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6 September 1960

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: Views of AMMAIL-3 on Current Cuban Exile Situation**

- 1. The most logical action for AMMAIL-3 and the one most urgently needed is the selection of a single chairman to replace the rule-by-committee that is now employed by AMMAIL-3.
- 2. The most obvious choice for chairman is AMMAIL-3.
- 3. Because of the bitter personal differences between AMMAIL-3 and AMMAIL-1, the selection of AMMAIL-3 as chairman could very well bring about the resignation of AMMAIL-1 from AMMAIL-3. This would not in the least weaken AMMAIL-3 and might in fact strengthen it.
- 4. The views expressed above are those of AMMAIL-3, who made a special trip to the Headquarters area on 1 September to meet Paul J. FRENCH and discuss these matters with him. The meeting lasted from 1630 until 1930 hours in a local hotel room.
- 5. As AMMAIL-3 sees it, the selection of a single chairman would automatically solve several of the current problems of AMMAIL-3. For example, it would speed the decision-making process. It would force AMMAIL-1 to work for the common good rather than his own partisan political interests. It would present the uncommitted Cuban exiles with a strong personality around whom they could rally in the traditional Latin pattern.
- 6. AMMAIL-3 paints quite an encouraging picture regarding the Miami office of AMMAIL-3, but he says the good talent assigned by the majority of AMMAIL-3 to head up the Miami office is being frustrated by the unilateral actions of AMMAIL-1, who refuses to be bowed by decisions which AMMAIL-3 took in his absence. Two good examples are the following:

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a. AMMAIL-3 notes AMMAIL-1 chose ~~BERNARD~~ <sup>actually Jerry Vandenberg</sup> ~~Verde~~ (fwa) as head of the Communications Committee. BERNARD Verde is a graduate of MIT and an instructor there. He was granted leave without pay by MIT to accept the AMMAIL-3 post. AMMAIL-3 has the highest respect for him. However, when AMMAIL-1 returned to Miami he immediately insisted on putting one of his men, CAFO (fwa), in as head of the Communications Committee. CAFO was formerly a part of the ~~same~~ organization of the 60 of July movement. He operated in Caracas. He is probably well-qualified for the job but he is completely loyal to AMMAIL-1 and was ~~not~~ the choice of AMMAIL-3 for the chairmanship.

b. Colonel ~~MATTI~~ <sup>Blum</sup> Blum is an outstanding figure and the best possible choice to head up the military committee. Although he was only invited a cautious verbal invitation to leave Cuba and join AMMAIL-3 by AMMAIL-3 at the outset, his response was immediate acceptance, to the surprise of AMMAIL-3. Since his arrival in Miami, he has impressed

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ARMAL-3 and others as a strong leader, honest, dedicated and professionally competent. Here again, however, ARMAL-3 wishes to replace MARTIN with Colonel Oscar DIAZ. A struggle for power is under way between MARTIN Escob and DIAZ, much to the detriment of ARMAL-3's military effort.

7. At the instructions of the ANCHAS members in Mexico, ARMAL-3 was to arrive in Miami on 11 August to put ARMAL-1 in his place. ARMAL-3 is hopeful that this meeting will have the desired effect. He has promised to provide a private report on the outcome to ARMAL-1.

8. Among the other five members of ANCHAS there is good faith. They do not see eye to eye in all matters, but they are willing in the interest of unity to resolve their differences in a civilized manner.

9. In reply to a query concerning Major Paul CHIRAS, ARMAL-3 gave an unfavorable description. He called CHIRAS a person of little moral fiber who has been trying, without success, to form a competing organization headed by himself, ANCHIRP-1 and ARMAL-4.

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Paul J. HANCOCK

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