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Chick file
63 NOVEMBER 1960

SECRET

RECENT INFO

CAF 157: Meeting with Manuel Ray and Noel Chibes in the latter's apartment (30 West 60th Street, New York City) on 22 November, 1960.

PAR. TIKES OF INFO:

1. This portion of the report on above meeting deals with miscellaneous information which came up during that meeting and throws, perhaps, new light on the MRP's political posture.

2. Background: The above conversation it became quite clear that Manuel Ray and Noel Chibes are both opposed to the MRP's program. It appears to me that the MRP is beginning to lose some of its more controversial positions. There was repeat reference to the MRP's desire and intention to work at the best of terms with the U.S. and to be fully committed to all free world movements. Ray rejected any idea of a "Latin American Bloc" and his group might have "neutralist" aspirations--he does not see himself as the ruler of a "Latin American Bloc". Again and again, Manuel Ray expressed the need to fight the Soviet Union's influence in Cuba to the extent that he would retain the Soviet/Chinese influence in Cuba, he first tried to talk around the subject, saying that these relationships would have to be considered in the light of reality. I was struck at any given time he raised this point by saying that these issues of international relations had not been fully covered as yet by himself or his staff and that any real progress would be made in the forthcoming weeks.

3. When asked to define his position vis a vis the Church, Ray pointed with pride to Fidel Castro and Fidel Gonzalez--the former an important lay Church leader, the latter an important figure in Cuba's Catholic hierarchy. According to Ray, some dissenting priests are also already affiliated with the MRP. In other words, Ray claims that he is working well with the Church and the Church is working well with his movement. He, Ray, said that I had received the final copy of the MRP's program, which he said was quite different from the first draft that had been given to me. (Context: this program was recently published in Havana and is currently being translated by Mr. A. Conroy examination notes that indeed the platform has been taken from a bit.)

4. Ray informed me that the Cuban Executive Committee of Escalante's MRC group has broken with Castro and is now working closely with the MRP.

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6. Ray inquired whether or not a decision had been made on the
writing of certain KIP assignments. I said that this was a matter for
discussion on the technical level. (Comments: unless this has been
done already, I would suggest that W/L/P transmit pertinent
information on this matter to MASH as soon as possible.)

7. Do we have explosives inside Cuba now which could be given to
the KIP people at an early date, Ray asked? My answer to this was that
I simply did not know. (Comments: I would suggest that W/L/P examine
this matter and furnish pertinent instructions--whatever they may be--
to MASH.)

8. While Ray never deviated during this meeting from his previous
agreement to coordinate military plans with us, he continued to probe to
find out whether or not we could be willing to simply furnish him the
means with which to carry out his military operations. A case
in point: "We need a boat," he said. It is realized that such a boat
could, under any circumstances, be obtained. Could we provide it with the necessary
cover; and, after this is done, would we then turn the boat over to the
KIP to be used as they see fit? My answer was that this would fall into
the category of "qualifications," which had been explored fully previously
during this meeting. (See parts one and two of this contact report.)

9. Ray informed me that he had sent word to Ray Brown and that a
meeting with him would be arranged soon; he also stated that he was
establishing a system under which descriptive translations can be estab-
lished and can be preserved. Ray remarked.

10. Ray told me that he and Tibbs had a appointment with a Mr.
Tom Ripley(?) of Ray magazine in the afternoon of 17 November.

11. Would I write a note for [redacted] a Cuban currently
working in Miami for Castro, a Cuban friend [redacted] is to be uti-
lized by the KIP in psychological warfare work. I said that I would look
into this matter. 04

12. About three times during the meeting, Ray made a request for
special maps of Cuba, he said, were provided by the Aerial Service Company
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This company was not selling these maps
publicly. Could I use my influence with the Pentagon or other places to
get these maps? Ray also stated that this problem had been raised previ-
ously in Miami with [redacted] (Comments: unless there are some
strong objections, I would suggest that these maps could be made available
to the KIP through our radio network. It is suggested that W/L/P
carry the ball on this, to it you or not.) 06 06

13. Ray also traces the information that [redacted] has about 100
was under his command in Sierra Nevada. Ray felt that [redacted] had his
influence in the Sierra Nevada and that [redacted] sympathies were
with the KIP. However, after the Sierra Nevada Security details, [redacted] 06
criticism had cooled down and perhaps this would not be the time to
make any approach to [redacted] (Comments: I have no recall was part of
MASH traffic on [redacted] therefore, this case is referred to W/L/P's
attention for whatever use they intend to make of it.)

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13. Approximately five MAF people currently stationed in New York are in contact with the MAF in the area, by name. The MAF people are obtaining information from these Castro followers and at the same time looking to them to induce their defection. Ray did not want to give the names of these people to me and I did not pursue the matter further at all times.

OBJ: 8 DRYLES
4 12/1/54

CD: 21

13. 01/01/54

1 - MAF

1 - MAF

1 - MAF & C/MAF/ATS (not to RA)

1 - VIL Y

1 - AVIS/A

SECRET