

ANTONIO CUESTA VALLE

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201-281313

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992

Date: 10/20/2017

-- Memo 9/16/75 RE: Mrs. Lourdes Cuesta, ex-wife of Antonio Cuesta Valle.

I did not redact the TDCS numbers as many were released in previous JFK reviews. Will defer to Senior Review. JVF 04/15/2017

Indicates Mrs. Cuesta attempting to get written verification of message given orally to Mrs. Cuesta that her husband was not with the CIA at the time of his raids referred to in a report from Fidel Castro via McGovern.

Also reflects Cuesta came to the U.S. from Cuba on 5/31/60 as a refugee. As of 2.61 cited as crewman aboard the M/V TEJANA. A POA was requested on 15 March 1961 for use in PM maritime ops as crewman on Tejana under project JMATE. With cessation of JMATE activities, processing of clearance suspended on 5.1.61. JMWAVE advised Army of CIA operational interest 5/26/62. JMWAVE advised headquarters on 6/5/62 that Cuesta not then being used and requested basis of other agency interest. No indication in files he was ever used on an operational mission by CIA.

ISR records show Cuesta was registered as Army source on 5/22/62. NO indication he was dropped; however, recoded that he was reinstated on 5/12/65. Dropped again on 5/10/66, without prejudice. NO further record of Army association; specifics of association with army unknown to the agency.

From time of arrival in US in 1960 until arrest by Cuban Govt, Cuesta associated with MRR, UR, Alpha 66 and Comando L organizations. Hit and run raids well known to govt agencies; not sponsored or connected with US govt. Two of these raids are referred to (attempts 21 and 22) in the article attached to Mrs. Cuesta's letter.

Info re: Mrs. Cuesta reveals: Antonio Cuesta told FBI she lived with him in Miami as of 3/30/63; Mrs. Cuesta told FBI in 1969 that she arrived in US 6/9/63 at Miami.

ACSI advised JMWAVE in 11/66 that she had been in contact with member of NY Cuba mission to UN. Mrs. Cuesta legally travelled to Cuba from Miami via Mexico City 4/67 for a two week visit with her husband. June 67 FBI advised she was recruited by CUIS while in Cuba and to hold this knowledge to a minimum because they intended to use her as a double agent. Travelled to Cuba from Miami via Mexico City and asked to be met at airport in Havana because of excess baggage (She was carrying nine suit cases. Saw her husband several times. Returned to Mexico City 3/4/68.

-- Memo March 1963 for the Record - Executive Committee meeting

All present - seems to include President and Vice President - McNamara, Dillon, Mc Cone, Cotrell, AG, RuSk

Discussion of what to do about hit and run raids. Specifically concerned about hits on Soviet targets. Exploring ways to stop raids -- more CIA - FBI interchange of information re groups to implement prosecution, etc.

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- Memo for record 3/29/63 by John McCone re unauthorized Cuban Raids

Indicates some support for Cuban raids staged from non-US areas. "Obviously raids of this type will exacerbate problems with Castro and more particularly the Soviet Union and, from that standpoint, are desirable.... it is my personal view that a concerted and publicized effort to "stand down" these operations would probably draw more public and press criticism in the Untie States than would result from tolerating these acts while officially disassociating the government from them through denial of both responsibility and control."

-- Memo for review staff CL BY: 059115 E 2 IMPDET 8/11/75

Memo which takes each Castro allegation and answers it, attempt by attempt, and individual by individual ie, RE: Tony Varona - "No indication in his file that he attempted to assassinate Castro or sought CIA assistance for this purpose."

Cuesta - "CIA had no connection with the operation (on which he was captured) and the file does not confirm that he was involved in an assassination attempt against Castro."

Memo takes exception with reply for Rolando Cubelas, which it will study further.

-- Cable 1/20/71 IN 248374

RE: Negotiations to attempt ransom Cuesta by his wife.

-- Letter from OGC to Asst Atty Gen 1/19/66 OGC 66-0119

RE: Justice contemplating prosecutive action against persons involved in his-and run raids. Requesting info re: Jorge Mas Canosa and Antoni Cuesta Valle.

-- Memo for Gen Counsel WH/C 66-3 1/5/66

RE: Mas Canosa - Joined Bosch's group (Jose "Pepin" Bosch), until funding stopped early 1965; then received funds from Hugh Crimmin's office at State for organization RECE.

-- UFG 06214 11/17/64

Recruiting men for Menoyo's camp in the Dom Rep.

-- UFG 04189 12/5/63

Comandos L vessel HARBELL not returning from fishing trip. Possible secret rendezvous with craft and personnel under Cuesta's leadership.

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-- 10/8/63 UFG 3815

RE; transfer of fuel for use in strikes to another location

-- 9/3/63 UFG 33536

RE: plans by Comandos L for pact with MDC, wich desires to bomb refinery in havana.

-- TDCS DB 3/654,374 4/27/63

RE: plans by Comandos L for raid on 4/28/63 on Matanzas and Havana provinces.

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VOLUME I

Thru Nov. 62

DELETIONS:

FBI --	5/10/62	Miami	Antonio Cuesta Valle	
	8/19/60	Miami	Cub. Intell. Act. in U.S.	105-80787
	7/15/60	Wash,DC	Antonio Cuesta Valle	97-3728
	2/4/60	MIami	Albert Henry Lopez Lopez	97-3906
	12/7/59	Miami	DIER	105-1810mm
	8/26/59	Miami	DIER	105-77666

FILE :

-- Personality file action request 7/22/60

Former VP International Telegraph and Telephone Co,m Cuba

Alleged contact with Sergio Sanjenis in Cuba as an MRR Movimiento de Recuperacion Rev. underground member.

