

SECRET

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL SECRET		
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	CIS staff / Liaison		
2	Attn: Mrs. Jane Roman		
3			
4			
5			
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks:			
<p>Rf: WH- <u>36</u></p> <p>Attached is a memo from our Washington office for your information.</p> <p>cc: WH/4</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. S. Sletsm, CD/DO, Support Branch			DATE 2/3/61
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FORM 88-1 APR 55 237

Replaces Form 30-4 which may be used.

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SECRET

LCE 13515

00-4-3078160

Chief, Contact Division
Attn: Support Branch

30 January 1961

Chief, Washington Office

MRP Concern Over Holding of Manoyo Refugee Group

Monument
del Pucillo
- Revolution
(People Revolution
Monument)
Left center
group

1. Jack Skelly, a sporadic source who is close to M. R. P. leadership, notified this office on 28 January 1961 that eighteen ranking Cuban defectors were being held by U. S. Immigration authorities. They had escaped by boat after having remained in the Castro Government for many months as part of the underground.

2. Their leader is Gutierrez Manoyo, a fighter in the Spanish Civil War and well known Leftist. For this reason, he and his colleagues are probably suspect. Manolo Rey negotiated with Manoyo three times in Havana in October and November 1960, while he was setting up the M. R. P. underground, and was never betrayed. The M. R. P. believes that Gutierrez and his group are sincerely anti-Castro and assisted in its escape from Cuba.

3. Skelly stated that the defection of these important people is a blow to Castro because they can become important leaders in the Escambray. They intend to go back to Cuba to fight actively.

4. If they are actually Communists, the M. R. P. believes that this can be discovered in time, but it fears that their being held by U. S. authorities may well discourage other similar defections and, more seriously, could play into Castro's hands as a propaganda device to point out what happens to people who escape to the U. S. The M. R. P. told Skelly that the U. S. should handle the matter discreetly - to make some announcement that the eighteen are being held "for their own safety" or some such, which would prevent Castro from obtaining a psychological advantage.

5. The above information was passed to Mr. Beams, the OO/C Duty Officer, on 28 January 1961.

F. J. Sheridan

W-14057

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