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17 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting of Special Group (Augmented) on
Operation Mongoose, 17 May 1962

PRESENT: General Taylor, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Johnson, Mr. McCone,
General Lemnitzer, and General Lansdale

1. Mr. McCone said that he had responded to General Lansdale's memorandum of 7 May, that he had recognized his worries, and had made available to him an office at CIA Headquarters. Lansdale stated his full satisfaction with this arrangement, and said that he was now proposing a new operations schedule to cover the period through 30 June. Copies of the schedule were distributed, with the request that the members study it and pass any comments to the Chief of Operations, with the understanding that the schedule will be considered formally next week.

General Lansdale commented that the purpose of the schedule is to stimulate further action. He said that he was encouraged by the fact that a sizeable number of intelligence operations have been mounted without attracting very much attention and without serious losses. He felt that operational handling so far has been expert.

2. Mr. McCone said that refugee interrogations at Opa-locka had indicated that the Shell and Texaco plants in Cuba had been on the verge of shutting down but that shipments of equipment and materials from Canada and the UK had enabled them to continue operation. Mr. Johnson said that State is well aware of these situations, and had had very little success in persuading our allies to cooperate. He cited particularly the negative reaction among the NATO powers to the U.S. demarche on this subject, spearheaded by Mr. Rostow.

Mr. McCone said also that the interrogations had revealed a need for medium wave radio broadcasts. General Lansdale said that the possibility of seaborne transmitting is being examined.

3. The Attorney General asked why higher power transmissions on medium-wave could not be arranged from Miami. After some discussion of the pros and cons of this, including the danger of retaliation from the Cubans, it was agreed that Mr. Murrow would be asked to meet with the Group next week or the week after to discuss the matter.

Thomas A. Parrott

cc: General Lansdale

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