

RE ALLEGED ANTI-CASTRO
TRAINING CAMP IN THE NEW ORLEANS AREA

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CD 9/84b

NO 105-1095

On July 30, 1963, NO/T-1, who is in a position to learn of some of the activities by anti-CASTRO and pro-CASTRO Cubans in the New Orleans area, advised that on late Wednesday night, July 24, 1963, the Border Patrol at New Orleans advised the Catholic Refugee Center that ten Cuban refugees had arrived in New Orleans from Miami. They were traveling in two automobiles and the cars had broken down on the Chef Menteur Highway. The Refugee Center arranged for them to stay at the Monterey Motel on the Chef Menteur Highway in New Orleans.

NO T-1 furnished the following additional information:

T-1 stated that on July 25, 1963, RUDOLPH DAVIS, who allegedly resides in the Parkchester Apartments in New Orleans and is believed to be of Cuban nationality, remarked at the motel that "This is all a mistake." DAVIS remarked that these individuals were going to work for him at a camp and that they were going to a training camp in Guatemala following this. T-1 stated that the training camp must be within two hours drive of New Orleans since DAVIS goes to the reported site and returns the same day. According to unverified information obtained by T-1 from remarks made by DAVIS and RAUL DIAZ, an employee of the Refugee Center who resides in the St. Thomas Housing Project in New Orleans, there are reported to be eighteen men at this training site under the guidance of VICTOR PANEQUE and that with the additional ten men, it would mean there are twenty-eight men at the site. T-1 further related that from the conversation heard, it appeared that possibly some of the individuals were going to Guatemala on Tuesday, August 6, 1963, means unknown. T-1 related there was no other information available to the source at this time regarding the location of the alleged training camp.

On July 30, 1963, Mr. JAMES A. YORK, Chief Patrol Inspector, U. S. Border Patrol, New Orleans, advised that at 10:55 p.m. on July 24, 1963, they received a call from the New Orleans Police Department for assistance. Two cars containing ten Cuban refugees from Miami had broken down

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The upper two lines are all of p.19. It is the same FBI that did the raiding that says "alleged" before training camp. But this report does not mention the raid, either! This, too, is one way of investigating a Presidential assassination. Can it be imagined the FBI would forget so much were the camp of the political left?

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on the Chef Menteur Highway and the police needed the assistance of an interpreter. Such an interpreter was furnished and it was learned that these Cubans were penniless and that they were on their way to New Orleans to look for work. At the request of the Cuban Refugee Center, they were referred to the Monterey Motel and they had no further contact with them and did not obtain their names.

On August 14, 1963, contact was made with RAUL DIAZ, telephone number 529-3200, in the absence of Mrs. ELISE CERNIGLIA, who has been out of town on vacation for several weeks. RAUL DIAZ, who is an assistant of Mrs. CERNIGLIA, advised he has been ill for several weeks but was able to furnish the following information regarding some 11 Cubans who had come to New Orleans during the last days of July, 1963, ostensibly as a layover enroute to a training camp located in the general vicinity of New Orleans.

RAUL DIAZ advised he had been instructed either on July 28 or 29, 1963, to go out to the Motel Monterey on Highway 90 East, where there were some 10 or 11 Cubans allegedly registered. RAUL DIAZ related that he went out to the Motel Monterey as instructed and found some 11 Cubans, as well as one RICHARD DAVIS of the Parkchester Apartments in New Orleans, who was also present.

DIAZ learned that RICHARD DAVIS was attempting to get the Catholic Cuban Refugee Center, headed by Mrs. CERNIGLIA, to pay the cost of the motel bill and to furnish these Cubans with additional funds. DIAZ claims he told DAVIS that none of these Cubans would be qualified to receive Governmental assistance through the Catholic Cuban Refugee Center, as they were not registered as being located in this area.

According to DIAZ, these 11 Cubans were headed by a man named VICTOR PANEQUE, all of whom were from Miami. He understood from conversation that they had come to New Orleans for the purpose of going to a training camp in the vicinity of New Orleans to get military training.

DIAZ stated it was his further understanding that these people were to be given funds by RICHARD DAVIS, who allegedly has a summer home across the lake from New Orleans, but apparently DAVIS had used the money for some other purpose.

This, the preceding and the following pages bear indications that something was eliminated from the bottom by the placing of a piece of paper to hide what was underneath. A line suggestive of this appears on each page. Numbers are written in rather than typed. On the first page of the following report the number "24" was on a small piece of paper which was then fastened in place, hiding some of the printing of the form. There are numerous other similar instances of apparent editing of the data supplied the Commission. I know of no question asked by it or its staff.

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Inasmuch as DIAZ fell sick on the next day and was bedridden for approximately two weeks, he had no additional information. He advised that when Mrs. CERNIGLIA returned from her vacation, she would likely have some additional information.

