

SECRET

Wm. J. Pawley 201
Room 1014

16 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of [] and Fabio FREYRE

1. At the request of Chief, WHD, Mr. [] (known as Thompson) met Mr. Freyre at the Mayflower Hotel at 2215 hours on 15 December.

2. Mr. Freyre reported on the progress of his Accion Democratica Cristiana organization. He has just been visited by Doctor Tomsu (a woman lawyer) who leads his group in Camaguey. She is in Miami and is returning to Cuba on December 18. She reported to him that there were 1500 men well organized in Camaguey Province. Five hundred of these were to be assigned to the city of Camaguey as a result of the speech by Commandante Bajo in which he said that if trouble arose the recognition sign for the 26 of July members was to be a blue handkerchief and that all others on the streets should be cut down. The other 1000 men should establish a beachhead in Nuevitas on the north coast of Camaguey which would be ideal because the port can handle the largest ships and the stevedores at the port are reported antagonistic to the present government. Doctor Tomsu reported that there were an additional 3000 men available in Camaguey who could be useful to the movement right away.

3. Doctor Tomsu reported that Cayo Romano (off the north coast of Camaguey Province) is being organized as a submarine rendezvous and as a missile base, and no one is allowed to go there. There is a great depth of water on its north coast.

4. It is thought that Castro is going to set a trap and provoke an uprising by falsifying a beachhead, since he knows that something serious is being organized around General Pedraza. For that reason extreme caution is necessary on the part of Freyre's group.

5. Doctor Tomsu reported an unchecked story that thirty MIGs are being assembled in the Havana area and that fifteen Czech pilots are in Havana. Freyre is sending a man to check this story.

6. Mr. Freyre will obtain for Mr. Pawley the photostat of a letter from the Cuban Minister of Defense authorizing Katherine Taife to make contacts to purchase twenty Hawker Hunter planes on the black market. She has been promised a letter of credit for 11 million dollars for the purchase. Mr. Freyre's group will try to get a photostat of the letter of credit. Mr. Freyre's group previously had contact with Katherine Taife, but dropped her as unreliable. It is believed that the letter of credit is drawn against a Swiss bank account which is in the name of Fidel, Raul, and Che Guevara.

SECRET

D00666

SECRET

- 2 -

7. Mr. Freyre has a man going into Cuba to determine the arms needs for the army of 1500 and the 3000 reserve reported in Camaguey as well as the 400 in Santa Clara.

8. The Freyre group in Miami was said to number 750 under Dias Tomayo and Col. Corso. They are planning landing spots in Cuba. In a few days a plan of the different air strips in Matanzas, Pinar del Rio and Habana will be received by Mr. Freyre. People at these strips are organized and are ready to receive arms. A budget is being prepared of the arms necessary for the 750 trained men in Miami and for the people at the airstrips.

9. Mr. Freyre described the morale of his Miami group as high, but stressed the need to bring General Pedraza to Miami to meet this group and the need for monetary support. The Camaguey group has about 200,000 pesos which will be converted into dollars and used for arms. Mr. Freyre said that General Pedraza was ready to come to Miami.

10. Mr. Pawley entered the meeting at this point and a summary of the above information was given to him. He said that General Pedraza had a valid passport and visa, but that the State Department had instructed the Immigration and Naturalization service to pick him up if he enters the United States.

11. Mr. Freyre spoke about his friend Jose Ignacio Rinero, the Director of the Diario de la Marina who has arrived in Miami.

12. He mentioned two groups which have been trying to contact his group. One is the Dias Lans group whose approach was discouraged as Mr. Freyre's group does not want to have anything to do with the 26 of July movement. The other is the Batista group offering man power under Colonel Sanchez Monqueda. Mr. Freyre instructed his second in command (Rodriguez Couzeiro) to confer with the Batista group.

SECRET