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PSI Elio Quintero (protect identity) (97-4313), 153 N.E. 44th Street, Miami, advised on 7/29/60 that he had been serving in a liaison capacity with the MRR and prospective defector pilots of Cuban airlines. His operations were directed by Dr. Manuel Artime Buesa, an ex-Lieutenant of the Cuban Revolutionary Army who now was serving as Secretary General of the MRR. Quintero was in daily telephonic contact with Salvador Aldereguia and Antonio Bascaro, two members of the Cuban Revolutionary Army who were in exile in the Dutch West Indies, and through Artime was attempting to arrange for their admission into the US. (S)(u)

97-4313-3 p.3
(6,33)

Carlos Rodriguez, a Cuban national living in NYC as of August, 1960, reportedly said that he was affiliated with the "MRR - Camilo Cienfuegos", and claimed to be in close contact with the "real MRR" in Cuba. He said that Manuel Artime was not entirely sound, but that the movement in Cuba now was well organized and beginning to show signs of progress. (CIA, 9/1/60) (S)(u)

105-91331-1 p.2
(41)

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#230 CLASSIFIED PER AGENCIES
LTC DTC 2/5/91 (S)(u)
9803 rld 100 214 326 4/30/80

[In July, 1960 there was dissension in the MRR leadership which consisted of Ricardo Lorie, Higinio "Nino" Diaz, Antonio Michel Yabor and Manuel Artime Buesa. Artime, who represented the MRR on the FRD Executive Committee, reportedly was aligned with the political group of Manuel Antonio de Varona, Aurelio Sanchez Arango and Justo Carrillo. The dissident group, Lorie, Diaz and Yabor, who were not accepted by the FRD, aligned themselves with the Liberation Alliance which was formed in Miami on 8/7/60, and claimed they were the true MRR organization. A paid political announcement in the 8/2/60 issue of the "Diario Las Americas" stated that Jose Ignacio Rasco Bermudez, a secretary of the FRD Executive Committee, certified that the only MRR duly accredited representative of that organization to the FRD was Manuel Artime. The National Board of the MRR in Cuba, backed by the FRD, reportedly approved the reorganization of the MRR and Artime's expulsion of Lorie, Diaz and Yabor. On 8/16/60, CIA, Miami (protect identity), advised that Artime and (S)(u)

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Rudolph Fernandez (protect identity), a cotton broker of Atlanta, Georgia who was closely associated with Francisco Gualberto Cajigas y Garcia Del Prado, Miami, Florida, civilian leader of the Cuban Unity of Liberation (UCL) (105-88041), furnished information to Miami Office Agents on 9/12/60. Cajigas had told Fernandez that Father Medina, Rector of Villanueva University, Havana, arrived in Miami from Havana, on 9/5/60, for the purpose of contacting Cajigas and offering him the help and resources of the Catholic Church in Cuba in his fight against Castro. Fernandez said that, according to Cajigas, Father Medina advised that the Catholic Church in Cuba was opposed to Manuel Antonio Varona of the FRD. Father Medina also disclosed to Cajigas that Manuel Artime, one of the five leaders of the FRD, had visited Medina and had confided that the FRD was divided and unhappy. U

105-88041-6 encl.p.5
(39)

Ramiro Loys (protect identity), a confidential source of information, advised on 9/6/60 that he had been told by Carlos Marquez Sterling that Antonio (Tony) Varona was coming to Washington, DC on 9/16/60, where he planned to confer with officials of the Department of State and CIA concerning the eventual unification of the various anti-Castro groups then in existence. At that time, Varona was to discuss what assistance this group might expect from the US and he also would provide the identity of various anti-Castro groups known to him. Among persons under consideration by Sterling, Varona, and others, for inclusion in this unified organization was Artime Buesa. According to Loys, Sterling had been a Cuban presidential aspirant during the election of 1958 and Varona was a former Cuban Senator now in exile in Miami, Florida. U

109-584-1916
(22)

Rolando Arcadio Masferrer Rojas (2-1622), 1900 S.W. 21st Terrace, Miami, advised on 10/6/60 that through an intermediary (not further identified) he had been in contact with Manuel Artime Buesa, military leader and member of the FRD, and had offered to join the FRD provided the FRD would manifest certain stipulations. (Date

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Fray Balbino de Ferral of the Capuchinos Convent Plaza de Jesus #2, Madrid, Spain, advised on 8/22/63 that he had been deported from Cuba in September, 1961. Fray Balbino stated that he was a member of the MRR, identified as a counterrevolutionary group which was headed by Manuel Artimes, who was one of the leaders of the 4/17/61 Bay of Pigs invasion (sic). Fray Balbino said that he acted in a sort of liaison capacity between the MRR and other counterrevolutionary groups. (S)(u)

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105-111153-15
(73)

On 1/2/62, Philadelphia SOI Enrique Menocal (protect identity) advised that the 30th of November Movement (105-92196) was founded originally by Manuel Artime (date not indicated) and was composed largely of Catholic students in Cuba. Menocal said that November 30th was the date on which Huber Matos, former military commander of Camaguey Province in Cuba, was arrested by Fidel Castro and sentenced to prison for being a traitor to the Cuban Revolution.

