

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM Amembassy HABANA
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.
REF

1274

MAY 11, 1959

MAY 12 1959

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION REC'D	DEPT. INDEX OTHER
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SUBJECT: Evidences of Anti-American Bias within Present Cuban Regime

The Embassy has commented in the past on the anti-American bias displayed by many leaders of the present Cuban regime, including both Fidel and Raul CASTRO, and the official organ of the 26 of July Movement, Revolucion. As further evidence of this bias, and of the constantly repeated theme that the revolution has enemies outside of Cuba who are attacking it in devious ways, there has been a tendency since the recent invasion of Panama by a group composed principally of Cubans to imply that the entire affair was organized by the outside enemies with a view to discrediting the revolution. In one speech Raul Castro implied that the invasion affair was developed to give an excuse for the international police force proposed by Senator SMATHERS. Raul has also repeatedly referred to the American, Loren E. HALL, who was arrested on April 15, 1959 when associated with a group planning to invade Nicaragua. Raul has publicly implied that Hall was an agente provocateur of our Government, or of the "international oligarchy" which concerns him so greatly. Hall's participation in the proposed invasion was apparently minor, as evidenced by the Embassy's OM of April 20, 1959, copies of which are attached. The nature of the exaggerated and distorted accounts of his activities later put forth by Cuban officials is well shown in the enclosed reproduction of a portion of the first page of Verde Olivo, official paper of the Cuban Army, for April 20, 1959.

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For the Ambassador:

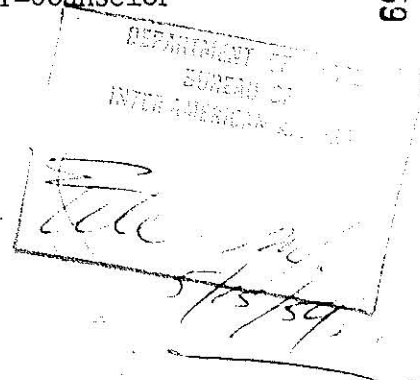
Daniel M. Braddock
Minister-Counselor

JUN 16 1959

FILED

Enclosures:

1. Reproduction of first page of Verde Olivo, dated April 20, 1959.
2. Habana's OM, dated Apr. 20, 1959.
3. Habana's OM, dated Apr. 27, 1959.



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POL:JLTopping/mc
REPORTER

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ACTION COPY — DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

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1274

May 11, 1959

El Peligro de las Expediciones

PROVOCA A...

NORTEAMERICANO

Dirigía Expedición Hacia Nicaragua

LA LIBERTAD NO SE EXPORTA, EXPRESO EL CDTE. RAUL CASTRO EN RELACION CON LOS PLANES QUE SE TRAMAN EN EL CARIBE

La Policía Urbana Revolucionaria arrestó en el día de ayer al norteamericano Lawrence Hall que aparecía como jefe de una expedición que debía partir en estos días para Nicaragua.

Hall llegó a La Habana, procedente de los Estados Unidos el mes pasado aparentando encontrarse en muy mala situación económica, aunque ha podido comprobarse posteriormente que el mismo recibía dinero de los E. Unidos.

Inmediatamente después de su llegada a Cuba, hizo contacto con algunos exilados de países latinoamericanos y comenzó a servir de instructor a un grupo de cubanos que dirigidos por dos nicaragüenses pensaban desembarcar en las costas del vecino país y allí librar la guerra de guerrillas.

Según declaraciones de los dos ciudadanos nicaragüen-

ses, Manuel Gamboa y Armando Santamaría, Hall logró imponerse rápidamente como jefe único de la expedición y su máxima preocupación era el partir inmediatamente para Nicaragua. Incluso hubo de desistir en los últimos días que ya había conseguido la embarcación.

También han declarado los señores Gamboa y Santamaría, que los objetivos del se-

(Continúa en la Página 12)



Verde olivo
 ORGANÓ OFICIAL DEL EJERCITO REVOLUCIONARIO



Provocador Norteamericano...

(CONTINUACION)

ñor Hall eran los de "sabar las actividades de ellos y destruirla en todos sus aspectos así como de involucrar al Gobierno Revolucionario de Cuba en un incidente internacional," ya que ordenó confeccionar brazaletes rojos y negros y con la inscripción 'Comandos Cubanos', lo cual sería suficiente para probar, puesto que prácticamente só-

lo había cubanos en la expedición, la ingerencia del gobierno de nuestro país en los asuntos internos de otro país

Este incidente debe poner en guardia a nuestros compañeros de las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias que con la mejor buena voluntad pueden caer en las redes tendidas por los enemigos de la Revolución; de aquellos que sólo persiguen su fracaso.

May 11, 1959

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OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

TO: Department of State May 11, 1959

FROM: AMEMBASSY, HABANA

SUBJECT: WELFARE-EMERGENCIES: Case of Lawrence Eugene Hall, American under detention.

REF: - -

Mr. Lawrence Eugene Hall was arrested by members of the National Revolutionary Police on April 19, 1959, and an officer of the Embassy was permitted to interview him, with an English speaking policeman present, on April 20, 1959, at the Jefatura (Main Police Headquarters, Habana).

