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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

DATE: 5/18/64

- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
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TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : D. J. Brennan, Jr.

SUBJECT: VLADIMIR RODRIGUEZ LAHERA
IS - CUBA

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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KP 2-5-98

Subject is a Cuban intelligence officer who recently defected in Canada and who has been moved to the U. S. for debriefing by CIA. On 5/12/64 Harold Swenson, CIA, furnished the following to the Liaison Agent

The subject made plans to defect several months ago while he was assigned to his headquarters in Havana. He began collecting material in preparation for his defection. He was able to leave Havana on an official assignment which was to include travel through Canada. When he arrived in Canada he contacted Canadian authorities. (S) (u)

He appears to have extensive knowledge concerning the operation of the Cuban Intelligence Service in Havana. In this connection, he personally knows several individuals and also was very familiar with various cases. Practically all of his knowledge with regard to operations deals with Latin American countries. He does not have any direct knowledge concerning Cuban agents operating in the U. S. (S) (u)

The subject has stated that the Cuban Intelligence Service receives guidance from five Soviet advisors; and that in recent weeks, the Service was completely reorganized. Much of this reorganization dealt with the "Illegal Department" which is responsible for the training and dispatching of illegal agents. All such agents are thoroughly trained in the use of microdots, secret writing, microfilm and radio. These illegal agents do not get involved with communists in the country where they are sent. They will have meetings with legals and this quite often takes place in a third country. (S) (u)

The subject has also referred to the National Liberation Department which is an important part of the Intelligence Service. This department deals exclusively with the promotion of revolutions in other Latin American countries. Such activity is not promoted in countries with whom Cuba maintains diplomatic relations. (S) (u)

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Papich
- SJP:mll
- 1 - Mr. Wannall
- 1 - Liaison

JUN 1 1964

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DATE: 11-14-2017

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Memo Brennan to Sullivan
Re: Vladimir Rodriguez Lahera
IS - Cuba

SECRET

Subject volunteered information indicating that ["Rolo"]^(S) is a cryptonym used by ["Santiago Perez"]^(S) an intelligence officer assigned to headquarters in Havana. He further stated that ["Rolo"]^(S) travelled to Canada^(S) shortly after 3/23/64. It should be noted that the name ["Rolo"]^(S) recently came up in the ["FOXTROT"]^(S) case.

Subject was asked if he knew of any Cuban intelligence officer who presently used the name "Orlando." Subject replied that Oscar Garcia, an instructor at headquarters in Havana, does use the name "Orlando." This particular information may be of some interest in connection with the case entitled "Olga Georgina Goicoechea Salas," the Cuban agent in Mexico City who recently indicated she was willing to cooperate with the U. S. She allegedly had contact in Miami with an individual referred to as "Orlando."^{(S)(U)}

ABROAD

Swenson advised that CIA is currently giving consideration to making recruitment and defection approaches of various intelligence officers identified by the subject. This would be done on a very selective basis and CIA would concentrate on those individuals who offer the most potential based on data furnished by subject. Swenson commented that if CIA proceeded with this plan there could be a strong reaction at Cuban Intelligence Service headquarters in Havana if any individual approached reported the matter to his people. He elaborated by stating that once Cuban headquarters realize that subject is cooperating with the Americans we cannot discount the possibility that the Cubans could take steps to protect existing operations. This could mean the recall of certain agents. Swenson stated that he definitely will give the Liaison Agent advance notice if the above-described recruitment and defection plan is to be put into effect.^{(S)(U)}

Swenson stated that he is in the process of preparing reports based on information furnished by the subject. These reports will be disseminated to the Bureau as soon as possible.^{(S)(U)}

ACTION: For information. Liaison will follow for further developments.

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