105-92196-28 p.3
(41)
SI 105-92196-17 encl.p.1
(41)

The MRR, an underground movement formed in Cuba in mid-1959, was composed primarily of three larger groups: (1) the ACU, under Manuel F. Artime Buesa; (2) a military group under Major Ricardo de la Lorie Valls; and (3) an air group, without planes, of 13 experienced pilots under Major Antonio Michel Yabor. The ACU was in existence prior to the Castro regime as the Cuban Catholic University (CACU) students organization. In November, 1959, under Artime's leadership, the majority of the CACU membership joined with the Rebel Army Officer group to become the MRR. In February, 1950, a coordinated movement of anti-Castro exiles outside Cuba was formed in Mexico and named the MRR. Artime and Lorie were joint heads of this newly formed group. About the middle of 1960, Artime, who was in the US, reportedly began to act without authority from the MRR Directorate, which resulted in formation of the MRR splinter group,

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Cuba since the ill-fated 4/17/61 Playa Giron invasion. [(MM 639-S)] (u)

On 12/29/62, President John F. Kennedy visited the Orange Bowl Stadium, Miami, where he reviewed the returned prisoners of Brigade 2506. He was accompanied by Jose Miro Cardona and Manuel Artime, both of whom were on the speakers' stand with President Kennedy. [(MM 639-S)] (u)

After Artime's return to the US, he used his influence with the US Government to obtain an interview with President Kennedy in Palm Beach, Florida. He was to continue as head of the MRR. Artime made a good appearance, spoke English, and had charmed US Government officials who were in charge of government policy between the US and Cuba. He was extremely ambitious and would like to be the head of the CRC and probably the future President of Cuba. (Higinio "Nino" Diaz, supra, 1/4/63). U

As a result of nationwide press, radio, and television coverage of President Kennedy's 12/29/62 activities at the Orange Bowl, which coverage prominently mentioned Artime's name, Artime now was better known and his position in the anti-Fidel Castro movement was greatly increased. Generally among Cuban exiles Artime was considered young, immature, and highly ambitious, and many felt that he would be the victim of his own publicity. [(MM 639-S, 1/5/63)] (u)

97-4133-57 p.1,3-5
(29)

The 1/6/63 issue of the "Miami Herald" carried an article entitled "Rift Develops in Invasion Brigade; 100 Boycotted JFK Here." This related to boycott by Cuban Brigade 2506 (105-117331) prisoners of President Kennedy's 12/29/62 appearance at the Orange Bowl to welcome the returned prisoners. The article stated that Enrique Llaca, Jr., recently released from Castro's prisons, singled out Manuel Artime and Dr. Jose Miro Cardona, head of the CRC, for criticism, declaring they were using the Brigade for their personal benefits. Both Artime and Miro Cardona denied this. The Brigade, under the leadership of Artime and a joint chiefs of staff, had set up headquarters in Miami. U

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The 1/6/63 issue of the "Miami News", in an article entitled "Brigade 2506 Meets Monday to Map Plans", set out the names of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Brigade and quoted Artime as stating: "We have fought only one battle and we are certain the final battle is very near."

On 1/9/63, [MM 492-S] advised that 24 hours after being received by President Kennedy at the Orange Bowl, the group headed by Enrique Llaca Orbiz appeared on Channel 10 Television, Miami. During their appearance they stated that they were opposed to the CRC and to Manuel Artime, chief of the Brigade.

105-117331-1 encl.p.2,3,6,9
(50)

[In May, 1961 Fidel Castro offered to exchange a number of Cuban prisoners taken during the 4/17/61 invasion attempt, for US tractors and spare parts for same. Eliminated from the proposed tractor exchange deal were the three leaders of the invasion - Manuel Artime, Jose San Roman and Rafael Bolivar Fuentes. The Cuban Government proposed the exchange of Artime for Francisco "The Hook" Molina, a pro-Castro Cuban who had been convicted of second-degree murder in NYC. However, this proposed exchange failed to materialize and in late March - early April 1962, in Havana, Cuba, the prisoners were tried before a 5-man military tribunal and convicted. The verdict involved heavy ransoms with the ransom for Artime set at \$500,000. Subsequently, the US carried out negotiations for release of the prisoners and on 12/23-24/62 they all were airlifted to Miami. Artime, the civil representative of the CRC, reportedly had emerged as a focal figure in the exile community. At a press conference on 12/25/62, he emphasized that all the returned prisoners regarded themselves as the "troops of the Revolutionary Council." Artime declined to discuss the military aspects of the abortive invasion. He said that he and the other ransomed prisoners were determined to return to Cuba. As of 1/21/63, INS, Miami, was beginning to process the prisoners. CIA, Miami, had contact with Brigade 2506 leaders Artime, Jose Perez San Roman and Eneido Oliva as sources of information to keep abreast of Brigade 2506 moods and desires, and not as "controlled agents"]

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ltr dtd 2/5/93 (U)
9803 rdd/gcl #261,326
4/30/92. See 1st and 3rd
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2nd set brackets
(U) per INS LTR
4/6/92
9803 rdd/gcl
211,326 4/6/93

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REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

105-99200-A Washington Capital News Service, (46)✓
12/24/62
-A Washington Capital News Service, (46)✓
12/26/62
-A "The Miami Herald", (46)✓
12/26/62
("All-Out Effort Would Topple
Castro -- Arttime"; also,
"Not a Turncoat Among Them.")
(Photograph of Arttime appeared
in both articles).

