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5 August 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversations with Reichhardt in Miami on 2 August 1959

1. Subject phoned me at 1030 and said that the FBI in Miami had a report attributed to CIA Miami which said that Major William Alexander Morgan of the Cuban army is involved in a plot to assassinate Castro. Reichhardt said he did not have [redacted] phone number and had been unable to find out what the story was. He said he needed to know what was going on because the attribution of this report was placing him in an embarrassing position with the FBI in Miami. I told him I would have [redacted] call him on the Subject. (I later phoned [redacted] and asked him to phone Reichhardt and asked him to give Reichhardt the background on this matter. [redacted] said he would do so, and explained that the report in question came from AMBOAR who had given the information to Charles Anderson, WH/FI, on 1 August, and that Anderson had transmitted it to the Bureau immediately. AMBOAR told Anderson that he had attempted to give this information to Reichhardt orally, but that Reichhardt had ignored it and asked him to prepare a written report on the matter.)

2. Reichhardt said that he was out of touch with AMBOAR who had told him that he was going to New York and would probably stop in Washington, but had not checked out with him before leaving. At the time of this call I was unaware that AMBOAR had been in touch with Washington.

3. Reichhardt said that he was out of touch also with Munez Portuondo. He said he had tried to phone Munez on a number of occasions but the phone was not answered. Discreet inquiries in Miami also indicated that Munez' location is unknown at this time. Reichhardt said he is still holding the letter from Col. King to Munez.

4. Reichhardt phoned me again at 1930 to say that he had just talked with the FBI officer investigating the report of the alleged plot to assassinate Castro. The FBI man told him that his instructions did not say to protect the source, and that therefore he would have to hit Morgan hard on the basis of the report. Reichhardt said that he was again unable to reach [redacted] and wanted to know if the source should be protected. He suggested that if we want the source of the report protected, the FBI in Washington should be informed in a manner which would not indicate that the Miami FBI agent on the case had been talking with Reichhardt so frankly. Reichhardt also said that the Bureau needs additional details on the circumstances surrounding the procurement of the information by AMBOAR in order to be able to interrogate Morgan intelligently.

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SECRET

2.

5. I told Reichhardt I would try and get hold of [redacted] and have
him phone the information as soon as possible. I finally contacted [redacted] 6
[redacted] at Ben Evans' home, passed the message and asked him to call Reich-
hardt.

6. I asked Reichhardt to have the FBI in Miami compile the data on
VerBell, if it had not already done so, and send it to FBI headquarters
in Washington so that we could study it to determine if this individual
can be used operationally.

[redacted]
WH/III/RO

1.39