

Headquarters

7 FEB 1962

TO: Special Agent in Charge

SUBJECT: HENNING, Gerald P.  
#3729229 F - 50/5

1. This will confirm verbal assignment of this matter to your Office on 2 February 1962. Headquarters was designated Office of Origin.

2. On the above date, you were advised that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office had recovered a .45 caliber W. S. pistol, serial #1504981 - SA, from a car in the Los Angeles area on 30 January 1962. Shortly thereafter, captioned Subject, who resides at 1209 S. Atlantic Boulevard, Alhambra, California, appeared at the Sheriff's office to claim the pistol. He stated that he was a GOLIATH agent who was on a training mission in connection with an assignment aimed at Cuba.

3. Consequently, this matter was brought to the attention of the overt GOLIATH field office in your area. You were advised that the latter requested the Sheriff's office to keep this incident out of the newspapers while they attempted to trace the identity of the Subject. You were also informed that the local Army CID office had expressed an interest in the case on the presumption that said weapon may be Army property.

4. Headquarters files reflect that the Subject was born on 1 March 1937 at Los Angeles, California. He reportedly served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1954 - 1958; the Cuban Army and Air Force 1959-1960, and was an instructor with a Cuban paratroop outfit. Subject has displayed a keen interest in firearms and para-military type activities. You were advised that Headquarters files contained no record of Subject as ever having been employed with GOLIATH in any capacity.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993  
CIA HISTORICAL-REVIEW PROGRAM

5. The LOS ANGELES FIELD OFFICE, as an Auxiliary Office, was requested to render the following support:

At Los Angeles, California


- a. Contact the overt GOLIATH field office to ascertain if the aforementioned facts are entirely accurate.
- b. Obtain, if possible, a copy of the Sheriff's report concerning this matter.

6. You were requested to telephonically apprise Headquarters of the results of your investigation.

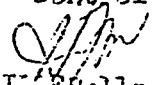
7. This will also confirm your verbal reply of 5 February 1962, which reflected in substance that the Subject did not claim employment with GOLIATH, but that he had obtained said weapon from GOLIATH in Miami, Florida, approximately nine months ago.

8. On 5 February 1962, you were further requested to have the overt GOLIATH field office interview the Subject in an effort to determine the circumstances surrounding the procurement of the weapon.

9. Your written report in this matter should be forwarded to Headquarters as soon as possible.

  
PAUL T. MULLEN

Attachment:  
Control Cards

  
MILLEN:llg  
6 Feb. 1962  
PENDING





*M*

# REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

(CATEGORY OF REPORT)

(FIELD OFFICE)

CASE NO. 29 229	DATE
HEMING, Gerald P.	15 February 1962
PERIOD OF INVESTIGATION	
2, 7 February 1962	
OFFICE OF ORIGIN	
HEADQUARTERS	
REPORT MADE BY	
Dale B. Whiteside	
CHARACTER OF CASE	
F SD/5	
APPROVED:	
<i>Dale B. Whiteside</i>	
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	

DISTRIBUTION:

- HEQS - Orig.
- POAS - 1
- IAM: - 1

FILE NO. 27-229

DATE 15 February 1962

## SYNOPSIS

At Los Angeles, California: Ernst LEIBACHER, Chief, Office of Operations, advised that SUBJECT, Gerald P. HEINING, has been known to his office since approximately October 1960 and from time to time has furnished reports and information concerning Cuban activities.

On 30 January 1962, SUBJECT appeared at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office and claimed a .45-caliber automatic pistol which had been found in a parked automobile. He reportedly advised the Sheriff's Office that the gun had been issued to him by the Central Intelligence Agency in Miami, Florida.

Upon interview by Mr. LEIBACHER'S office, SUBJECT furnished information concerning his possession and acquisition of this weapon. Details are set forth.

Attached as Exhibits 1 and 2 are reports containing information on SUBJECT from Mr. LEIBACHER'S office and as Exhibit 3 a report from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office on the above-mentioned pistol incident.

