

Cuban Exiles Recall Domestic Spying and

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MIAMI, Jan. 3—Cuban exiles, paid and directed by agents of the Central Intelligence Agency, engaged over a 10-year period in a series of activities that, while related to foreign affairs, had clearly a domestic character, according to Cuban participants in these actions.

In Miami and elsewhere in the United States, a large group of exiles paid by the C.I.A. were said to have watched over and compiled secret files on other Cubans and on Americans who associated with persons under surveillance.

Other refugees, while being paid by C.I.A. agents, picketed foreign consulates in New York and Miami, and waged a boycott of products manufactured by countries that traded with the government of Premier Fidel Castro, the Cuban informants said. These activities reportedly took place roughly from 1960 to 1970.

Such operations reportedly directed by the intelligence agency were reportedly carried out with the knowledge and consent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation under an inter-agency agreement worked out in the wake of the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961. They were conducted in an effort to deal with a special circumstance and apparently were unrelated to the kind of domestic C.I.A. op-

erations against dissidents that have recently come to light.

A spokesman for the F.B.I. said the agency would have no comment on the allegations. A spokesman for the C.I.A. said the agency would not comment at this time on any reports concerning its alleged activities.

Disillusionment at End

The informants said that by 1972 central intelligence operatives severed their last connections with the Cubans, disillusioned by their protégés, some of whom they suspected of being engaged in international drug trafficking.

In the late 1960's, at the height of vigilance operations reportedly supported by the agency in south Florida and several key American cities—among them New York, San Juan, and Los Angeles—about 150 informants were said to be on the payroll of a special Cuban "counterintelligence" office here.

The office, originally in Miami, changed its headquarters several times and was based in Coral Gables, Fort Lauderdale and Pompano Beach.

Cuban informants, who reportedly began their work by conducting intelligence debriefing of refugees arriving in Miami and later switched to watching other refugees living here, were said to have operated surreptitiously. Exiles who

picketed foreign consulates and organized boycotts of foreign products did so openly.

Newsletters of several exile organizations, whose members say were supported by the C.I.A., printed during 1964 pictures of pickets in front of consulates of Britain, Mexico and Spain in Miami and New York.

A mysterious exile, who died here a year ago at the age of 61, was in charge of the Cuban counterintelligence office. His former associates say the exile, José Joaquín Sanguis Perdomo, was following orders of his C.I.A. "case officer," whose code name they said was Felix.

Assist With Police

In 1964 alone Cuban refugees, who said they were told by their C.I.A. contacts what to do and even what to say on their signs, picketed the British consulate in Miami, protesting the sale of 400 English buses to Cuba; started a boycott of Shell gasoline and Scotch whisky and later a boycott of all British, French and Spanish products; picketed the French consulates in Miami protesting the sale of French locomotives and trucks to Cuba; picketed the Mexican consulate in Miami, picketed for five consecutive days the British consulate in Miami and later the home of the British consul in Coral Gables, entering his private

garden; picketed the Mexican consulate in New York; and picketed a Japanese ship in the Port of Miami, attempting to prevent the unloading of her cargo.

"There was never a problem," one participant said. "We were detained once or twice, but each time someone would call the Miami police and we would be immediately released with no charges. This even happened when we got into the garden of the British consul who called the police."

The reported domestic operation of Mr. Sanguis was an outgrowth of his still mysterious "Operation 40," an adjunct to the Bay of Pigs invasion. Created in 1960, Operation 40 was described by Cubans as a C.I.A. devised plan to set up a paramilitary intelligence agency in Cuba after the expected overthrow of the Castro Government by Bay of Pigs invasion.

Bay of Pigs Budget Cited

Following the defeat of the Bay of Pigs brigade in April 1961, Mr. Sanguis, his former friends say, expanded his activities here with "full backing of the C.I.A."

"It began like a counterintelligence operation," said one Cuban with close ties to other paramilitary agencies and who in 1962 was asked but did not join the Sanguis group. "But it soon became domestic snoop-

Picketing for C. I. A.

ing plain and simple. As far as I know they haven't discovered a single Castro spy here, but they sure made many detailed reports, including gossip, about personal lives of all prominent Cubans, if anything usurping the functions of the F.B.I."

Other sources said that, with the exception of the chiefs of the Sangenis operation, salaries of informants were low, ranging from \$100 to \$350 a month.

These sources estimated that by the mid-1960's, when the operation was in full swing, it had a budget of about \$2-million a year, not counting logistics support, which included private aircraft in which top members of the group were traveling in the United States and between south Florida and several American countries.

"It was like a small secret army," one Cuban recalled, "and some of its members were making personal threats and demanding personal favors."

The winding down of the operation began in the late 1980's as a result, according to some exiles, of an accidental crash in southern California of a small plane piloted by one of Mr. Sangenis's men. In the wreck, the police reported by found several kilos of cocaine and heroin.

Soon afterward, another Cuban who was part of the group,

and who was accused by the Federal authorities of being a large cocaine smuggler, was killed in a gun battle with the Miami police.

By 1970, the Sangenis operation was reportedly reduced to a few men who kept updating the existing files. Mr. Sangenis remained in good graces with the C.I.A. until his retirement in 1972 when, his friends say he was awarded a secret merit medal by the agency.

While many Cubans here believe that with the closing of the Sangenis office the files on the persons under surveillance were sent to Washington several informants assert that a copy of the files was made and is still in this area and that it is being used for blackmail purposes.

Boy, 3, Caught in Drug Raid

OMAHA, Jan. 3 (UPI)—The parents of a 3-year-old boy who knows how to roll a marijuana cigarette will be charged with child neglect. A Douglas County deputy attorney, Steven Renteria, said that the boy has been in a temporary foster home since he was found at the scene of a drug raid Dec. 3. The child asked one of the raiding officers if he smoked "pot" and also used other drug-related terms, he said.