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ALPHA 66

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May 9-22-97

ACSI-CO 6.201

Cuban Operations (U)

ACSI

DFI

16 OCT 1962

Maj Decker/Ops/Coll Div/56159/da

(S)

1. (S) The purpose of this paper is to advise the ACSI of a proposal made by a representative of the Alpha 66 organization, and to recommend courses of action in connection therewith.

2. (S) The USA Operational Survey Detachment (USAOSD) has three contacts with the Alpha 66 group:

a. Jordan James PFUNTNER, in contact with the USAOSD team in Miami. He is a US citizen and is employed as a plastics consultant. He apparently has direct contact with the highest echelons of the Alpha 66 group.

b. Two carded sources, insurance salesmen in Puerto Rico, one a US citizen, the other a Cuban exile, who are in contact with members of the Alpha 66 group. They are used primarily as spotter/recruiters, and have volunteered information on activities of Alpha 66. A recent example was prior notification of the 8 Oct raid against La Isabela de Sagua.

c. The USAOSD team is afforded no access to members of the Alpha 66 group, does not furnish requirements or finance any of the groups activities.

3. (S) Of the above-mentioned contacts only PFUNTNER is considered to have an important entree to Alpha 66. Initial contact was established with Pfuntner by the USAOSD team in Miami in September 1962. During the first three contacts, Pfuntner made the following statements:

a. That he was in contact with a group that was going to conduct raids against Cuba. The group was subsequently identified as Alpha 66.

b. That the group refused to work with CIA, but desired to work with the US military.

c. That the group desired support of the US Army in their action phase, i.e., funds, equipment, arms, etc., In return the group would provide intelligence information, would furnish captured equipment, and could land agents in Cuba. The group estimated it would require \$100,000 to complete the balance of its program, consisting of four more raids on Cuba.

d. Pfuntner refused to identify any member of the group, or to reveal any of their plans or modus operandi.

4. (S) To assess Pfuntner and his claims, and in the hope of obtaining intelligence information, USAOSD requested Pfuntner to furnish items of Soviet ordnance materiel and intelligence information on Cuba. Communication with Pfuntner on 12 Oct indicated that Soviet equipment and information would be made available to USAOSD in the

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ACSI-CO

SUBJECT: Cuban Operation (U)

near future as a result of the group's 8 Oct raid on La Isabela de Sagua. It was further indicated that important information concerning Soviet underwater demolition team (UDT) countermeasures was also obtained on this raid and that the swimmers who attempted to sink a Russian ship desired to discuss their experience with a US expert in underwater swimming. ONI has stated their interest in participating in a debriefing of these individuals on this subject, and the debriefing can be arranged to take place in Puerto Rico.

5. (S) It is believed that Alpha 66 has an excellent potential to obtain military intelligence information from Cuba as well as items of Soviet ordnance materiel; however, Alpha 66 is an action type organization engaged in combatting Communism by armed force. This places any exploitation of the group by the US military under the cognizance of General Lansdale.

6. (S) Recommendations:

a. That the ACSI authorize debriefing of the Alpha 66 swimmers in Puerto Rico by a USAOSD representative with participation of an ONI representative.

b. That the ACSI authorize DFI to brief General Lansdale on the Alpha 66 proposal to furnish intelligence information and materiel in return for financial support, to determine the extent of support, if any, that could be provided.

c. That the ACSI authorize DFI to instruct the USAOSD to work with any approved para-military operations that might evolve, to insure the maximum collection of military intelligence information.

R. D. ALBRO
Colonel, GS
Acting Director of
Foreign Intelligence

M/R: Presents to General Fitch background on proposal made to USAOSD by a representative of an anti-Castro action group that they furnish mil intel info and captured materiel resulting from their raids on Cuba in return for support of their activities by the US military.

C. F. DECKER
Major, GS
Ops Br/Col1 Div
x56159

16 Oct 62/da FILE: 6.201

COORDINATION: USAOSD - *JM Bay & G1 Inf* (concur) x79756

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RECOMMEND APPROVAL

J. W. Douch
Chief, Collection Div

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OK to
release
per ONI
11/19/95

*See ACSI memo
attached
B*