6.

REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

15 February 1962

CENTRAL:At Los Angeles, California:

On 2 February 1962, Mr. Ernst LEIBACHER, Chief, Office of Operations, was interviewed in his office, 403 West 8th Street, concerning the SUBJECT, Gerald P. HEMMING, and furnished the following information:

SUBJECT has been known to Mr. LEIBACHER'S office since approximately October 1960 when he voluntarily contacted the office and furnished certain information concerning activities in Cuba. From time to time since then SUBJECT has furnished additional information which has been forwarded to Washington, D. C. in the form of reports of interest to the agency.

Mr. LEIBACHER furnished copies of an initial undated report and biographical data containing background information on SUBJECT and a report dated 31 March 1961, which are attached as exhibits 1 and 2.

LEIBACHER advised Paul R. HENDRICKSON of his office had had many contacts with the SUBJECT in the Los Angeles area prior to his (HENDRICKSON'S) transfer to their Seattle office. Since that time Sgt. W. D. PANGBURN of LEIBACHER'S office has been designated for contact with the SUBJECT.

Within the past two weeks, SUBJECT furnished PANGBURN with a large envelope marked, "Cubana Revolution", or some such legend on it, and it contained all sorts of plans for training Cuban guerillas. SUBJECT claimed to have been working with the Office of Naval Intelligence and said that he had also been in contact with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Miami, Florida.

According to LEIBACHER, SUBJECT has never claimed to have worked for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. LEIBACHER went on to relate that on 30 January 1962, his office received a telephone call from the Los Angeles

County Sheriff's Office to the effect that a 45-caliber automatic pistol had been found in a parked automobile belonging to one Heslie DODD and that shortly thereafter SUBJECT had contacted the Sheriff's Office and claimed this weapon was his own. SUBJECT reportedly informed the Sheriff's Office that the gun had been issued to him by the Central Intelligence Agency in Miami, Florida.

Attached as Exhibit 3 is a copy of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's report on this incident, which was obtained from Mr. LEIBACHER.

On 7 February 1962, Mr. LEIBACHER was again contacted and advised that Sgt. PANGBURN of his office had interviewed the SUBJECT on 6 February 1962 and obtained the following information concerning his possession and acquisition of the above-mentioned pistol.

SUBJECT claimed that he was issued the 45-caliber automatic pistol about 1 1/2 months ago by a Cuban named Captain (SOSA) who had obtained permission from one (Arturo) (Gonzalez) (GONZALEZ). SOSA was reported to have been with the "30th of November group" and to have spent considerable time in the mountains. It was SUBJECT'S understanding that SOSA was known to the Central Intelligence Agency.

Two (or possibly three) guns were issued to SUBJECT and his cohorts, one of them a former OSS-type, named DAVIS, who was also said to be connected with the "30th of November group". SUBJECT stated that these weapons had been issued to them because other underground Cuban groups in Miami had been "giving them trouble" by putting sugar in gas tanks and tossing small grenades in their quarters.

SUBJECT claimed that he left his 45-automatic pistol in Miami when he came to the Los Angeles area several weeks ago, but that one of his colleagues, who arrived in Los Angeles shortly before the police incident, had brought the gun with him. SUBJECT had then left the gun in DODD'S barber shop on Valley Boulevard.



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SUBJECT claimed that an individual (not identified) had lifted the gun from the barber shop and had "planted" it in Mr. DODD'S automobile. He then told Mr. DODD (the barber) not to expect any sleep that night and called the Sheriff's Office to suggest that they search this automobile.

SUBJECT stated that since he had requested Mr. DODD not to admit any knowledge of the gun, he (SUBJECT) had to present himself at the Sheriff's Office and tell them that the gun was his in order to get Mr. DODD "off the hook with the police".

SUBJECT added that as far as he knew he was no longer in trouble with the Sheriff's Office over this incident but stated that he does not expect to get the gun back.