-- DBF- 30801 8/4/59

Lt in Cuban Natl Police; also works as agent for DIER.

-- 10/30/60 IN 35397

Indicates Alberto Fernandez wi0l cooperate for op in West Oriente Cuesta involved.

-- Letter to FBI 2/6/61 Re Cuesta

Investigation regarding Cuesta's contact with cousin Sergio Sanjenis revealed that they were in contact in Cuba, but tie considered extremely weak. Cuesta reptd meber of MRR.

-- 2/22/61 IN 0774

AMDENIM - handwritten

Crew of Tejana:

Alberto Fernandez Hechevarria, owner

Robert Clark Stevens, Capt

Goerge Michael Kappes, Eng, & OP offcier

Lawrence LaBorde, with Tejana 8 yrs, "invaluable" for upkeep

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4 naval candidates, not named
Eduardo Baez Ayala
Pedro Ernesto Diaz
Eduardo Perez Gonzalez - ordinance man
Rafael Casal Y Fernandez de Cueto
Joaquin Powell Rubio
Antonio Cuesta Valle - small boat operator and gunner

-- PRQ Part I

Former 2nd in command od DIER

FBI had interest in Cuesta in January 1961

-- UFGA 1830 7/5/61

Report re UR - indicates Cuesta part of infiltration team "Los Halcones Negros" (The Black Falcons)

Cuesta Pseudonyms:

Combate, Sucre, San Martin, Toto

-- OUT 87373 5/26/62

Indicates ODIBEX has queried interest CIA in Cuesta and told e have ops interest.

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LOOSE DOCUMENTS

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DELETIONS:

-- Navy dept--

NIS-22/sdm, 5520, Sec c 3438; dtd 8/23/73 RE: Americans
allegedly incarcerated in Cuban Penal institutions.

-- Justice Dept:

8/19/60	Miami	Cuban Intell. Act. USA	105-1998
4/28/59		Dept of Logistics, Natl Rev. Police, Ministry of defense; Rep. of Cuba	109-47
8/4/59		DIER	
1/25/60		Albert Henry Lopez Lopez	97-3906
11/25/59	Miami	DIER	105-77666
8/12/59	Miami	DIER	105-77666
11/13/61		Jose Manuel Paula	100-10838
3/18/60		Ricardo Modan Rivas	97-3993

FILE:

-- 7/3/62 UFGA-4322

Indicates ACSI interested in use of Cuesta and Batista Falla and inquiring to CIA to see if they still have any interest in these individuals. Apparently interested in infiltrating Cuba -- poss. Havana. Col. Kail mentioned as involved in discussions of individuals used by ACSI or the CIA. Also indicates CIA only reluctantly willing to help ACSI with maritime op for infiltration plan.

-- IN 24480 UFG 6214 11/14/64

Indicates Cuesta recruiting men in Dominican Republic for Gutierrez Menoyo.

-- UFGA 7402 1/23/63

Contact with St. George -- St. George in contact with Alpha 66. Base of operations for Alpha 66 is Cayo Anguila - also believed to be base for Alpha L-66. RE: origin of L-66 or Comandos L

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Roberto Vale joined with Cuesta and the "competent group".

Non-action members include: Pedro Muina, Jorge Machado,
Nicolas Pons, Rual Lujan, Rene Aguilera .

Cuesta told St. George the two men he doesn't like are Ray and Gutierrez Menoyo. Said the Alberto Fernandez Hechevarria had been following the CIA line closely, curtailing action, but now coming around to thinking of L-66.

-- Dispatch UFGA-6676 11/16/62

Traces RE: Cuesta - 201-281313 DPOB: 6/13/26, Santiago de Cuba.
POA requested 2/22/61; crewman aboard M/V Tejana.
7/5/61 retdly member Black Falcons, comando unit.
5/12/59 retd member of confidential dept of Natl Revolutionary
Police institute to combat Communism and counter revolutionary activities/
7/26/62 retdly negotiating with "Water World" for underwater equipment
for use by Alpha 66.
10/28/62 Reptd one of ten men of Alpha 66 arrived in Key West on
Coast Guard boat from Cay Sal after Alpha 66 boat had sunk at sea.
Entered Miami 5/31/60 as refugee.

Document also has traces RE: Vales, Font, Alvarez, Eduardo Perez,, et al

-- TDCS DB 3/658,226 12/5/63

Indicates concern by Santiago Alvarez, Jr, that members of Harbell (boat) may have joined expedition planned by Cuesta. Noted that In November Cuesta had been looking for weapons, a Browning auto rifle one of items confiscated in October from group.

-- TDCS DB 315/01522-66 1/1/66

Info from Jorge Mas Canosa re: attempted infiltration of Comandos L-RECE men including Cuesta. Two men killed, two perished in explosion of boat; two survived, picked up (by Cubans

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LOOSE DOCUMENT

Information re: Unidad Revolucionara (UR)

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ANTONIO CUESTA VALLE

DCD DOCUMENTS

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WH 1883 6/15/64 00A(S) 32044

Contact with Roberto Vale Ares/Comandos L

Indictes Cuesta - Chief, Military Operations.

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ANTONIO CUESTA VALLE

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- 5/1/61 Memo - suspending all processing of case until new interest is apparent
- 5/21/61 Instruction sheet
 - set up for POA only - expedite
 - Use : PM Maritime operations JMATE
- Request for approval 3/17/61
 - Crypt assigned: AMDENIM-14
- PRQ Part I
 - former 2nd in command of DIER

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