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WH 639

SECRET

DPD-3005-62

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Contact Division, OO 16 MAY 1952

ATTENTION: Mrs. Shirley Stetson

SUBJECT: Enrique ESCALI Gonzalez - WH-639

REFERENCE: Letter from International Rescue Committee, Inc. Dated April 18, 1952 (Attached)

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1. An inquiry has been made through our resources and it has been determined that the subject did not participate in the capacity of a pilot or navigator in the Cuban invasion effort. It has been reported that upon his arrival in the United States circa January 1951, he was hospitalized for "nervousness". Furthermore, he also reportedly has a history of utilizing his family and other resources for influence and as a means to gain an objective. The subject, however, was supposedly active in the Miami area as a part of a splinter political group. Hence, it appears that the subject may be attempting to gain recognition through the influence of his relatives and friends.

2. No known personal offers for special treatment, training or any other emoluments were made during recruitment. In fact the philosophy then, as now, was to assist the Cubans in their patriotic efforts and not for U.S. interests.

3. No official U.S. Government efforts have been made to assist any of the former individuals who engaged in the invasion activity, either personally or collectively. However, the subject may have heard of a program sponsored by a Mr. William Pawley of Miami, an aviation enthusiast and known sympathizer to the Cuban refugee problem, who personally sponsored a limited retraining program for pilots who actually participated in the invasion activity based upon an eligibility list supplied to him from the Cuban operations officer. Needless to say, Mr. Escali's name was not included. The aforementioned program was modest, with

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no provisions of any maintenance funds and no promise of employment in the aviation field. Furthermore, this program was limited in scope and intended to relieve the problem in Miami and Dade County at that time and was not intended as a continuing program.

4. It appears that Mr. Recali, having gotten wind of Mr. Pawley's program, (actually financed by this Division) decided to take advantage of it. No evidence of his participation is recorded, therefore he even lacked eligibility for it. As far as personal promises by a C.I.A. contact man, this should be self evident of a mild form of pressure due to his history of "nervousness". Therefore, it is suggested that information contained in the first three paragraphs be forwarded to your representative in New York for further information to his correspondent. The cover of Mr. Pawley's benevolent program is considered secure and has withstood scrutiny in the Miami area, and although we don't necessarily like the testing of cover, it is felt that it is solid enough to overtly stand Mr. Recali's inquiry if he should feel it necessary. Should this action be taken, Mr. Pawley would only refer the subject to the Operations Officer (DPD's principal agent) who in turn would face the individual with the case of fact, not fiction. This Division has had no contact with the individual.

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[Redacted Signature Box]
Colonel USAF
Acting Chief, DPD

Attachment: As stated.

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