Attachments:  
Exhibits 1, 2 and 3

EHR:cvc

1. A telephone call recently was received by E. Leibacher, Chief of the Los Angeles Field Office, from a man who identified himself as Jerry P. Hemming, Jr., of 2433 West Valley Blvd., Alhambra, California. Mr. Hemming reported that he was an ex-US Marine who had recently returned to the US from Cuba where he had served some 18 months in the Cuban Army (Francisco Regimiento) and the Cuban Air Force. (See enclosure 1, Biographic Data on subject.)

2. On 11 Oct. 1960 (and subsequently on 12 Oct. and 21 Oct. 1960) Hutchinson of the Los Angeles Office contacted Hemming, who related the following. He left high school in the middle of his junior year to join the US Marine Corps (enlisted 19 Apr. 1954, #1,468,247). He reported he rose to the rank of sergeant and during the latter portion of his tour (he was discharged on 17 Oct. 1958) he attended Bainbridge Naval Academy Preparatory School. Hemming claimed to have been accepted into the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps subsequent to his attendance at Bainbridge and he reportedly was slated to attend the University of Missouri.

3. He changed his mind and decided not to enter the NROTC program because he wanted to engage in Special Forces type activity. He stated that he tried several times to obtain training of this type at Ft. Bragg and Ft. Benning but he was not successful. He then decided to leave the service and served the balance of his tour at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

4. Hemming returned to California in October 1958 and worked at various odd jobs including heavy labor, as he put it "...to get in shape". He left for Cuba by air via Miami on or about 18 Feb. 1959, arriving in Havana on 19 Feb. 1959. His reasons for going to Cuba are not completely clear in the mind of this writer (nor does the writer believe they are completely clear in Hemming's mind), but among the reasons undoubtedly are the following:

a. A strong desire to experience the excitement and glamour of warfare, and particularly guerrilla warfare, and the opportunity to gain experience in this field.

b. The opportunity to combine the above-mentioned desire with identification with a "just" cause.

c. A desire to see for himself what was going on in Cuba, and possibly to carve a niche for himself from which he might be able to influence later developments.

5. At any rate, Hemming reportedly bluffed his way into the Cuban Army, with no prior connections having been made in the US. (He claimed to have contacted officials in the Cuban Counsel's office in Los Angeles prior to his departure and also to have talked to a few 26th of July Movement members including a (first) Tubarez, but received no help there.)

6. He reported that Capt. Johnny Mitchell, a US national who in February 1958 was serving at Headquarters, General Staff, Camp Columbia, befriended him and obtained a pass for him. He talked to a number of Cuban officers including Maj. (fmr) Castillo and Maj. Camilo Cienfuegos. The latter sent him to Maj. Indico Borbonet Gomez, a Ft. Benning trained officer (1942 or 1949) who was forming a Paratroop Regiment.

7. Major Borbonet reportedly did not like Hanning or want him in his unit, but Hanning obtained orders from "Camilo" detailing him to the Paratroop Regiment as an officer. Maj. Borbonet refused to accept him as an officer so he went into the unit as a Sergeant about the end of February 1958. Hanning stayed with the unit until December 1958. He helped train paratroopers first at San Juan de los Baños Air Force Base and later near San Juan de los Rios, a small town about 35 miles southeast of Havana on the central highway. (See CO-2 reports, and For FPI gathered from Hanning in initial debriefs. Advance copies of additional FPI collected from him will be forwarded, if desired.)

8. In December 1959 Hanning transferred to the Cuban Air Force, since the Paratroop Regiment was obviously bogged down in training and had not even completed one jump. He was stationed at San Julian Air Force Base (inactive) where he flew patrols and helped train militia during the day and led some reconnaissance patrols against the anticommunists at night. He obtained a discharge from the Cuban Air Force in mid-June 1960 (between 10 and 15 June) and finally left Havana about 21 Aug. 1960. He flew to Mexico City and remained there until 30 Aug. 1960 when he entered the US via San Antonio, Texas.

