommendation that the majority of the CRC financial records are unrelated to the assassination and should be processed as "NBR." In order to give members of the public a sense of the types of information contained in these records, however, I recommend that the "General Statement for Month" records -- one or two page summary reports which contain deposit, balance, and general itemized expense figures for each month -- be processed for the time period January 1960 to January 1965. In addition, we should process representative samples of the types of accounting documents found in the files to give the public an idea of the types of records included.

Additional Background on Records

These CRC financial records, better known as the “Paula and Sosa Reports” and the “Garcia and Paula Reports” after the accountants who wrote them, are the accounting records of the CRC primarily for the period 1960-1965. These financial documents make up most of reel No. 64 and all of reels No. 65 and No. 66 of the Microfilm Collection, and have never been released to the public in any form. The House Select Committee on Assassinations requested access to these files while investigating possible Cuban exile connections to the JFK assassination. Despite the request, HSCA investigators did not actually examine any of these records.

The files can generally be characterized as highly detailed monthly financial records, covering virtually all of the CRC’s financial transactions. Included among these accounting records are receipts and entries for payments for miscellaneous supplies, travel reimbursements, budgets for “clandestineness,” support for other anti-Castro groups operating under the CRC umbrella, and payments to the surviving family members of Bay of Pigs casualties (“payments to Heroes and Martyrs”). The majority of pages within this collection contain names of individuals who were in some way involved in CRC financial transactions.

The files are organized in the following manner: general statements which outline the total amounts expended for certain types of activities, followed by annexes which break down specific expenses (*i.e.*, checks and disbursements issued for certain activities). Typically, the general summaries consist of 3-4 pages per monthly report, with the annexes making up the remainder. A complete monthly report averages 50-60 pages.

Examples of these records can easily be made available for Board inspection.