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23 NOVEMBER 1960

SECRET REPORT

TOP SECRET: Meeting with Manuel Ray and Paul Gibbs in the latter's apartment (30 West 60th Street, New York City) on 22 November, 1960.

MAIN POINTS OF INTEREST:

1. This portion of my report on above meeting deals with miscellaneous information which came up during that meeting and, perhaps, may vitiate in part on the MRP's political posture.

2. Throughout the entire conversation it became quite clear that Manuel Ray and his associates are still far from convinced themselves the various political positions which former MRPs and individual MRPs on various occasions as a result of their talks amongst themselves it appears to me that the MRP is beginning to lose some sense of its more controversial positions. There was repeated 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 my suggestion that he and/or his group might have "neutralist" aspirations—he does not see himself as the ruler of a Latin American nation. Again and again, Manuel Ray admitted the need to fight the Soviet Union's influence in Cuba to the utmost. When asked in this connection whether he would retain the Soviet/Cuban influence in Cuba, he first tried to talk around the subject, saying that these relationships would have to be considered in the light of various circumstances at any given time; he closed this reply by saying that these issues of international relations had not been fully covered as yet by himself or his staff and that any real thought will be given in the forthcoming weeks.

3. When asked to define his position vis-a-vis the Church, Ray pointed with pride to Fidel Castro and Manuel Carrasco—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 in most ways quite different from the first draft that had been given to me. (Corrects this program was recently published in Spanish and is currently being translated by Mr. A. ordinary examination notes that indeed MRP platform has been raised "on a bit.")

4. Ray informed me that the Cuban Revolutionary Guard Force of Escobar's MOC group has broken with Gans and is now working directly with the MRP.

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6. Ray inquired whether or not a decision had been made on the  
cracking 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 FBI 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 would be willing to simply furnish him the  
means with which to carry out his military operations. A case  
in point: "We need a boat," Ray said. It is realized that such a boat  
could, under any, later on, defense cover arrangements will have to be  
developed. Could we buy the boat, 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 "qualifiers," which has been explored fully previously  
during this meeting. (See parts one and two of this contact report.)

9. Ray inquired as to whether we had any word to Ray from and that a  
meeting with him would be arranged soon; he said that he would participate in  
establishing a system under which descriptive instructions can be estab-  
lished and can be preserved. Ray remarked.

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

11. Would I write a line for [Burt's] [Burt's] a Cuban currently  
working in Miami for [Burt's], a Cuban from [Burt's] is to be uti-  
lized by the KIP in psychological warfare work. I said that I would look  
into this matter.

12. About three times during the meeting, Ray made a request for  
special maps of Cuba, he said, were prepared by the Aerial Service Company  
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This company was not mailing these maps  
publicly. Could I see my instructions with the Pentagon or other places to  
get these maps? Ray also stated that this problem had been raised pre-  
viously in Miami with [Burt's] (Comments: unless there are some  
strong objections, I would feel that these maps could be made available  
to the KIP through [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's]  
carry the ball on this, he is now at work.)

13. Ray told me that his information that [Burt's] [Burt's] has about 100  
was under his command in [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's]  
influence in the Sierra Madre and that his [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's]  
with the KIP. However, after the [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's]  
entire team had cooled down and perhaps this would not be the time to  
make any approaches to [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's]  
MASH traffic on [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's] [Burt's]  
attention for whatever use they intend to make of it.

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13. Apparently five MIF people currently stationed in New York are at least working in the area, by name. The MIF people are obtaining intelligence on the Castro followers and at the same time working to cause their defection. Roy did not want to give the name of these people to me and I did not pursue the matter further at all.

OW: D BYLES  
4/12/54

OW: D

13. (continued)

OW: D

- 1 - MIF
- 1 - CIA/OPS & CIA/INTS (not to RU)
- 1 - VILBY
- 1 - AUSA

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