9. While in the Cuban Army, Hanning became involved with a number of Nicaraguans who allegedly were interested in mounting an invasion of Nicaragua from Cuba. While the details of this story as related by Hanning are somewhat fragmentary, the basic outline is roughly as follows. A Nicaraguan named (fmr) Farfan recruited a number of troops in the Paratroop Regiment to recruit volunteers for an expedition to Nicaragua. About 15 of Hanning's troops were involved. The expedition turned out to be well infiltrated with anti-Castro persons and the expedition appeared to have as its aim primarily the acquisition of arms for anti-Castro revolutionaries and also to embarrass Castro by tying him politically to a movement designed to overthrow President Somoza in Nicaragua.

10. The expedition never left Cuba and Farfan's men were captured in Camaguey sometime during September 1959. Hanning alleged that this abortive expedition got him interested in Nicaraguan activities in Cuba and he decided to find out more about them both for his own background and to attempt to protect his men in the Paratroop Regiment. He then initiated contact with a number of Nicaraguans, Cubans, Dominicans, etc., who had as their primary aim the overthrow of established governments either in Nicaragua or the Dominican Republic.

11. Hanning mentioned contact with Chester League, who reportedly was located at one time in Washington, D.C. and who was attempting to establish a base to train Nicaraguans in Cuba prior to invading Nicaragua; contact with (fmr) Rodriguez, a Dominican national who had been involved in the sailing of a Cuban plane which was flown to the Dominican Republic; and Dr. Francisco Friguera, a Nicaraguan exile who had been implicated in the assassination

of ex-President Somoza and who had worked closely with Farfan until a break occurred between Frixiónez and Farfan in December 1959.

12. Herring was arrested by the Cuban G-2 on or about 15 July 1960 along with Felixiánez and Harold Martínez (whom Herring described as the Number Two man in the Nicaraguan movement located in Honduras). The three men were held for about five days and then released. Frixiónez, according to Herring, now is located in Venezuela. Harold Martínez had planned to leave Cuba with Herring and to spend some time in Mexico City. Harold Martínez could not leave the country, according to Herring, because the Nicaraguan Communists in Cuba had applied pressure to the Cuban Government in order to prevent his return to Honduras and/or Nicaragua.

13. Herring also noted that Alejandro Martínez (Harold's brother) was the leader of a revolutionary column (Frente Revolucionaria San Martín) which recently was captured by elements of the Honduran Army. Alejandro Martínez reportedly is now in prison in Honduras. Herring also referred to two Americans now located in Chicago, Jack Nordeen and John Sells, who also were captured in Tegucigalpa when they turned over some wounded Nicaraguan rebels to the Honduran Army.

14. These two Americans were removed from a Honduran prison and returned to the US sometime between mid-June and 1 July 1960, under what were reported in Cuba to be mysterious circumstances. Rumors in Cuba alleged that either CIA or FBI officials were instrumental in having these two men returned to the US. Herring states that in his opinion they both merely were liberated from Honduras. He connected these two Americans with a Nicaraguan in Chicago named Guillermo Hajia who reportedly is awaiting trial in Chicago on charges of recruiting for a foreign government.

15. Herring claims to be starting by in anticipation of a journey to Honduras in connection with the movement headed by the Martínez brothers. Herring claims that the Martínez brothers are anti-Communists who would not ally with the Cubans nor the Nicaraguan Communists and to be treated as such. Herring claimed that Harold Martínez has close contacts with Cuban counter-intelligence officials who have told him that the Counter-Espionage Corps (CCE) together with the other Cuban intelligence agencies (G-2, VIFAR and DITR) are infiltrated by Communists and as enemies of the CSC. Herring reported that both the Martínez brothers and Frixiónez were very much afraid that any movement precipitated in Nicaragua would merely open the door for the Nicaraguan Communists in Cuba to move in and exploit the chaotic situation to their own benefit.

