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APPROVAL	DISPATCH RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT	FILE RETURN
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<p>Remarks: These are notes pulled together in hurry for Wheeler in view of his visit to Drosowin with Barnes. At last minute Wheeler was scrubbed as Mr. Bissel was to go. So now they are just ramblings of an overworked mind.</p>	
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. DATE	
WH/4/Plans/Barkley 31 Aug 61	
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31 August 1961

Comments on Cuban Revolutionary Council

We have reduced the so-called civil section budget (admin) to the latest figure of \$125,000 for September. Monthly admin costs for this organization used to run almost \$180,000, if we included their so-called military section (which was salaries primarily for military staff recruiters, rentals for offices, medical, etc.). Our dependency payments are now at \$313,700 monthly. This may increase slightly since we are resuming monthly payments to widows again after their lump sum death benefit payments run out.

To date in FY 62 (including September payments) I would say we have expended on the CRC \$1,208,775 for strictly dependency payments and \$466,000 for admin and related charges.

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31 August 1961

Re Cable IN 20364 (Kent's Meeting w/Miro on 28 August 61)

Statement: Miro's claim to have lined up fifteen organizations and independents for an enlarged CRC.

Comment: This is usual claim of all leaders from Garcia Kohly. The plain facts are that any leader who can prove official U. S. backing (policy and funds) will undoubtedly be able to line up backing since the man with the purse wins the game. WH/4/Prop points out that Conte Aguero, for example, is not working with the CRC and doesn't intend to, unless he would know the CRC is the organization.

On the question of funding the professional groups we formed (DRE, DMR, ACJ, FORD, CFC) we still feel we should do so. In some cases, it is doubtful whether they would buy CRC control of funds. To date, they have done good work under our direction and funding; whether they would do as well affiliated with the CRC is a question. In any case, WAVE says they will try to keep Miro a little more informed on the groups' activities.

On the charge that Swan is under "Batistiano" management, this is false. AMFALM-4, who was running it during the strike, is being phased out. The station may not reflect sufficient

liberal thinking at present, but this will be remedied in the immediate future. Conte Aguero will participate in future programming. We see no reason why CRC control of Swan would make it any better instrument against Castro.

Any problems on payments to returnees can and should be handled at WAVE.

We do not understand Miro's talk about a new invasion. The question of the older military types to go to "academies" has been talked about vaguely in the past (raised, I think, with Chamberlain), but we've never seen this list given to Goodwin.

The question of who contacts Miro should definitely be resolved. I gather they (higher authorities, Tracy?) don't want Chamberlain to continue, but should we get officially in contact with Miro in Miami? Mr. Goodwin should so direct if desired. However, they do have contact through their Comptroller, Paula, to our finance people.

Might raise problem of the PRD within the CRC. I understood Bissel thought this internal grouping should be broken up and the organization be a CRC. Perhaps if Goodwin made this a point it would be done.

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Incidental Points

Of course, the primary point is--should there be a CRC? We don't need it operationally and it doesn't seem to have any support internally. M. Sharpe's points on this are good. Any head Cuban group should be Cuban-formed, on a voluntary basis, not U. S. pushed.

You know, Mestre said he had \$25,000 of CRC propaganda money he didn't know what to do with. The only CRC or FRD regular prop work is weekly information bulletin that costs about \$10-12,000 monthly, distributed throughout Latin America to leading figures, a Portuguese edition for Brazil and to Cuban delegations in Latin America. Sometimes they do one-shot actions (i.e., anti-Communist book published in Mexico). They need guidance to spend what they already get.

WH/4/Finance just told me that WAVE called and said that there was \$25,000 left over from last month's admin support to the group. (I can only assume this came from Paula.) Therefore, we could have cut September payment to \$100,000. We ought to keep this in mind in next month's (if we have one) payment. *Second*  
*Thought - This may be Mestre's 2nd or 3rd pop-offing up again.*  
We have indications that the salary payments now are virtually welfare payments to political followers rather than for value received in anti-Castro efforts. Can we afford to keep these discredited leaders in pocket change?

Kent feels that Miro is the best of a poor lot; that if we have to support a Cuban exile grouping, Miro, at present is the only choice.

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