Mr. Hall was born on January 4, 1930, at Newton, Kansas, the son of J. F. and Marie Hall. His home address in the United States is 2341 Payne Street, Wichita, Kansas. His parents also live at this address. Mr. Hall stated he is divorced and the father of four children. He served in the United States Army in Europe from January 7, 1947 until August 12, 1952. His service number was RA 17224450. His identity card (Army) bears the number 0246377.

Mr. Hall said his purpose in coming to Cuba was to join the Revolutionary Forces. His background in the U. S. Army as an instructor of weapons led him to believe he could be of use in Cuba. His story is as follows:

He arrived in Habana on March 19, 1959, via Compania Cubana de Avionacion airlines. He then met Capt. Frank Fiorini, an American with the Revolutionary Air Force. He also met two other Americans in the Revolutionary Forces, Lt. Jack Shea and Capt. Rex Sunderland. After explaining his purpose in coming to Cuba he was introduced by Capt. Fiorini to a Lt. Duany and a Cuban lady known only as "Lucy". Lt. Duany identified himself as a member of the "13th of March Movement". After being introduced to many other Cubans in an office of the "Mini Construction Co., Habana" who were conspiring to organize an armed force to invade Nicaragua, Mr. Hall was taken to the Hotel Sevilla Biltmore where he

not one

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met one Fermin De Sota, a Nicaraguan exile then living in Room 557 of this hotel. Hall was then taken to a house located on the corner of Calle 240 and Avenida 33 in which a Captain Salizar resided with his wife and child. While in this house he said he was introduced to two other Nicaraguans, Armando Santamaria and Manuel Gombie (or Gombis). Hall then began training troops (approximately 32 ex-members of the Revolutionary Forces) in the use of firearms and homemade bombs. Hall said he and his troops were furnished food by an Army truck from Camp Libertad.

Hall said his arrest was caused by his not getting along with Capt. Salizar. He added that he thought he was working for Dr. Fidel Castro but later was led to believe his assignment was ordered by the "13th of March Movement". Mr. Hall said his working arrangement was that he would be furnished expenses, clothing and food while in Cuba, and if the invasion of Nicaragua was successful, he would be rewarded with a military rank.

Police authorities stated that the charge against Mr. Hall is conspiring against the Government of Nicaragua while in Cuba.

Hall's physical description is as follows: Hair, black; eyes, brown; height, 6 feet, weight, 203 pounds; tattoo of American flag on upper right shoulder.

He stated that he is being well treated.

cc ARA/CMA, Cuban Desk, Department of State;
AmConsulate, Santiago de Cuba

HDKessler/hdk

of May 11, 1959 from
Ambassador [unclear]

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OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

TO: Department of State

Date: April 27, 1959

FROM: AMEMBASSY, NABAKA

SUBJECT: WELFARE-MISREKADOUIS: Case of Loren Eugene Hall, American under detention

REF: Embassy's OM April 20, 1959

Enclosed herewith is a memorandum of a long-distance telephone conversation dated April 23, 1959, between Consul General James E. Brown, Jr., Consul Hugh B. Kessler and Mr. Clyde WINDLEMAN, attorney from Wichita, Kansas, representing the family of Mr. Loren Eugene Hall.

It will be noted that Mr. Hall's correct name is Loren Eugene and not Lawrence Eugene as originally reported. Mr. Hall confirmed this spelling of his name.

A consular officer again visited Mr. Hall on April 24, 1959. There has been no change in his status.

Enclosure:

One, as stated.

cc: AEA/DMA, Cuban Desk, Department.

HKessler/Int

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SAIPANG

Subjects: Loren Eugene Hall (aka [redacted]) [redacted] the investigation of charge of irregularities in an [redacted] [redacted] against Nicaragua

Summary of telephone conversation

(Consul Reg. D. Kessler participated in the conversation, and the extension telephone is my office.)

This afternoon I received a telephone call from [redacted] Mr. [redacted] WENDELKEN, lawyer, of 405 Green Building, Wichita, Kansas. (Phone office - Forest 3-7796; home - Murray 2-8284.)

He was calling in regard to Loren Eugene Hall, and with him was Loren's father, Mr. Jack Hall, of 2342 Payne Street, Wichita, Kansas. (Phone office - Hobart 4-3685; home - Temple 3-1715.)

Mr. Wendelken said Loren is 28 years old, the father of four children, and divorced. He had left Wichita some weeks ago for Miami, and his parents had last heard from him early this month. He had apparently needed a little extra money to meet a hotel bill at that time.

Mr. Kessler, who had talked with Loren recently at the main police station, described the reasons for his detention and explained that Loren was not behind bars but had to remain at the police station, and that he was well and not disturbed over his detention. Mr. Wendelken was assured that the Embassy was following the case and giving it attention, and would let Loren know of his father's and Mr. Wendelken's telephone call.

Mr. Wendelken said that Loren's parents did not feel financially able to send him to Habana to look into the matter, but if, later, the situation called for the assistance of a Cuban lawyer, Mr. Jack Hall desired that the Embassy aid Loren in selecting one, and Mr. Jack Hall would be responsible for a reasonable fee.

Mr. Wendelken will send one hundred dollars to the Embassy, not to be turned over to Loren, but to be held for his transportation expenses back to the United States, although a few dollars may in the meantime be used for cigarettes and the like.

Assurances were given Mr. Wendelken that the Embassy would keep Mr. Jack Hall and him informed of any significant developments in the case.

cc: Legal Attache

James E. Brown, Jr.
Consul General

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