16. Herring may have decided to contact CIA because of remarks made by a Sgt. Aldo Busto and by Dr. Francisco Frixiónez. Busto, an ex-Batista soldier who was a fugitive from the Castro regime when Herring left Cuba, reportedly said that CIA helped out in Guatemala and that it would be a good thing if they could help out in Cuba. Dr. Frixiónez stated that Gaspar Lacayo had been close to right in contacting US Secretary of State Christian Herter in an attempt to elicit support for Lacayo's Nicaraguan revolutionary movement.

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17. While it is difficult to assess Henning's true motives for his past activities and possibly still more difficult to ascertain where his true loyalties lie, it does appear that he might be useful either now or in the near future. From conversations to date (three short sessions) it appears that Henning is not so closely allied with his Nicaraguan friends that he would find it impossible to concentrate his attention elsewhere. His interest in Special Forces type activity appears to transcend all other interests, and he probably would not hesitate to return to Cuba if such were

18. His rationale in discussing his connection with the NI organization movement (the Martinez brothers) ties in directly with his (my impression) general thesis of intelligence operations connected with revolutionary movements. He says he maintains that the US should utilize a number of Special Forces types who may be able to penetrate certain revolutionary movements at an early stage, attain positions of real influence within the organizations, and subsequently attempt to channel the movement's activities into areas which are most favorable, or at worst least detrimental to US interests. He also sees the inevitable fall of President Somoza in Nicaragua and, furthermore, that this fall will be brought about by the Martinez brothers. He also claims to recognize the dangers of Communist take-over inherent in the overthrow of President Somoza, and he hopes that the US will be quick to prevent such, presumably through the use of people like himself.

19. Henning maintains that he is "first and foremost" an American, and that his true loyalty remains with this country. This may well be true, but it should be noted that his reasoning appears to be based primarily on his respect for the superior ability exhibited by the US military personnel he has served with in the past. He appears to be little influenced by deep beliefs in democratic principles.

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Encl. Bio Data on Subject

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NAME: HENNINGS, Jerry Patrick Jr.

BIRTH: 1 March 1937 Los Angeles, Calif.

SEX : Male

CITIZENSHIP: US

RESIDENCES:

mid-Feb 59 to 21 Aug 60	Cuba. Served with Cuban Army, Feb - Dec 1959 Served with Cuban Air Force, Dec 1959 - June 1960 Remained in Havana until 21 Aug 1960
21 Aug 60 to 30 Aug 60	Mexico City, Exact address not known.
30 Aug 60 Present	2433 West Valley Blvd., Alhambra, California

EMPLOYMENT:

19 Apr 54 to 17 Oct 58	US Marine Corps - No. 1438247
17 Oct 58 to mid-Feb 59	Odd jobs at Los Angeles, California
mid-Feb 59 to mid-Jun 60	Served with Cuban Army and Air Force
mid-Jun 60 to 21 Aug 60	Unemployed, residing in Havana
21 Aug 60 to present	Unemployed.

EDUCATION:

El Monte Union High School El Monte, California	Left in middle of Junior year to join US Marine Corps.
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Enclosure to LA-23939 (00-A-(S))

31 March 1961

SUBJECT: Gerald P. Hemming, Jr. Moves to Miami to Engage in Anti-Castro Operations

1. Gerald Patrick Hemming, Jr. (erroneously referred to in OO-A(S)-3,170,536 as Jerry P. Henning, Jr.) informed Hendrickson of the Los Angeles Field Office that he was moving to Miami, Florida and would arrive there on Monday, 20 Mar 61. Hemming stated that he was going to contact Jimmy Gentry, 953 S.W. Penn St., Apt. 8, Miami, Florida (Telephone: FRanklin 4-3265) and that these two men were then going to proceed with a plan of action aimed at organizing a small group of "professionals" (experienced revolutionaries) who would attempt to conduct certain reconnaissance operations on the mainland of Cuba via parachute drops and either light plane or water pick-ups. Hemming also stated he wanted to do what he could in Miami to attempt to unite the anti-Castro forces there and also to lessen the influence of a number of "mercenaries" who had joined various of these movements and were doing it more harm than good while bleeding off much of the available money.

