

WXPPost Senate Testimony Accuses Castro

By Jack Anderson
and Les Whitten

Despite the balmy Caribbean breezes blowing between Cuba and the United States, secret Senate testimony warns that Fidel Castro is still trying to spread his revolution to U.S. territory.

The veteran investigator Alfonso Tarabochia, testifying behind closed doors of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, charged that the Cuban leader is collaborating with the Soviet KGB to undermine democracy in Puerto Rico.

"More than 200 Puerto Rican activists have visited Cuba," Tarabochia reported. "Many were trained in terrorism.... This number does not include the 60 or 70 Puerto Ricans who traveled to Cuba with the Venceremos Brigade."

This brigade has been portrayed as fresh-faced young Americans eager merely to help Cubans chop sugar cane. But Tarabochia testified that the Venceremos Brigade "is controlled by the KGB through the Cuban

Intelligence Directorate." The DGI, as the directorate is better known, reported directly to Castro.

Selected members of the brigade, according to Tarabochia, are hip deep in Puerto Rican revolution. His tale of intrigue and subversion, incidentally, has been confirmed to us by U.S. intelligence sources.

"Detente and the lifting of the blockade of Cuba" may be the tune Castro is whistling, said Tarabochia, but below "the surface... there are no indications that the Cubans have renounced their policy of subversion."

Castro's main front for Puerto Rican revolution, said Tarabochia, is the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. One of its leaders was caught with a cache of bombs sunk in a "five-foot-deep hold covered by a concrete slab located under a cabinet" in Puerto Rico. Exotic acids and detonation devices were found with the bombs.

In the United States, the revolutionaries have enlisted Puerto Ricans in New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia, Albuquerque, Boston,

Bridgeport and several other cities. Although Castro's siren song of peace began early this year, one key Puerto Rican revolutionary front was founded as late as March.

Tarabochia, using elaborate charts, traced the Puerto Rican and Cuban activists to such citadels of terrorist training as North Korea.

He found a trail of 16 bombings traceable to Puerto Rican revolutionaries in Newark, New York and Chicago. The bombers, using timers ranging from cheap Timexes to 17-jewel watches, hit police stations, an Exxon building, Union Carbide and a bank.

Directing the terror campaign for Castro and the KGB, according to the secret testimony, is Manuel Pineiro Lozada, former "dirty tricks" chief of the Cuban intelligence service.

To legitimize the campaign for revolution, Pineiro Lozada has tried to bring in liberal leaders and has even lured some American Indian activists. So far, however, Tarabochia reports that the Puerto Rican people are firm in their desire to remain with

the United States.

Polite Investigators — Out of pure politeness, the Senate intelligence committee was compelled to investigate a spy mission it had no intention of investigating.

Theodore Grevers, a Grand Rapids, Mich., detective, wrote the committee about a Navy plane that crashed into the Baltic Sea with an eight-man crew on April 8, 1950.

In behalf of a relative of a crew member, Grevers asked the committee to investigate reports that the crewmen, later found to be on a spy mission, were alive in the U.S.S.R.

The detective received a routine reply, thanking him for the information and stating an inquiry would be made. The letter was intended as a polite brush-off.

But the elated detective took it literally and announced that the committee was investigating the whereabouts of the missing men. The embarrassed committee, therefore, felt compelled to conduct an investigation. It produced no evidence that the men are alive.

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