

13 November 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Meeting with AMWHIP-1 (Telephone N.Y.C. JU 6-4622)

DATE AND PLACE: 1800-1930 hours, 5 November 1962, Hotel Taft
New York CityPRESENT: Subject and (John Sherwood)⁰³ (alias Breitheim)

BACKGROUND:

¹⁶⁻²¹ 1. The instant meeting was set on to determine whether Subject would be a likely candidate to fill a temporary slot in (B.A.), (Rio) or (SAGO) as a PA working more or less exclusively to attempt to penetrate the local Cuban diplomatic installation. Since (Wainwright)⁰³ was to be out of town for an indefinite period, I was detailed to make the above determination. The meeting was set by phone on the above date.

OPERATIONAL:

2. The main point of the meeting was settled quickly. Subject indicated that he would be willing to take a three or four month trip to Latin America for us, and to perform whatever operational tasks we felt he would assign to him. The only qualification: This trip could not be taken until after the first of the year. Subject stated that though the jewelry business is presently in its pre holiday doldrums, this situation would change in about ten days to one of intense activity. He simply could not afford to take extensive time out at this juncture. I am sure Subject was giving a straight line, and thus made no attempt to pressure him, particularly since we had no pressing specifics to put him to work against. I asked whether he knew of any Cubans in the Capitols of L.A. who might be useful for our work.⁰⁸ He came up with the name of the former manager of the (Habana Hilton), (Jose MENENDEZ) (DPOB 1920)⁰⁸ Cuba, presently manager of the (Carrera Hilton, SAGO).⁰⁸ Subject claimed this man was smart, dedicated to anti-Communism, averred as to how he thought⁰⁶ (MENENDEZ) would be happy to cooperate, and would certainly know much about the doings of most Cubans in (SAGO).¹⁶⁻²³ NOTE: Upon return to Headquarters I learned from Marcellus that (SAGO) is already in touch with (MENENDEZ) but not for Cuban ops. 16-23 06

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3. Subject said that he is to make a four day trip to Columbia within the coming fortnight and would be happy to tackle any reasonable task we might ask of him. He agreed that it would be a simple matter for him to introduce AIS to ⁰⁶(MENENDEZ). I advised that we might want him to aid us in some such fashion, but that I could think of nothing at the moment. I asked him to give a ring as soon as his travel plans were firm.

4. ⁰⁶One other bit of ops business: I asked Subject to go over the (Robert ECHEVARRIA) business again, and when he was through with the story, requested that he ⁰⁶phone the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa to find out if (ECHEVARRIA) were still there. We worked out a couple of routines to cover all eventualities we could think of, that is, what to say if the man were out of the office, and so forth. ⁰⁶If (ECHEVARRIA) were to be there, Subject was to arrange a meeting in Montreal for a day some 10 days hence. NOTE: Subject phone on 6 November to report that he had caller per arrangement and was told that (ECHEVARRIA) had left Ottawa for Havana in June and would probably not be ⁰⁶ returning.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5. Subject will continue to write to ⁰³(WAINWRIGHT) alias THOMPSON and to phone me alias BREITHEIM on 737-8294.

⁰³
(John H. Sherwood)
TFW/PI