105-107224-A Washington Capital News Service, (48)✓
12/25/62

WF 1414-S (u)
[reported that a meeting of anti-Castro exiles
scheduled for 8:30 P.M., 1/27/63, at St. Patrick's Academy, 924 G
Street, N.W., Washington, DC, was to be addressed by Commandante
Manuel Arttime, Cuban exile military figure who participated in the
ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in April, 1961. Arttime,
temporarily, was in Washington with associates, including Commandante
Jose Perez San Roman, who likewise figured in the Bay of Pigs inva-
sion. u

109-584-3405
(60)✓

Washington Capital News Service released, datelined Miami,
2/6/63, reported that the Cuban Brigade, which participated in the
abortive Bay of Pigs invasion, was preparing militarily to try again
to liberate Cuba, according to a statement made that day in Miami,
by Manuel Arttime, Brigade leader. Arttime told UPI he was speaking as
an individual and not as Secretary General of the MRR, or the
Brigade. He called on Cubans to "unify for action" and on all free

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publicize the movement on 4/11/63. He appeared to have the backing of Manuel Arttime, who had been seen with Rivero quite frequently during the past week (place not indicated), and possibly that of Jose Miro Cardona, president of the CRC. Arttime dealt with Miro through Carlos Pelaez Cossio, a former senator under Gomez and Batista (sic) and a personal confidant of both Miro and Arttime (S)(u)

This reference indicated that foregoing information was acquired on 4/10/63 in the US (place not given) (S)(u)

105-117331-7 p.2
(51)

Agency info at top and
P. classified per its
7/5/91 ltr J.R. (u)
9803 add/sec 21,326
4/30/92

Miami Office report dated 4/30/63, set out information indicating that during January, 1963, some MRR (97-4133) functionaries participated in unity discussions with other Cuban revolutionary organizations. The MRR problem was complicated by the recent return to the US from imprisonment in Cuba, of Manuel Arttime Buesa, MRR leader who had participated in the April, 1961 invasion attempt. In late January, 1963, Jose Miro Cardona, head of the CRC, tried to overthrow the MRR leadership of Arttime. On 2/22/63, at a meeting held by the Enrique Oviedo Leon faction of the MRR (place not indicated), Arttime was expelled and Oviedo was named MRR Secretary General. A document (quoted) entitled "Removal and Expulsion of Dr. Manuel Arttime Buesa" was made available by [MM 492-S.1] On 4/23/63, [S](u) Manuel Villamanan (protect identity), Cuban exile in Miami, said that Arttime still was undisputed head of the MRR; that about 75% of Brigade 2506 was sympathetic with the MRR; that Erneido Oliva of Brigade 2506 was very close to Arttime and in agreement with Arttime on both the military and political aspects of the fight against communism in Cuba; and that the MRR was not making clandestine trips to Cuba at that time. (Details set out). u

97-4133-60 p.1-3,5-8
(4,30)

The following references relate to an alleged aerial strike over Habana, Cuba, during the night of 4/25/63, in which action [Alexander Irwin Rorke, Jr. (97-4623)] reportedly was involved. [Frank Fiorini,] (S)(u)

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against Arttime and considered him a demagogue. U

109-584-3822 p.1-6

(17,62)

SI 105-97873-18 encl.p.5

(Felipe Vidal Santiago,

12/17/63).

(44)

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It was reported on 1/22/64 that no further conversations between former Nicaraguan President Luis Somoza and former Cuban President Carlos Prío Socarras were known to have taken place concerning "Operacion Centroamericana"*. This project continued to be at a standstill and activities of Manuel Arttime, MRR leader, apparently were not connected with it, although no open break with Prío had been made. Arttime was slowly strengthening and training a group of exiles in Nicaragua. The MRP (105-92704) claimed that Arttime was receiving aid from the Nicaraguan Government and from the US. (S)(u)

The Alliance of MRP - Alpha 66 - SFNE would consider joining forces with Arttime when his organization had developed sufficient strength to make an attack on Cuba feasible. X (S)(u)

(CIA, 3/9/64)

105-92704-92

(42)

[*See CIA report, dated 11/1/63, appearing elsewhere in this summary. (105-123568-8) U (S)(u)]

PSI Margot Pena (protect identity), a Cuban exile, advised on 1/24/64 that supporters of Manuel Antonio de Varona, head of the CRC (105-107224), and of Jose Miro Cardona, would oppose Manuel Arttime, head of the MRR, should Arttime return to Cuba as head of an anti-Castro force. Pena explained that Varona and Miro accused Arttime of having betrayed them while he was in the training camp in Guatemala. (S)(u)

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~~SECRET~~-53-

Miami report dated 3/19/64, set out activities of Manuel Artime Buesa as head of the MRR. This included Artime's travels between the US and Nicaragua and Costa Rica; his recruiting activities in behalf of his anti-Castro training program and including a number of Cuban exiles recruited out of the US Army for service with his group; the alleged grand style of living of Artime and his followers; and his operation of training camps in Nicaragua where he reportedly had more than five million dollars worth of military equipment. It was alleged that Artime was being officially sponsored and subsidized and that he made a living out of the revolution. In early 1964, when the Pro-Referendum Committee was polling the Cuban exiles for a Cuban referendum election to be held in May, Artime was reported to be against this referendum. Reference also set out information reported on 2/12/64 that Adelaida Padron Cruz, 881 N.E. 71st Street, Miami, continued to be Artime's mistress and that this residence was used by him for secret meetings.

109-584-3884 p.1,7-10,13,18
(17,62)

Bernardo G. De Torres (105-124552), a Cuban exile, 1440 S.W. 4th Street, Miami, advised on 4/3/64 that he was one of the ransomed prisoners of the April, 1961 Cuban invasion and had returned to the US on 12/24/62. He stated that the support of the US to the Cuban invasion and its support to the movement of Cuban exile leader Manuel Artime in Central America, were two events which precluded prosecution of Cuban exiles for violation of neutrality. DeTorres said it was general information among Cuban exiles in Miami that Artime and members of his organization, the MRR, were receiving US assistance in some manner in connection with the establishment of training camps in Central America.

105-124552-3 encl.p.9
(52)

Bureau memo dated 4/9/64, advised that on 4/8/64, [Henry Hecksher] of CIA (62-80750) furnished information on a strictly confidential basis, requesting that this information not be disseminated outside the Bureau. This pertained to the involvement in anti-Castro

[Last P. cont on pg 59, is classified
per agency 7/5/91 (U) (X)
9803 add/gel #21,326 4/30/92

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As of 3/10/64, the MRR (97-4133) in the San Francisco, Calif. area, was conducting a recruitment program for a group to start military training within the next 2 months at an unknown location under the leadership of Manuel Artime. (Carolina Salazar - protect identity - MRR official and PSI under development) (S)(u)

As of 4/20/64, the Northern California MRR membership had conducted a similar program. No further move was to be made until word was received from Artime, following which recruits probably would proceed to Miami for further instructions. It was the general feeling in MRR that the US Government was supporting Artime. (Jose Valdez - protect identity - MRR delegate). U

97-4133-103 encl.p.1,2
(31)

The Newark Office, on 4/16/64, reported that SOI Jose Manuel Macias (protect identity) advised on 4/1/64 that a couple of days previously, several members of Cuban Brigade 2506 who had visited Washington, DC and Miami, Florida, returned to the New York area. While in Miami they tried to see Manuel Artime but he was in Central America. Instead, they saw Antonio Iglesia Pons, who was in charge of military affairs for Artime. Artime did not have control of military activities but served as a figurehead and the go-between with the US Government. U

On 4/15/64, Macias stated that several members of the Brigade again would go to Miami on 4/20/64, and from there to Central America to the training camps set up by Artime. Artime was reported to have two bases in Central America, one in Nicaragua and the other in Costa Rica. U

109-584-3912
(62)

In connection with foregoing, Bureau memo dated 4/24/64, set out CIA's appraisal of this and other information furnished by the Newark Office and disseminated to CIA. According to CIA on 4/23/64, (u) (S)

(continued)

[Last p is classified per
agency ltr dtd 7/5/81 (cont.)
on pg 62.] (S)(u)
9803 rdd/gcl #211,328
4/30/92

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-61-

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Antonio Iglesia Pons was in charge of the Nicaraguan operations base as a camp commander, but was not in charge of military affairs for Arttime (S)(u)

This memo also set out information on CIA's relationship with Arttime (S)(u)

109-584-3911
(62)

TP 52-S advised that Rodrigo Calderon of Miami, Florida, a former high ranking officer in Cuba under former dictator Fulgencio Batista, came to Tampa on 4/25/64 and met secretly with other Batista followers. This group met for the purpose of formulating plans of their own in the event Fidel Castro was overthrown in the near future by anti-Castro forces that were not followers of Batista. It was felt that this group feared Manuel Arttime and desired to formulate plans to be able to re-enter Cuba because it was common knowledge that some Batista supporters would be regarded as undesirables in Cuba when Castro was thrown out. It was believed that this meeting was held at the home of a woman doctor by the name of Dr. Miranda. Others present were Dr. Jose Mijares and a Dr. Santos, who worked for Hillsborough County in Tampa. (S)(u)

109-584-3914
(62)

In 1960, CIA initiated a program known under the code name "CLIP" (105-89923), the over-all objective of which was the establishment of an organization among Cuban exiles capable of replacing the Castro government. In May, 1960, CIA furnished the names of Cubans making up the nucleus of the organization which would move against Castro and which would publicly announce its existence under the name of Frente Revolucionario Democratico (FRD - Revolutionary Democratic Front) (105-87912). On 6/22/60, a manifesto was published in Mexico City, Mexico, announcing the formation of the FRD. Directors of this organization who signed the manifesto and were in Mexico City (S)(u)

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inclass if red per agency 7/5/91 (tr) (S)(u)
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4/30/92
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-62-

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Manuel Arttime Buesa was in Nicaragua the week of 5/4/64 where he met with Teodoro Picado, Costa Rican pilot who returned to San Jose in April, 1964 after having been jailed in Cuba for seven months. (CIA) (S)(u) Classified per agency 7/5/91 (tr.) (u)

9803/24/64 109-584-3943
#211/326 (17,62)
430/42

Press reports indicated that on 5/13/64, the MRR issued a communique advising of the capture of the Port of Pilon in Cuba and demolition of a sugar mill. Manuel Arttime participated. The communique was signed by Manuel Arttime Buesa, Secretary General, and Rafael Quintero, Military Coordinator of the MRR. The raid on the sugar refinery at Central Pilon, Oriente Province, was reported also by CSNY 2822-S and verified by Frank McCarthy, UPI, and Julio Lubo, former owner of Central Pilon. The following references on Arttime relate to this activity: U

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

97-4133-99 (Setting out press release as furnished by Dr. Cesar Baro Esteva, Vice-Secretary General, MRR)

(19,66)

-102* (PSI Alfredo Borges, protect identity, and duplicate informant)

-A "The NY Times"

5/14/64 p.1

("Cuban Exiles Say They Seized Port").

-A Washington Capital News Service
5/13/64

] (u) (5,31)
(6,33)

(33)

105-114543-126

(50)

*Add. info.

~~SECRET~~

~~(u) SECRET~~

On 5/11/64, MM 960-S advised that Manuel Arttime Buesa continued as head of the MRR which maintained headquarters at 2212 N.E. 2nd Court, Miami.

Santiago Alvarez Rodriguez, Miami, former Comandos L action group leader, advised on 5/12/64, that as soon as repairs were completed on his boat, the "Silvia", he and about 10 others would leave on the boat for Central America to join Arttime.

On 5/12/64, INS, Miami (protect identity) advised that Arttime would leave Miami on 5/12 or 13/64 for Costa Rica, his Central American headquarters, and then go to Nicaragua where he reportedly had military training camps. Arttime was expected to return to the US in about a week. ~~Classified by 60322 JAL/MLL/CLM~~

Add. info.

109-584-3976 p.8,9 .
~~(17,63)~~
 SI as par. 2
 105-117222-182 encl.p.3,4
 (add. info.)
~~(12,50)~~

Alberto Oms Barreto, a former member of Brigade 2506 which participated in the April, 1961 invasion of Cuba, advised on 4/2/64, that he had made a trip to Washington, DC and Miami, Florida in mid-March, 1964, and had talked to representatives of Brigade 2506. Oms stated that leaders of Brigade 2506 in the Miami area were not contemplating doing anything at the present time in a military way to overthrow Fidel Castro. Most of them were not in sympathy with Manuel Artime Buesa who formerly was the civilian head of Brigade 2506. Oms stated that some former members of Brigade 2506 had gone with Artime and Artime was reported to have military camps in Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Artime currently was the head of the MRR and was reported to be preparing for raids and guerrilla activity in Cuba in the immediate future.)

On 5/13/64, CSNY 2822-S advised that his niece (not further identified) recently had a letter from Joaquin Godoy of the MRP. Godoy

(continued)

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-68-

(continued 109-584-3949)

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

article entitled "Cuban Forays Indicate 2 Units Plan Strikes", from the 5/16/64 issue of the "Washington Evening Star")

~~SECRET~~

109-584-A Press Release for 5/22/64
column of Fulton Lewis, Jr.
for King Features Syndicate, Inc.

(65)

"The Washington Post and Times Herald", 5/30/64, p.B-7, in an article entitled "Cuba's Oil Refineries 'Off Limits'" in Jack Anderson's "Washington Merry-Go-Round" column, reported that these orders regarding the refineries were issued to Cuban Commandos by CIA. An aide to Cuban exile leader Manuel Artime had explained to this column: "We don't want to damage foreign property." A year before, Artime had complained to this column that CIA had cut the allowance for his freedom fighters down to a token \$1000 a month. He hadn't complained recently.

97-4133-A, "The Washington Post
and Times Herald"
5/30/64

(33)

CIA (protect identity) advised on 5/14/64 that the MRR was not a CIA operation. CIA at the direction of "Special Group" had been furnishing support to the MRR and its leader, Manuel Artime, and had been maintaining liaison with him on a regular basis. CIA disclaimed control over the MRR and Artime. (S) (u)

On 6/17/64, [Gordon (Rock) Rothwell] (protect identity), (S) Covert CIA Representative, Miami, Florida identified Angel Alfredo Fontanills Y Miguel (105-129278) as being connected with Manuel Artime and the MRR. (S) (u)

105-129278-3 p.1,2;encl.p.3

(54)

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[Last 2 P's classified per
agency ltr. dtd 7/5/91] (S) (u)
9803 add/gcl #241,326
4/30/92

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Information from Mesa, developed through [his interpreter, James A. Kraker] (protect identity) of Crystal, Minnesota, indicated that as of December, 1963, the MRR was reported to be sending a 5-man team into Cuba once a month for the purpose of assassination, with Fidel and Raul Castro and Che Guevara as the principal targets. Communications between Cuba and the US allegedly were through clandestine short wave radio. Mesa returned to Minneapolis on 1/5/64, from a visit to Miami where he failed to see Artime who was in Puerto Rico. Mesa advised [Kraker] that Artime probably would spend more time in Venezuela in 1964. According to [Kraker], the MRR in the Twin Cities area was disbanded in July, 1964, upon orders of Manuel Artime.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

97-4133-77
-82
-83
-84 encl.p.2
-92 encl.p.1,2
-134

(4,30)
(31,72)
(5,31)
(72)
(31)
(32)

Cuban exiles were saying that the US was providing a steady flow of aid to the MRR which was led by Manuel Artime Buesa. Some exiles claimed that the MRR attack on Puerto Pilon in May, 1964, was launched from the Dominican Republic. There was no evidence that Artime was receiving support from the Venezuelan Government. His failure to establish personal contact with the Venezuelan Administration during his 5/22-27/64 visit to Caracas, had provoked criticism in government circles. Some disillusionment with the MRR was said to be caused by Artime's failure to establish himself as the undisputed leader of the militant exile forces. (CIA, 7/16/64) (S)(U)

109-584-4034
(17,63)

VENEZUELA

During an interview on 10/22/64, John Ermil Freeman (105-109596), 2728 S.W. 24th Avenue, Coconut Grove, Miami, intimated

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placing himself in absolute control without heeding the ideological postulates of the movement; and his failure to live up to the standards he had set up for the organization. (S) (u)

The "Miami News", Miami, Florida, 7/5/64, reported that on the previous day, Arttime ordered all his men to report to South American training camps immediately. u

On 7/9/64, M.H. Redmon (protect identity), INS Investigator, Miami, advised that the MRR had closed its Miami headquarters and moved to Central America, but had established a secret underground office somewhere in Miami. On 8/4/64, Redmon stated that numerous MRR members went to Central America to join Arttime during July, 1964 and that the MRR claimed it would move all of its records and equipment out of Miami by chartered airplane to Arttime's headquarters in Central America. The MRR had a large ship that operated between Central America and New Orleans, Louisiana. The ship, name unknown, was operated by a cover company using letterhead stationery containing the following: "Maritima Bom, S.A., Coconut Grove Bank Building, Suite 309, Miami, Florida, Phone # 444-5781-82." This company also claimed to have Post Office boxes in Panama and Nicaragua. Sixto Mesa was listed as President (S) (u) ~~Per INS letter dtd 4/6/92, 98031nd/gcl 211,326 1/6/93~~

On 7/28/64, Carlos Zarraga Martinez (protect identity), PSI under development, advised that the rank and file MRR members continued to severely criticize Arttime for maintaining his mistress, Adelaida Padron Cruz. She reportedly had great influence over Arttime and some of his decisions concerning the MRR's operations had been influenced by her and objected to by the general membership (S) (u)

On 8/18/64, Miguel Dotres, 8418 N.W. 24th Avenue, Miami, advised that in late March or early April, 1964, Aldo Vera Serafin, head of an anti-Castro organization (not further identified), conferred with Arttime and brought his organization into Arttime's organization. Dotres furnished information indicating that Arttime was against Baro's proposal that the MRR be headed by a 7-man board; also that the Cuban exile community doubted that Arttime was a factor which eventually would figure in the overthrow of the present Cuban Government. u

97-4133-115 encl.p.1-8
(5,327)

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In early October, 1964, the Alliance of the MRP - SFNE (105-112098) - Alpha 66 Cuban exile group was planning to initiate armed action in Cuba and its paramilitary organization had been moved from the US (place not indicated) to prepare for infiltration of Cuba. Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, military leader of the Alliance, had issued strict instructions that there should be no collaboration at any level with the MRR or the JURE during the process of infiltration. Gutierrez had no faith in the ability or willingness of Manuel Arttime or Manuel Ray to adhere to a joint infiltration program. Once in Cuba, however, limited tactical collaboration would be encouraged. (S)(u)

A delegation of the MRR, headed by Arttime, was expected to arrive in Caracas in early October to seek support from the Venezuelan Government. (S)(u)

[CIA, 12/3/64] (S)(u)
105-112098-540
(49)

[P 5.2 and brackets
classified per agency
ltr. dtd 7/5/91] (S)(u)
9803, add/gcl #211,326
4/30/92.

On 10/24/64, Firmin Joseph, representative of a group of Haitian exiles dedicated to the overthrow of Dictator Francois Duvalier, said that the schedule for an invasion of Haiti would be forthcoming after the US elections. Joseph said that a house in northwest Miami, which currently was being used to billet some of his men, was visited recently by a Cuban whom Joseph believed was from Manuel Arttime Buesa's group, the MRR. (CIA) (S)(u)

2-1622-273 p.2
(1,25)

(u) Carlos Zarraga Martinez (protect identity), Key Source - Cuba, 2954 S.W. 16th Terrace, Miami, Florida, who was attempting to form a unity group, advised on 12/1/64 that the political activities of this group would be to offset the "right wing conservatism" of Manuel Arttime Buesa. A

As of mid-December, 1964, Arttime continued to head the MRR. Some exiles felt that recent scandals (not further identified)

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in Costa Rica involving Arttime had discredited the anti-Castro movement, which might result in the withdrawal of support of Cuban exiles by the American people and the US Government. (No source given).

Add. info.

109-584-4114 p.3,4,8
(18,63)

Robert Dennis Arrington (105-96912) of Los Angeles, a US citizen, who had entered Nicaragua on 12/8/64, was arrested by Nicaraguan officials on 12/17/64 for alleged possession of illegal arms and plotting the overthrow of the Nicaraguan Government. He had come to the attention of Nicaraguan authorities when he tried to make contact in Managua with anti-Castro Cubans in an attempt to interest them in buying the arms he was carrying. In Managua, at the Gran Hotel (date not indicated) Arrington met an unnamed Cuban who promised to take him to see Manuel Arttime who was expected momentarily; however, this Cuban never came back to see Arrington.

Foregoing information on Arttime is covered in the following references:

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

97-4948-7 p.12

(34)

105-81431-12 p.12

(37)

105-96912-9 p.9

(44)

On [12/1/64, MM 639-S] ^(u) advised that the MRR (97-4133) continued to be headed by Manuel Arttime Buesa, a Cuban exile doctor who traveled continuously in the US, Central America and the Caribbean.

On 12/10/64, MM 639-S advised that different Cuban exile leaders continued to claim that Arttime and the MRR were making a living ^(u)

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off the Cuban revolutionary activities; were engaged in smuggling instead of anticommunist warfare; and were misappropriating funds designed for commando and infiltration activity against the present government of Cuba. MM 639-S continued that it was claimed that Arttime's men returned from Central America very disenchanted, or with large sums of money earned through illegal activity. ~~(S)~~(u)

According to reports from the Costa Rican newspaper "La Nacion", there was a training camp in Costa Rica, and in November 1964, Customs Authorities found Cubans smuggling large shipments of whiskey from Panama into Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Santiago Alvarez Rodriguez (protect identity), Miami, a Cuban exile and leading figure in the MRR, advised on 12/17/64, that after the November scandals concerning the alleged smuggling activities of the MRR, Arttime reportedly visited with Costa Rican President Francisco J. Orlich (place not indicated). The MRR claimed that Orlich signed a declaration exonerating the MRR from all allegations concerning that organization's activities and smuggling. u

97-4133-123 encl.p.1,2,4
(5,32)

According to reported comments of Fulgencio Batista y Zaldivar (62-70441) as of mid-January 1965, he had not been in contact with Manuel Arttime Buesa. (CIA). ~~(S)~~(u) [per agency 7/5/64 ltr. 138 (u)]

62-70441-270 p.2
(2,26)

At the request of the Department of State the Bureau conducted an investigation of an attack on the Spanish vessel "Sierra Aranzazu" (2-1877) on 9/13/64, off the eastern tip of Cuba. It was alleged that this attack was carried out by representatives of a group receiving US backing, known as the MRR and headed by Manuel Arttime. The Secret Organization of Continental Action (OSAC) initially claimed responsibility for the attack. Newspaper accounts indicated that Arttime denied responsibility for the raid and in a statement from Panama suggested the Castro government was responsible in an attempt to discredit the MRR. On 10/5/64, Rolando Masferrer Rojas, 42-46

TP 3 on this pg. AND 1st BRACKET
IN pg. 82 IS UNCLASSIFIED PER STATE
DEPT. 15 LETTER DTD 5-20-97

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On 2/23/65, the New York Office advised that on 1/8/65 and 1/26/65, NY 4533-S furnished information that the Soviet Intelligence Service in the US wanted to obtain any information available on the organizations: (1) Alfa 66; (2) Movimiento Revolucionario Popular; (3) Movimiento Renosadoz Revolucionario; and (4) Representacion Cubana En El Exilio. New York advised that the Movimiento Renosadoz Revolucionario might be identical with the Movimiento Recuperacion Revolucionario (MRR) headed by Manuel Artime Buesa. (S)(u)

105-137715-2 encl.p.1
(14,55)

PSI Gerardo Soler, Tampa, Florida, advised that on 3/6/65, Pedro Jose Leal Flores (105-141019) and some of his friends went to Miami to try to see the military commander of RECE*, whose name was believed to be Oliva, and also to try to see Manuel Artime, leader of the MRR. The reason for this trip was not known, but Soler said he believed that Leal wanted to associate the Porfirio Ramirez Brigado Comando #1 with one of the larger anti-Castro organizations. (S)(u)

This reference stated that Leal was leader of the anti-Castro organization known as the Porfirio Ramirez Brigado Comando #1, a group of young Cubans who had received Army training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and who met weekly in Tampa at 1515-10th Avenue. (S)(u)

[105-141019-1]
(55)

*Representation of Cubans in Exile

[On 3/1/65, MM 639-S advised that Cuban exiles were discouraged and frustrated with the failures of exile leaders like Manuel Artime Buesa, who had been ineffective and would have to discontinue military operations in the near future. (S)(u)

As of mid-March, 1965, Manuel Artime Buesa continued as head of the MRR and traveled extensively in the US, Latin America, and Europe. He was criticized severely by other anti-Castro leaders, (S)(u)

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On 5/20/65, Nilo Messer, 27 N.W. 47th Street, Miami, advised that he had been Manuel Artime Buesa's secretary and as such traveled thousands of miles with Artime in the US, South America and Europe. He said that he was planning to leave this secretarial position and had obtained another job. U

On 7/23/65, PSI Angel Yerga (protect identity), a Cuban exile who traveled frequently in Central America, advised that Artime continued as head of the MRR (97-4133). About two weeks previously both Yerga and Artime were in Nicaragua. However, the MRR then had no offices or operations in that country. Yerga heard from Cuban exiles in Nicaragua that the MRR reportedly had two unidentified airplanes available to them in Panama. However, there was no indication that the MRR planned any raids against Cuba either by using these planes or an operation by sea. (S)(u)

General Luis Somoza in Nicaragua told Yerga that Artime's operations there had been eliminated almost completely because of the US Government's attitude toward the MRR. (S)(u)

On 7/23/65, CIA, Miami (protect identity) advised that organization no longer had an operational interest in the MRR or its leader, Manuel Artime Buesa. (S)(u) *per agency 7/5/65 ltr. JX* (u)

(u) 97-4133-143 p.1;encl.p.1,2

(6,32)

SI as par.1

97-4133-139

(32)

SI as par. 1 and 2

109-584-4272 p.1,6,7

(18,64)

On 7/23/65, PSI Angel Yerga advised that the MRR (97-4133) continued to receive money from CIA and that Manuel Artime Buesa was reorganizing the MRR. (S)(u)

Add. info. U

97-4133-141

(69,77)

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On 7/29/65, WF [1683]S advised that Concepcion Maria Fernandez Planas* (105-98201) had been married for a couple of months to a Cuban exile named Alfredo Cepero, a lawyer who was believed to be employed in Virginia. During the first days of the Castro regime, she had dated Jose Machado Ventura, who served as Castro's Minister of Public Health in Cuba. At one time (date not indicated) Fernandez also dated Manuel Artime of the famed Brigade 2506 which had invaded Cuba during April of 1961. WF [1683]S was aware that Artime had [S] traveled to Washington, DC for the sole purpose of visiting Fernandez at her residence (address not given). WF [1683]S stated that Cepero [S] was extremely jealous and he was almost certain that Fernandez had not revealed her past association with Machado and Artime to Cepero (S)

105-98201-13 encl.p.2

(45)

*Cuban National employed at the Pan American Union, Washington, DC.
(see 105-98201-8). (S)(M)(A)(u)

Documents furnished by OACSI-Army included a G-2 USARSOUTHCOM report advising that an unnamed source who was Chief of the Presidential Guard, Republic of Panama (RP), indicated on 8/16/65, that source had been visited in his home, on both the preceding Friday and Saturday, by Cuban revolutionary Manuel Artimes. Source said that Artimes was a friend of General Somoza, Chief Director of the Nicaraguan National Guard; and of source's sister-in-law, Mrs. Yolanda de Corrales; also, that Artimes knew source's brother-in-law, Lt. Gumberto Corrales, Assistant to General Somoza. Artimes, who had been unable to contact President Robles, asked source to confidentially inform the President that a conspiracy was being planned for the purpose of assassinating the Presidents of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and the RP. Files of the 470th INTC Group, Fort Amador, Canal Zone, revealed background data on Manuel F. Artimes Buesa, born 1/29/32, Camaguey Province, Cuba. His father was shown as Manuel Artimes F. and his mother as Otilia B. de Artimes. It was suspected that Artimes wanted to meet President Robles to obtain from him a letter of introduction, for unknown reasons, to Jack Vaughan, former US Ambassador to RP and present US Assistant Secretary of State.

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ARMY INFO (LAST ID) UNCLASSIFIED
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SEE 190-16449-288

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operating from Paul's Barber Shop, Palms Plaza, 16772 South Dixie Highway, Perrine, Florida. This involved barbers Lestegas and Pablo Emilio Moncada Luna, subject of Bureau file # 105-136705, who were alleged to have mentioned tentative plans to assassinate Arttime, Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo and Pedro Diaz Lanz. (See 105-136704-1). U

~~SECRET~~

Luis Posada (protect identity), former member of JURE (105-114543), 750 N.W. 15th Street, Miami, advised on 9/23/65 that general opinion of the Cuban exiles strongly indicated that both Manuel Ray of JURE and Manuel Arttime, MRR leader, no longer were regarded as important figures in the anti-Castro movement. U

105-114543-261 p.10
(50)

PSI Cira Olga Montano Lezcano (134-14424) was interviewed on 11/12/65, at Opa-locka Processing Center, Opa-locka, Florida. Montano indicated that she came to Miami from New York in about mid-1962. It was in Miami that she met her second husband, Ernesto Martinez Dominguez, where they both were active in the anti-Castro group of Manuel Arttime Buesa who was a personal friend of hers. At the meetings of this group, she gave first aid classes for a period of two weeks in 1963. In October, 1965, Montano and her husband made a trip to Cuba in an effort to bring relatives out of Cuba. While there, she was approached by the Cuban Government to engage in intelligence activities in the US on behalf of Cubans. Included with information she was expected to report was any information concerning Arttime and his activities. In Cuba, she was introduced to a man named "Orlando" whom she recognized as a man who was in Miami during 1962 and 1963, working with Arttime's group. She and her husband departed Cuba for Miami on 11/8/65. Montano said her husband had told her the Cuban Government might have had reason to believe he was a CIA agent, because at one time he had worked for Arttime. (C) (S) (per agency 7/5/91, ltr) (U)

(U) (S) (C) (S) (per agency 7/5/91, ltr) (U)
134-14424-1 p.3,5,6
(18,65)

~~SECRET~~

CIA communication dated 6/15/66, furnished a letter dated 3/18/66, from Gilberto Navarro R, a resident of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Central America, to Manuel Artime, Director of the Cuban Revolutionary Front in Exile, Miami, Florida. This letter advised Artime to get in contact with the CIA to deport from Los Angeles, Calif. 3 sisters, Nora, Oneyda and Marina Amaya Cabrera, and to order the American Consul in San Pedro Sula to cancel the visa of another sister, Lila Amaya Cabrera V de Lopez, who planned to transfer her residency to Los Angeles. Navarro said these sisters were first cousins of the dangerous international communist, Eliceo Mejia Cabrera o Roveló (105-129943) who was located in Havana, Cuba. (S) (u) [per agency 7/5/91 ltr] (u)

(Copy of letter and of translation from Spanish attached)

105-129943-3

(14,54)

(c) NY [4640]S advised that on 3/28/66 he learned from the wife of Carlos Teperino that he had been put in charge by Manuel Artime of the contact and interview with Rolando Cubelas* in Paris. This woman stated that she saw Felipe Llaudy in company with Pepin Naranjo (reputed to be a great Fidelista) together with Cubelas in Paris (sic). (No further details). (S) (u)

This reference identified Felipe Llaudy as an official of the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations and a known intelligence agent. (S) (u)

109-12-210-5421 encl.p.2

(56)

*In early March, 1966, Rolando Cubela Secades was on trial in Cuba, charged with plotting to assassinate Fidel Castro. (See 109-12-210-5407). u

On 6/22/66, Felipe Rivero Diaz, head of the Cuban Nationalist Association, charged that if the US Government had its way, it would install propagandists Conte Aguero and Dr. Manuel Artime as the next rulers of Cuba. (Source not clear). u

109-584-4409 p.11

(64)

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~~DESTROY~~ I 109-584-4075

~~DESTROY~~ I -4114 p.3

~~DESTROY~~ I -4179 p.4

~~DESTROY~~ SI -4272 p.6 97-4133-143 part 2
(6)(32)

~~DESTROY~~ I -4290 p.8

~~DESTROY~~ I 109-652-4

~~DESTROY~~ I 134-14424-1 p.3

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109-584-A MIAMI NEWS 8/7/63

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-A MIAMI HERALD 9/8/63

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-A Press Release - J. Edgar Hoover Jr. column
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134-14424-1 P. 3

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