On August 14, 1963, NO T-2 advised that T-2 had understood that a group of Cubans had come to New Orleans from Miami about two weeks ago for the purpose of being trained at a camp located on the other side of the lake from New Orleans. It is his understanding that these Cubans expected to have a complete training area, as well as equipment, but that when they arrived, they learned that their quarters were a summer cottage owned by RICHARD DAVIS of New Orleans, and that the only equipment was broomsticks to be used in training in place of weapons. T-2 also understood that DAVIS allegedly had funds for these people which he had derived from some unknown source, but when the Cubans arrived in New Orleans, DAVIS had no funds to give them.

NO T-2 explained two Cubans of this group, in particular one who was allegedly from Puerto Rico, were looking for DAVIS to harm him because he had apparently deceived them. For this reason DAVIS' whereabouts during the presence of these Cubans was unknown.

It was T-2's further understanding that these 11 Cubans joined about 9 others who were already at the summer house, and that the entire 20 had returned to Miami disappointed.

On September 12, 1963, Mrs. ELISE CERNIGLIA, head of the Catholic Cuban Center in New Orleans, who had been out of town for the previous several weeks on vacation, advised on or about July 24, 1963 she had received a telephone call to the effect that some 10 Cubans had arrived in New Orleans from Miami. She explained that these 10 Cubans had been stopped by the New Orleans Police. She stated the police turned the Cubans over to the Border Patrol and when they learned they were Cuban refugees, she was contacted at the Catholic Cuban Center in New Orleans.

Mrs. CERNIGLIA stated she learned that these men had come to New Orleans allegedly through efforts of

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This report is like the FBI playing Gilbert and Sullivan with the skill and subtlety of a kindergarten of retarded children. There was nothing about this camp or its members the FBI didn't know by the time this report was written. The reader is referred to the text for a full discussion.

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RICHARD DAVIS, JR. She stated she had contacted DAVIS and he said that they were his men and that he had a company in Guatemala who was going to hire them. She stated that DAVIS requested financial assistance in their lodging since they were Cuban refugees. Mrs. CERNIGLIA stated she reluctantly found them lodging at the Monterey Motel on the Chef Menteur Highway in New Orleans and paid for the lodging there. She stated these men were not registered individually but had registered under the account of the Catholic Cuban Center in New Orleans.

Mrs. CERNIGLIA stated the only other pertinent information she had was that DAVIS allegedly had some type of business firm in the Pere Marquette Building in New Orleans which allegedly was to hire these people. She remarked that it was her understanding that all of these Cubans returned to Florida on the following Sunday after their arrival in New Orleans.

She had no information concerning the camp where they were to train outside of New Orleans but understood it was owned by someone in the same firm in which DAVIS was a member.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 2, 1963

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 RUDOLPH RICHARD DAVIS, JR., 1570 Westbrook Street (Parkchester Apartments), New Orleans, voluntarily furnished the following information:

He advised he was born September 9, 1934 at Manhattan, New York, but had resided in Cuba between the ages of 2 and 26. He stated he had returned to the United States on January 12, 1961 from Cuba via Miami, after which he resided in New York City until August, 1961. Since the latter date he has been residing in New Orleans. He claims he is presently a Cuban alien with Alien Registration #A-12-280-713, however he has a special litigation current to re-establish his United States citizenship by birth.

He explained that he had become friendly with a university professor by the name of JOSE IGNACIO ROSCO some time ago in Cuba and added that ROSCO had been a professor at the University of Havana. In 1959 ROSCO formed a movement against CASTRO. In 1959 DAVIS told ROSCO that he would like to become a member of his movement in Cuba but about a week later ROSCO and his organization "went underground."

DAVIS mentioned that he left Cuba in January, 1961 and went immediately to New York City, where he had become acquainted with friends of his active in the Christian Democratic Movement (CDM) (Movimiento Democrática Cristiano) (MDC). He related he acted as a coordinator between this group and the New York Police Department. He stated he is definitely anti-CASTRO.

According to DAVIS, he came to New Orleans in August, 1961. He then related that sometime early in 1963 he had made friends with persons in the lumber business in Guatemala and had formed with them the Guatemalan Lumber and Mineral Corporation. This is a Louisiana corporation that has a contract with the Guatemalan Government to take mahogany out of Guatemala.

Having need of some men to work in Guatemala in cutting lumber for this firm, he had contacted LAUREANO BATISTA, who happens to be connected with MDC in Miami, to see if LAUREANO had some men he might send him for work in

On 10/1/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 105-1095
 by SAs WARREN C. deBRUEYS and DONALD C. STEINMEYER /lyc Date dictated 10/2/63

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 the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency.

This report is as unreal as the preceding one. It is an effort by the FBI to preserve Davis' "cover" for him.