

Cuban Exiles Recall Domestic Spying and Picketing for C. I. A.

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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 producers' manufactures 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 operations severed their last connections with the Cubans, disillusioned by their protests, 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—Miami, San Juan, 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, debt, and anti and later switched to watching other refugees living in Miami and later the home of a 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. Saenger was an outgrowth of his still active role in the Bay of Pigs invasion. Created in 1960, Operation 40 was described by Cuban as a CIA-designed plan to set up a permanent intelligence agency in Cuba after the expected overthrow of the Castro Government by Bay of Pigs invasion.

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."

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

These sources estimated that by the mid-1970's, when the operation was in full swing, it had a budget of about \$2-million a year, not counting logs in support, which included private aircraft in which top members of the group were traveling to 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 1960's as a result, according to some exiles, of an accidental crash in southern California of a small plane piloted by one of Mr. Saenger's men. In the home since he was found at a temporary foster home, the child neglected. A Douglas County deputy attorney, Steven Retreña, said that the boy has been in a temporary foster home since he was found at a temporary foster home. The child asked one of the trading officers if he smoked "pot" and also used other drug-related terms, he said.

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 Saenger's operation was reportedly reduced to a few men who kept updated the existing files. Mr. Saenger 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 Saenger's 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 Retreña, said that the boy has been in a temporary foster home since he was found at a temporary foster home. The child asked one of the trading officers if he smoked "pot" and also used other drug-related terms, he said.

Following the defeat of the 1961, Mr. Saenger's former operation began in the late 1960's as a result, according to some exiles, of an accidental crash in southern California of a small plane piloted by one of Mr. Saenger's men. In the home since he was found at a temporary foster home, the child neglected. A Douglas County deputy attorney, Steven Retreña, said that the boy has been in a temporary foster home since he was found at a temporary foster home. The child asked one of the trading officers if he smoked "pot" and also used other drug-related terms, he said.