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Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI  
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90107-10395

RECORD SERIES : HQ

Released under the John F. Kennedy  
Assassination Records Collection Act of  
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW  
64578 Date: 12-14-2022

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 105-117222-255

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Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : WMFO  
TO : HQ

TITLE :

DATE : 10/26/1966  
PAGES : 3

SUBJECTS :

COMMANDOS L.  
JOHN THOMAS DUNKIN

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified  
RESTRICTIONS : 4  
CURRENT STATUS : Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/03/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS : LHM



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Washington, D. C. 20535

OCT 26 1966

MEMBER OF COMANDOS L

INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA  
REGISTRATION ACT - CUBA  
NEUTRALITY MATTERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 5-4-95 BY SP6 BJS/SP6 JPK

On October 6, 1966, Raul E. Gramatges, 3802 Abingdon Street, Arlington, Virginia, furnished the following information: *Q u*

*TONY CUESTA*  
Gramatges is working full time with the captioned organization in an administrative and organizational capacity. The organization has recently learned that Antonio Cuesta Del Valle, former Head of Comandos L, who was apprehended in Cuba around the end of May, 1966, by the Government of Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro, was severely injured in the explosion of a "PT boat" just off the coast of Cuba. Cuesta, according to sources inside Cuba, is still in very bad shape and is confined to a Naval hospital in or near Havana. According to Gramatges, these sources have reported that Cuesta refuses to talk to his Cuban captors in Spanish, and speaks only English. It is not known if this is an act of defiance on his part or an indication that his injuries have impaired his mental faculties. *Q u*

Gramatges related that Cuesta and five other members of Comandos L were engaged in performing some type of mission inside Cuba. They approached the Cuban coast off Havana and held a position very near the Hotel Comodoro at the foot of Calle 84, Havana, Cuba. Four men departed the boat, landed on the beach and proceeded to a wooded, undeveloped area adjacent to the Hotel Comodoro, which is

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ENCLOSURE

CLASS. 12-17-80  
REASON SP6 BJS/SP6 JPK  
DATE OF REVIEW 10-26-86

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COMANDOS L

located between the beach and Avenida 5. Cuesta and another Cuban remained on the boat. Two men remained in the wooded area for some unknown purpose and the other two left the wooded area near the intersection of Avenida 5 and Calle 84 on a mission within the city of Havana. ~~Q~~ U

Incidental to the above, Castro had placed Havana on the alert. Two apprentice fishermen, 15 or 16 years old, had been accepted into the Cuban militia that day and a short time before the landing of the above four Cubans they had been issued their weapons. The two boys were walking on Calle 84 in a direction that carried them away from the beach. As they approached the intersection of Calle 84 and Avenida 5 they observed the two members of Comandos L leave the wooded area and challenged them. The members of Comandos L withdrew into the woods and the boys very excitedly commenced firing their weapons into the air. This disturbance brought many Cuban soldiers into the area and the four Cubans in the wooded area were killed in the ensuing engagement. ~~Q~~ U

The boat with Cuesta and the other Cuban was located and attacked by Cuban patrol craft and airplanes. This attack resulted in the explosion which injured Cuesta. ~~Q~~ U

~~LEADER~~  
Gramatges continued that since Cuesta's capture ~~Ramon Font~~ Saumel has taken over the leadership of Comandos L. Inasmuch as Cuesta was in possession of plans for additional operations against the Cuban Government, all such plans have been changed. Comandos L still plans, under Font, to operate strictly within the laws of the United States and operate from a base outside the United States. It intends to take no action which would create international problems for the United States. All efforts will be directed at establishing a clandestine operation from within Cuba. No action is planned until after the November elections. ~~Q~~ U

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