



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dallas, Texas
December 27, 1963

① Re: LORAN EUGENE HALL, also known
as Lorenzo Hall;
WILLIAM HOUSTON SEYMOUR

The following data supplements that contained in memorandum under this caption dated October 23, 1963:

LORAN EUGENE HALL

On July 9, 1959, Ruben Miro Guardia, Miami, advised that in April, 1959, he was detained by Cuban Police in Havana, Cuba. During his detention he met a United States citizen named Loran Hall, who was also under detention at the time. Hall, a white male, approximately 30 years of age, 5' 10" tall, black hair, said he was from the State of Kansas, and had served in the United States Armed Forces for about six years. Hall told Miro that he had arrived in Cuba in about March, 1959, and had subsequently been contacted by Camilo Cienfuegos, a Cuban Rebel Army Commander. Cienfuegos wanted Hall to train a group of men who were going to participate in an invasion of Nicaragua. Hall claimed he trained a group of men on a farm known as La Lisa, located near Havana. Hall said the food for the trainees came from the Cuban Military Staff Headquarters, on the orders of Cienfuegos.

Miro stated that Hall said he was arrested on April 8, 1959, by Cuban authorities, who alleged Hall was suspected of being an FBI Agent. On Miro's departure from Cuba on July 7, 1959, Hall was still in the custody of Cuban authorities, but Miro believed that Hall was going to be released and departed to the United States.

A source, who has been involved in Cuban revolutionary activities for the past six years and has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 10, 1963, that Hall had been in Miami for about the past three months, and associated with Gerald Patrick Hemming, an American adventurer, mercenary and soldier of fortune. Source stated Hall is disagreeable, is not liked by the other mercenaries in Miami, is of low moral character, and appears to have a criminal background.

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

CS COPY

201-258411

CONFIDENTIAL

On March 18, 1963, Luis Balbuena, 908 Southwest Fifth Street, Miami, a Cuban exile, advised that his brother, along with some Cubans and Americans, was involved in some plan to try and overthrow the Government of Haiti. Somewhat connected with this group is an American, Lorenzo Hall, also known as Lawrence Hall, a soldier of fortune, who appears irresponsible and at one time was a member of the Cuban Rebel Army.

On April 5, 1963, the Miami Office received a telephone call from a Lorenzo Hall, 142 Southwest 21st Avenue, Apartment #6, Miami, Florida. Hall said he understood the FBI, CIA and INS were trying to locate him, and he wanted to report his address.

On November 11, 1963, the source mentioned above said that Lorenzo Hall, a white male, 25 years to 26 years, 5' 7", 155 pounds, ruddy complexion, is unemployed, indicates he is from Los Angeles, California, is always on the move, is in and out of Miami, is the confidence and type, and it is not known if he is in Miami at the present time. Source advised that Hall claimed to have been in the Cuban Rebel Army, but the other mercenaries in Miami doubt this.

Source said Hall is loosely connected with Cuban revolutionary activities, which he uses as a gimmick to try and obtain money donations. In Miami, he is loosely associated with Gerald Patrick Hemming, "Mexican" Larry Howard and William Houston Seymour, all unemployed adventurers.

Source stated Hall and Howard made a trip to California several months ago in an attempt to collect money by representing themselves as representatives of an anti-Castro movement. It is doubtful they collected any sizable amount of money. Their practice is to contact local chapters of the John Birch Society, claiming they are anti-communist freedom fighters, and ask for money to carry on their work. They do obtain some money this way, and use the money for living expenses.

In October, 1963, Hall and Seymour visited Dallas, Texas, trying to collect money donations under the guise of representing anti-Castro organizations. Among the persons they contacted was Lester R. Logue, 628 Meadows Building, Dallas, a geologist. It is unknown if Logue gave them any money, but he has, in the past, made contributions to Miami mercenaries.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

On December 5, 1963, source advised Hall has not been seen around Miami for about a month, and his present whereabouts is unknown.

WILLIAM HOUSTON SEYMOUR

The above source advised that Seymour arrived in Miami about two years ago, during the time Hemming operated a training camp in the Florida Everglades for Cuban exiles. Seymour is described as being from California, a white male, about 23 years old, 5' 6" tall, 145 pounds, light brown hair, single, unemployed, and his present address in Miami is unknown. On December 4, 1962, United States Customs, Miami, arrested Seymour and 12 other American adventurers at Marathon, Florida, for violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371, for conspiring to illegally export arms, and Title 22, United States Code, Section 1934, for illegally exporting arms. On January 21, 1963, Judge David Dyer, United States District Court, Miami, dismissed the above charges.

Source advised the Cuban Revolutionary Council (CRC) is a unity group of anti-Castro organizations; Manuel Antonio de Varela, former Prime Minister of Cuba, is the head of the CRC, and Luis Botifol was formerly in charge of public relations for the CRC.

Source advised it is a rule of the CRC to not admit Americans as members; many adventurers and mercenaries visit the CRC, offering their services, but they are always refused. Source advised that Varela and Geraldo Quesada, Military Chief of the CRC, personally disliked Hall and Seymour, and will have nothing to do with them.

The following is an FBI Identification Record for William Houston Seymour:

Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
PD San Diego Calif	William Houston Seymour #162250	3-21-59	8 burg	rel 849 (b) (1) PC de- tention only not an arrest
PD National City Calif	William Houston Seymour #21362	12-3-59	intox	\$26.25 fine

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEC 10 1962

Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
SO San Diego Calif	William Houston Seymour #179311	12-3-62	drk	\$33.60 @ \$5.00
SO Key West Fla	William Houston Seymour #3216	12-4-62	viol of US Neutrality Act	rel to USM Miami Fla 12-6-62

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL