

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Liaison Section
Mr. S. B. Donahoe
1 - Mr. Dise

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 05-18-2011

100-428091

Date: May 17, 1960
To: Director of Naval Intelligence
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - CUBA
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

The following information was recently obtained from sources which have provided reliable data in the past.

According to a functionary of the Communist Party (CP) of Cuba, that country expects to be attacked by United States "imperialists." According to this functionary, the Cubans have this feeling because of the build-up of military power in the Caribbean area and at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. The Cubans know when the forces arrived at the naval base and the strength of the forces.

The Cuban CP functionary stated Cuba is prepared for any attack and has over 100,000 armed militiamen, an Association of Young Rebels in constant training and a special corps of Juvenile Patrols in training. In addition, Cuba has an organized women's corps, an organized ambulance corps of thousands of nurses and an organized medical corps.

The CP spokesman stated that "our people" on the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base provided schedules of departures of helicopters in a recent incident where the helicopters from the base were allegedly supplying a band of 15 "common criminals led by Captain Beaton" in Oriente Province. According to the Cuban CP functionary, the Cuban Government feels it can depend on the overwhelming mass of people who work at the naval base the only exception being a few intelligence agents.

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SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO

PWD:mar
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Director of Naval Intelligence

NOTE ON YELLOW:

The above information obtained by CG 5824-S on May 9, 1960, at a meeting with Anibal Escalante, executive secretary of the Communist Party - Cuba (New York airtel 5-12-60 captioned "Solo, IS - C").

Classified ~~confidential~~ since information from a confidential source of continuing value whose disclosure could result in adversely affecting our security coverage.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

8

~~TOP SECRET~~

- Mr. Parsons
- Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Liaison Section
- 1 - Mr. Fox

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
 FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
 DATE 05-18-2011

3/16/2011
 ML

Jim

May 17, 1960

BY LIAISON

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
 Director
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Administration Building
 2430 D Street, N. W.
 Washington 25, D. C.

*TO A. Dulles
 5/18/60
 DCB*

Dear Allen:

Solo

I thought that you would be interested in the information contained in the enclosed memorandum. This information was obtained as a result of our over-all coverage of the Communist Party, USA, and pertains to statements made by Anibal Escalante, executive secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, concerning the Cuban situation.

In view of the extremely sensitive nature of certain of the sources of this information, it is requested that the contents of this communication be afforded the most careful security and its use restricted to a need-to-know basis.

This information is being disseminated to appropriate officials of the Government.

Sincerely,

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- McGuire _____
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- Ingram _____
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Enclosure
 100-428091-11
 NOTE ON YELLOW:
 REC-33

100-428091-778

See memorandum Baumgardner to Belmont dated 5/29/60.
 Captioned: SOLO; Internal Security - C. FFF:11c

FFF:11c
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~~TOP SECRET~~

Mr. Allen W. Dulles

NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED

This letter and its enclosure are classified "~~Top Secret~~" since the information was obtained from a highly placed source, and unauthorized disclosure of the information would tend to disclose the identity of the source, with resultant grave damage to the national defense.

- 2 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Liaison Section
- 1 - Mr. Fox

5668 SLO/GCC
 2/5/98
 OFFICE

May 17, 1960 (u)

~~D. Garrow~~
 1678 REA
 3/24/66
 NIE-86-244

BY LIAISON

~~3/19/60~~
~~2/26/60~~
~~3/24/66~~

Honorable Gordon Gray
 Special Assistant to the President
 Executive Office Building
 Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Gray:

I thought that the President and you would be interested in the information contained in the enclosed memorandum. This information was obtained as a result of our over-all coverage of the Communist Party, USA and pertains to statements made by Anibal Escalante, executive secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, concerning the Cuban situation. (u)

In view of the extremely sensitive nature of certain of the sources of this information, it is requested that the contents of this communication be afforded the most careful security and its use restricted to a need-to-know basis. (u)

This information is being disseminated to appropriate officials of the Government. (u)

BY COURIER SVC.
 9 4 MAY 1 3
 COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,
 J. Edgar Hoover

- Tolson
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- Belmont
- Callahan
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Enclosure
 100-428091-10 (u)
 NOTE ON YELLOW:

See memorandum Baumgardner to Belmont dated 5/19/60, captioned "SOLO: Internal Security - C." FFF:11c
 NOTE CONTINUED, PG TWO
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Honorable Gordon Gray

NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED.

This letter and its enclosure are classified "~~Top Secret~~" since the information was obtained from a highly placed source, and unauthorized disclosure of the information would tend to disclose the identity of the source, with resultant grave damage to the national defense.

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DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 05-18-2011



~~TOP SECRET~~
3/16/2011



Parsons
Belmont
Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Fox
1 - Liaison Section

May 17, 1960

BY LIAISON

Honorable Christian A. Horter
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Horter:

I thought that you would be interested in the information contained in the enclosed memorandum. This information was obtained as a result of our over-all coverage of the Communist Party, USA, and pertains to statements made by Anibal Escalante, executive secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, concerning the Cuban situation.

In view of the extremely sensitive nature of certain of the sources of this information, it is requested that the contents of this communication be afforded the most careful security and its use restricted to a need-to-know basis.

This information is being disseminated to appropriate officials of the Government.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

PER: LIAISON
BY: COURIER-SVC.
9 4 MAY 1 8
COMM-FBI

Enclosure

100-428091

NOTE ON YELLOW:

See memorandum Baumgardner to Belmont dated 5/17/60, captioned "SOLO: Internal Security - C." FFF:11c

NOTE ON YELLOW CONTINUED, PG TWO

MAY 20 1960

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REC-17

100-428091-7

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Honorable Christian A. Herter

NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED.

This letter and its enclosure are classified "~~Top Secret~~" since the information was obtained from a highly placed source, and unauthorized disclosure of the information would tend to disclose the identity of the source, with resultant grave damage to the national defense.

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Liaison Section
- 1 - Mr. Fox

May 17, 1960

BY LIAISON

Miss
 Executive Secretary to the Vice President
 Room T-6, The Capitol
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Rose Mary:

I am enclosing a letter, with enclosure,
 which I think the Vice President might want to see.

Sincerely,

b6
b7c

Enclosures (2)

100-428091

NOTE ON YELLOW:

See memorandum Baumgardner to Belmont dated 5/17/60
 captioned "SOLO: Internal Security - C." FFF:11c

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*Delivered via
 Liaison to Mr. P. Callahan
 in absence of Mr. Nixon
 and Mr. [unclear]*

REC-59

100-428091-781

MAY 19 1960

[Handwritten signature]

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DECLASSIFIED BY: S668 SLD/GCL
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May 17, 1960 (u)

STATEMENTS MADE BY ANIBAL ESCALANTE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA
CONCERNING THE CUBAN SITUATION

Sources which have furnished reliable information in the past advised that Anibal Escalante, executive secretary of the Communist Party (CP) of Cuba, made the following statements in Havana, Cuba, during the month of May, 1960. (u)

Because Cuba expects to be attacked by United States imperialism it has established trade relationships with many of the socialist countries in order to defend itself economically and nationally. Cuba, because of the planned aggression by United States imperialism, has speeded up its mutual recognition and resumption of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Only through these means can Cuba defend its revolution, Escalante said. (u)

Although most Cubans believe that the United States will make a direct attack on Cuba, others feel, depending on world opinion at the time, that the United States will attack through the use of forces of other Latin-American countries. Still others believe that the United States will use diplomatic and economic means; use a "Fifth Column"; or wait for a civil war to develop. Escalante believes that a direct attack is imminent because at least two divisions of troops, with much air power, are now mobilized for use against Cuba. The United States is concentrating a number of military forces in the Caribbean area and has landed infantry, paratroops, tanks and anti-tank weapons at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. (u)

According to Escalante, at least 50,000 troops will be needed to invade Cuba. The United States will not be able to raise an army among the Cuban people nor will it be able to secure recruits from Colombia, Venezuela, Panama and perhaps Guatemala. To counteract the threat of an attack by the United States, Cuba has over 100,000 armed militia-men, an Association of Young Rebels in constant training and a special (u)

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corps of Juvenile Patrols in training. In addition, Cuba has an organized women's corps, an organized ambulance corps of thousands of nurses and an organized medical corps. Except for a few intelligence agents, the Cuban Government can depend on the overwhelming mass of the people who work at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. Escalante said, "We are practically at war with United States imperialism." (S)(u)

A social revolution is developing under the influence of the workers and peasants alliance, Escalante commented. Under the National Institute for Agrarian Reform, the state is not only taking over agriculture, it has taken over some textile mills, metal shops, manganese mines, cement works, ships, docks, transportation systems, railroads, factories, buildings and estates. Foreign trade is controlled and supervised by a national bank and the country is going to refine its own oil - ships have already brought crude oil into Cuba from the Soviet Union. (S)(u)

There are three main political parties in Cuba with mass support: (1) The Party of the Communists; (2) The 26th of July Movement; and (3) The Revolutionary Directorate - the party of the left petty bourgeoisie. All three parties support the present government and Fidel Castro, described as a national hero who unites all of the people. "All the people are in back of us," Escalante said, although there are some political counter-revolutionary groups operating which have little influence. Havana is not a good example of the revolutionary and militant feeling among the people, Escalante pointed out. In Havana there are many who are parasitic idlers - those who have made their living from the tourists. This picture is not applicable to the rest of the country. (S)(u)

Although Escalante talked about the growing strength and influence of the Cuban CP everywhere in Cuba, he did not mention the number of CP members in the Cuban Party. He did say that the government was considering a requirement for Americans to have passports when entering Cuba if the United States continues to demand passports from Cubans. (S)(u)

The National Institute for the Tourist Industry will make a special appeal to students in the United States for them to attend summer colonies where they can study or participate in seminars in engineering, agriculture, art, social sciences and medicine. Students will pay \$70 a month and will be able to combine their studies with a vacation. (S)(u)

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During May Day there were trade-union delegations in Cuba from all over the world, including Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, the Soviet Union, Red China, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Yugoslavia. The World Federation of Trade Unions was also represented by a delegation. A resolution was adopted at this conference to the effect that if American trade-unions boycott Cuban shipping, similar boycotts against United States shipping would be organized on a world-wide scale. (S)(u)

On May 7 and 8, 1960, a Cuban Youth Congress was held and the entire youth movement in Cuba, including the communist youth, will be united. Any counter-revolutionary youth movement will be broken up and any youth who speak against the communists or the government will be "beaten up," Escalante said. (S)(u)

According to Escalante, Blas Roca is general secretary of the Cuban CP. In his absence, Escalante is head of the CP in Cuba. On August 16, 1960, the Congress of the CP of Cuba is scheduled to convene for a period of a week. Most of the Latin-American CP's and the CP, USA, will send representatives to the Congress. Concerning the CP of Mexico, Escalante said that he does not trust the Mexican Party because he believes it has been penetrated by United States agents. The Cuban CP supports the group around Arnaldo Martinez Verdugo as recommended by the CP of the Soviet Union and the CP of China. Infrequent contact is had by the Cuban CP with the CP of Mexico. (S)(u)

The Cuban CP has irregular contacts with the CP of Puerto Rico because of passport restrictions. It furnishes little financial support because of the need for American currency by the CP of Cuba. (S)(u)

Escalante admitted that Cubans are learning to do without a few luxuries which have to be imported. As a result of "sabotage by United States imperialism and by the owners of large estates," unemployment increased last year but it is now being reduced. (S)(u)

- 3 -

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- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Liaison Section
- 1 - Mr. Fox

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
 FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
 DATE 05-18-2011

May 17, 1960 X (U)

BY LIAISON

Honorable Richard M. Nixon
 The Vice President
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dick:

I thought that you would be interested in the information contained in the enclosed memorandum. This information was obtained as a result of our over-all coverage of the Communist Party, USA, and pertains to statements made by Anibal Escalante, executive secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, concerning the Cuban situation. X (U)

In view of the extremely sensitive nature of certain of the sources of this information, it is requested that the contents of this communication be afforded the most careful security and its use restricted to a need-to-know basis.

This information is being disseminated to appropriate officials of the Government.

Sincerely,

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100-428091 X (U)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

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NOTE ON YELLOW CONTINUED, PG TWO

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 100-428091-782
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