

# TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

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*To note last paragraph*

COUNTRY	CUBA	REPORT NO.	TDCS OB-3/653,932
SUBJECT	DETAILS ON THE L-66 RAID ON CAIBARIEN	DATE DISTR.	28 MARCH 1963
DATE OF INFO.	26-28 MARCH 1963	PRECEDENCE PRIORITY	<i>Cuba - TDCS</i>
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	UNITED STATES (28 MARCH 1963)	REFERENCES	IN 96642
APPRAISAL	2	FIELD REPORT NO.	

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE PARAS 1-4: FORMER CUBAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE (F) FROM AN INDIVIDUAL IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE L-66. PARA 5: CUBAN BUSINESSMAN (F) WHO DEALS WITH THE PUBLIC AT LARGE, FROM ROBERTO VALE ARZS.

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5  
CIA review 4/18/96  
By *[Signature]* NARA Date 10/1/99

1. ANDREW ST. GEORGE, LIFE PHOTOGRAPHER, AND ANTONIO PEREZ QUESADA, AKA ANTONICO WERE INCLUDED IN THE COMANDOS LIBRES 66, AKA L-66, RAID ON CAIBARIEN. (FIELD COMMENT: IT WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT ANTONIO CUESTA DEL VALLE, AND RAMON FONT SAUMELL ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID. AS OF 1800 HOURS ON 28 MARCH ST. GEORGE WAS SAID TO BE IN HIDING IN SOME MOTEL IN THE MIAMI AREA; HE IS DRIVING A RENTED RED CORVAIR. ANTONIO PEREZ QUESADA APPARENTLY WAS FORCED TO GO ALONG ON THE RAID (SIC). ONE EUSEBIO CORDOVA MAY

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GROUP 1  
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# TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE TO:

DIRNSA (PRD, W)	AFSSO	WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM
STATE (RCI) (FOR HILSMAN)	DIA/CIIC	
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ALSO HAVE BEEN WITH THE L-66 RAIDERS.)

2. THE "MOTHER SHIP" FOR THE RAID WAS THE ALISAN, CAPTAINED BY SANTIAGO ALVAREZ. THE ALISAN HAD BEEN AT SEA FOR A PERIOD OF 12 DAYS. SHE ARRIVED BACK IN MIAMI DURING THE MORNING OF 28 MARCH, WITH ALL WEAPONS ABOARD, BUT THE WEAPONS WERE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HER ARRIVAL AND TRANSPORTED TO SOME UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION. (FIELD COMMENT: ACCORDING TO ANOTHER SOURCE THE EXPEDITION, CONSISTING OF TWO BOATS, A 45 FOOTER AND A 23 FOOTER, DEPARTED ON 17 MARCH. THE TWO BOATS RENDEZVOUSED AT A KEY 100 MILES FROM CAIBARIEN; WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES WERE PICKED UP AT THIS KEY. THE 23 FOOTER, WHICH COULD MAKE 14 KNOTS, WAS USED FOR THE FINAL RUN; SHE CARRIED SIX MEN ARMED WITH FALS, AND HAD A 20 MM CANNON.)

3. THE 23 FOOT BOAT WHICH WAS USED FOR THE FINAL RUN OF THE RAID WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE WATER AT HOLLYWOOD BEACH DURING THE EVENING OF 27 MARCH AND TRAILED TO AN UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION. AN UNTESTED SOURCE WHO IS A CUBAN BUSINESSMAN WHO HAS A DEAL WITH THE PUBLIC AT LARGE REPORTED THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE L-66 STRIKE GROUP WERE INFORMED THAT THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WAS INTENDING TO MEET THEM UPON THEIR ARRIVAL IN MIAMI, AND THE RAIDING PARTY WAS ADVISED TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES BY WAY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, AND "HIDE OUT" FOR A WHILE).

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4. THE RAIDING PARTY ENTERED THE PORT OF CAIBARIEN QUITE OPENLY, WITH LIGHTS ON THE BOAT. THERE WERE SEVERAL SHIPS AND VARIOUS SMALL CRAFT IN THE HARBOR, WHICH WAS ALSO LIT UP. THE RAIDING GROUP AT RANDOM SELECTED THE LARGEST SHIP AND OPENED FIRE WITH RIFLES AND HEAVIER WEAPONS FROM A DISTANCE OF ABOUT 200 YARDS. THE RAIDERS CAME ALONGSIDE THE TARGET SHIP, ATTACHED A 20 POUND LIMPET AND PLACED A BOAT LOADED WITH EXPLOSIVES ALONG THE HULL OF THE TARGET. THE LIMPET AND THE BOAT WERE JOINED BY PRIMACORD. THE EXPLOSIVE IN THE BOAT WAS ACTIVATED BY A ONE AND A HALF MINUTE TIME DELAY FUSE. AFTER ACCOMPLISHING THIS THE RAIDERS RETIRED, BUT THREW GRENADES ON THE DECK OF THE VESSEL AS THEY PULLED AWAY. THE EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE WHEN THE RAIDERS WERE ABOUT 250 TO 300 YARDS FROM THE TARGET VESSEL. (FIELD COMMENT: IT WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT THE EXPLOSIVE LOADED BOAT WAS A HOME MADE FIVE FOOT CRAFT LOADED WITH 40 POUNDS OF PENTOLITE AND 10 POUNDS OF C-4. ANOTHER SOURCE REPORTED THAT THE RAIDING PARTY WAS NOT HARASSED AT ANY TIME BY EITHER CUBAN OR SOVIET NAVAL FORCES.)

5. ACCORDING . ROBERTO VALE ARES, MILITARY COORDINATOR OF ACTION GROUP FOR L-66, COMANDOS LIBRES 66 WILL SOON DROP THE "66" FROM THEIR NAME AND WILL BE KNOWN AS COMANDOS L. (FIELD COMMENT: ANOTHER SOURCE REPORTED THAT L-66 HAS ABOUT 500

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MEMBERS BUT ONLY ABOUT 20% ARE "ACTIVISTS". THE MEMBERS HAVE NO POLITICAL ALIGNMENT AND RANGE FROM FORMER PRO-BATISTAITES TO FORMER PRO-CASTROITES; THE LATTER PREDOMINATE. L-66 REALIZES THAT HIT AND RUN RAIDS ARE NOT THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF FIGHTING CASTRO, BUT CONSIDERS THESE RAIDS AT LEAST SYMBOLIC SUPPORT TO ARRESTED COLLEAGUES IN CUBA. MOST ACTIVISTS ARE MARRIED MEN, MANY LIVING IN MIAMI, WHO EXPRESS INTENT TO MOVE TO ANOTHER COUNTRY IF THE U.S. CONTINUES TO HARASS THEM. L-66 OWNS ONLY THE TWO BOATS DESCRIBED ABOVE, BUT HAS AT TIMES USED OTHER BOATS OWNED BY OTHER CUBANS. MONEY IS RAISED MOSTLY IN THE MIAMI AREA AND ARMS ARE PURCHASED IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES.)

6. FIELD DISSEM: CINCLANT CINCARIB MIAMI REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE FBI I&NS CUSTOMS AND USCG.

END OF MESSAGE

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JFKL: JFRP: NSF: Country File, b. 48, f: "Cuba, Exiles, 3/63."

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