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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : D. J. BRENNAN DATE: December 3, 1963

FROM : S. J. PAPICH

10/29/97
CLASSIFIED BY 5608 SCJ/nd
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X (U) (S) (S) (S)
W Wannall

SUBJECT: MARIA CELIA GIRONA SANCHEZ
ANTONIO DE SOUZA CARVOJAL
IS - CUBA

Memo Wannall to Sullivan, 12/10/63
Article to Cys, 2-ny, 12/10/63
Re Cuban Mission to UN

The captioned individuals are assigned to the Cuban Delegation, United Nations (UN). Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is interested in promoting a recruitment of the subjects through the use of Luis Baralt Mederos, a former Cuban diplomat.

CIA's approach to this matter is described in the following contents of an internal CIA memorandum:

"During discussions with Luis Baralt Mederos, former Cuban Consul General in New York and Ambassador to Canada, it developed that Baralt believed that Maria Celia Girona Sanchez and Antonio Souza Carvojal attaches to the Cuban Delegation to the UN, were not loyal communists. He felt that they were not battlers either, but that they had merely accepted continuing with the Cuban Foreign Service as a lesser evil to beginning a new life in a new country. This was particularly true since they have been allowed to remain in the Foreign Service after the purge in 1961, due to the fact that Celia Girona was a namesake of Celia Sanchez, Secretary to Fidel Castro. Celia Girona had, in turn, protected de Souza from the purge. Baralt felt that if they ever faced the assignment of a return to Cuba, there would be a crisis. Consequently, he felt that they should certainly be contacted, or, at least, an attempt made. He had made such an attempt in the early part of 1963 when he was in New York. He tried to call the numbers at their old home addresses. Though he tried several times, he was never able to reach either party.

"It is felt that Baralt would be an excellent person to attempt to contact both. Celia Girona worked closely under his direction when he was the Consul General in New York. Antonio de Souza was also under his immediate direction and also worked closely with him. He should be able to establish an immediate rapport based upon past work and friendship."

- 1 - Mr. Wannall
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Papich

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KP 5-18-98
SLD/KSR 5-23-98 (JFK)

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN [134-7401-14] (S) (U)

Memorandum to Mr. Brennan
RE: [MARIA CELIA GIRONA SANCHEZ]
[ANTONIO DE SOUZA CARVOJAL]

(S) (U)

~~SECRET~~

The foregoing was furnished to the Liaison Agent on November 29, 1963, by Austin Horn, CIA, who inquired if the Bureau had any objection to CIA initiating an approach of the subjects through the use of [Baralt.] (S) (U)

OBSERVATIONS:

It is the opinion of the Liaison Agent that CIA does not have a strong foundation for initiating an approach as indicated. The Agency could be on a fishing expedition and we may find it desirable to object to CIA's proposed action in the absence of additional information. We also should bear in mind that the Bureau is free to consider the use of [Baralt.] if we felt this operation should be handled by the Bureau. (S) (U)

ACTION:

The above information is being directed to the attention of the Nationalities Intelligence Section. It is suggested that its reply to [CIA be] transmitted via Liaison. (S) (U)

zad

~~SECRET~~