2. The available background information on Hemming was furnished in LA-23939 (OO-A(S)-3,170,536). Some additional information is included in the attached Application for Commission or Warrant Rank, US Navy or Naval Reserve, filled out by Hemming during his tour with the US Marine Corps and dated 23 Jun 58. Hemming also claims to have been unofficially checked out on numerous aircraft while serving with the Cuban Air Force during the first half of 1960 including the L-20, F-47, AT-6, Cessna 170 and Pipar Tripacar. He does not have a US commercial or private pilot license. In addition, he reportedly maintained an interest in parachuting during his recent stay in Los Angeles (September 1960-March 1961), and claimed to have jumped at least once a month with one of the local parachute and skydiving clubs.

3. The above information is passed on because it appears likely that the Agency may wish either (1) to make certain that no amateur reconnaissance operations directed at Cuba are undertaken, or (2) in one way or another to guide such activities to maximize their usefulness.

4. On the basis of several debriefing sessions with Hemming, Hendrickson is inclined to believe that Hemming is both sincere and serious in his desire to assist the US Government, provided that this can be accomplished through his continuing to act as a "soldier of fortune". It is always possible, on the other hand, that he is still loyal to the Cuban Government and at some future date will attempt to embarrass the US.

5. The information which Hemming furnished during his stay in Los Angeles was disseminated in the following reports:

OO-B-3,169,985	(Evaluated 5, 1 & 6, 3)
3,169,982	( " 3, 1 & 6, 3)
3,170,124	( " 2, 2, 2 )

4-00000  
00-B-3,170,177  
3,170,616  
3,172,187  
3,179,740  
3,179,856

00-A(S)-3,170,536  
3,170,538  
3,170,528  
3,170,614  
3,170,615

00-A-3,178,533

a review of these reports should give a better idea of whether or not Hemming might prove useful.

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Encl: Form, "Application for Commission or Warrant Rank, U.S. Navy or Naval Reserve" - Gerald Patrick Hemming, Jr.

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16.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Date: 1-30-62

File No. 3-781,031

FROM: Lt. R. L. Wilber  
Temple DB

TO: Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess  
(through channels)

SUBJECT: FOUND GUN

At 1:00 AM, 1-30-62, acting on information from the San Gabriel Police Department, who had in turn received a phone call from a man identifying himself only as Tommy, Deputies Ronald Warren and Robert Stewart, Car 54, proceeded to 7443 East Hallman Avenue, South San Gabriel, and contacted a Heslie Dodd. They received permission from Mr. Dodd to search his automobile, a 1951 Packard parked at the location, and discovered a Remington Rand 45 caliber automatic pistol, serial # 1504981, under a mattress in the back seat of the car. Mr. Dodd at the time stated he knew nothing about the automatic and that he had no idea how the pistol came to be in his car. Mr. Dodd said he knew a Tommy, with whom he had had trouble over money matters, but he could not recall Tommy's last name or address.

At 2:30 AM, 1-30-62, a Gerald P. Hemming Jr. of 3843 East Blanche St., Pasadena, entered Temple Station and informed us that the 45 automatic was his. Mr. Hemming stated the automatic was issued to him the the U. S. Government Central Intelligence Agency in Miami, Florida approximately nine months ago and that he, Mr. Hemming, has been in training for a free-lance organization regarding a Cuban invasion. Mr. Hemming stated he was a friend of Dodd's and that he had left the pistol at Dodd's Barber Shop and that it had disappeared from there.

This detail contacted Central Intelligence Agency, a Mr. DeVanon, who said he could neither confirm nor deny the issuance of this pistol to Mr. Hemming; that he would appreciate no publicity be given the incident and that he would contact Lt. Wilber of this detail tomorrow morning with further information.