Memorandum

TO: Director, FBI (105-95461)

FROM: SAC, Miami (105-3558)

SUBJECT: CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITY IN CUBA

IS - CUBA

(00: Miami)

Both of November Movement

Enclosed are nine copies of a letterhead memorandum setting forth information furnished by

Bureau (Encl.9)(RM)

7 - Miami

1 - 97-406 (Nov. 30th Movement)

1 - 97-327 (RRA)

1 - 105-2603 (FBD)

1 - 105-3107 (MRF)

1 - 97-328 (MDC)

105-92196

105-92369

NOT RECORDED

135 April 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE

66 APR 1961

23-19
Miami, Florida
April 10, 1961

105-3558

RE: CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITY IN CUBA

On March 30, 1961, [redacted] advised he had arrived in the
United States at Key West, Florida.

[Redacted]

said that based on his familiarity with the countercultural movement in Cuba today, he considers the following organizations to be of most significance:

105-92196

92367
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1. The 30th of November Movement

Organized in about April, 1960, by DAVID SALVADOR, who was then the leader of the CTC (Confederacion Trabajadores Cubanos) (Confederation of Cuban Workers), an organization with which all union members are affiliated. It stated the 30th of November is the largest single counter-revolutionary group in Cuba today, and is composed mainly of members of the working class.

2. Movement of Revolutionary Recovery (MRR)

This group was founded by and continues to follow MANUEL ARTIME. ARTIME, who is presently in exile in the United States, has lost some support due to difficulty in maintaining liaison with those still in Cuba.

3. Rescate (Rescue)

The group of MANUEL ANTONIO DE VARONA. VARONA, presently in exile in the United States, has been a leader in the FRD (Frente Revolucionario Democratico) (Revolutionary Democratic Front) which is composed of numerous anti-Castro organizations in the United States.

4. Revolutionary Movement of the People (MRP)

The group of MANUEL RAY, who is also in exile in Miami. This group at one time was the most significant counterrevolutionary organization in Cuba, but support of it and RAY has declined drastically since RAY fled to the United States.

5. Christian Democratic Movement

Composed of the supporters of JOSE IGNACIO RASCO, and the least important of the counterrevolutionary groups.
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[Redacted] In addition to the above groups there is an organization called Accion Cubana (Cuban Action) which is active in the provinces of Havana, Oriente and Camaguey only and which has considerable support.

Regarding the 30th of November Movement, [Redacted] in contrast to most other groups it has almost all of its members in Cuba and is composed of small cells, each of which is made up of a group of workers who are fellow employees. DAVID SALVADOR, founder and leader of the movement, was arrested by G-2 several months ago, and since that time the leadership of the group has been taken over by others. CARLOS RODRIGUEZ QUESADA was the General Coordinator of the Movement in the Escambray area and is presently in the United States in connection with plans to unite the Movement with other important anti-Castro groups in the FRD. He stated this has been accomplished and the 30th of November Movement is now affiliated with the FRD.

Regarding DAVID SALVADOR he noted that he has in the past made speeches and statements which were anti-United States in character. [Redacted] He stated that while SALVADOR had been a Communist Party member in his youth, he soon abandoned the Party when he became familiar with the true nature of the communist conspiracy. When he later became prominent in union affairs in Cuba he was instrumental in removing some communists from office and preventing others from taking control of the unions. He said SALVADOR presently is opposed to communism and the Communist Party, as evidenced by his action in opposition to the communist regime of FIDEL CASTRO.
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SALVADOR is confined in the La Cabana prison. Prior to the execution of Major WILLIAM MORGAN, the American who was one of the leading figures when CASTRO was in the fight against BATISTA, and who later was arrested by the Cuban Government as a counterrevolutionary, SALVADOR and MORGAN, who was also confined at La Cabana, became close friends. The 30th of November Movement had developed a plan to bring about the escape of SALVADOR and MORGAN, the plan to be put into operation in early 1961, but just before it was initiated a Miami radio announcer, JUAN AMADOR RODRIGUEZ, broadcast a report that SALVADOR and MORGAN were rumored to have escaped from La Cabana. This resulted in the decision to execute MORGAN. Increased security measures made escape by either SALVADOR or MORGAN impossible.

He said MORGAN had been actively engaged in supplying food and arms to the counterrevolutionary forces fighting in the Escambray prior to his arrest and, in fact, this was what caused his arrest.

Recently received information that the counterrevolutionary groups in the Escambray have been captured, killed, escaped or isolated and are no longer a threat. He said, Miami, had information relative to the situation there. Of his own personal knowledge, 70 men of the 30th of November Movement who have been fighting in the Escambray have been isolated by the Castro militia and there does not appear to be any available means to save this group.

advised he had

had been fighting as a counterrevolutionary against CASTRO in the Escambray. He said he and his men had gone to the mountains to fight on the basis
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of a promise of assistance from a man who claimed to represent ANTONIO VARONA and the FRD. Such assistance in the form of arms and supplies was never received and his group, which originally numbered about 125 men, was reduced to the point of starvation. He and a few of his men were able to slip through the militia lines during the night and eventually reached the coast, obtained a small boat and made their way to the United States, where they claimed exile.

The Castro militia were well armed and trained and proved to be competent soldiers. Until Radio SWAN made broadcasts alleging that more than 4,000 men were in the Escambray fighting, CASTRO had not bothered them. Following the broadcast of this information, however, CASTRO apparently began to worry about the situation in the Escambray and dispatched a large group of militia to the Escambray. On three separate occasions he personally appeared, serving as a boost for the morale of the militia.

He advised the estimate that there were 4,000 counter-revolutionaries in the Escambray was grossly exaggerated, although he did not know the exact numerical strength. In his opinion, there is no effective fighting force of counter-revolutionaries now in the Escambray. When he left the Escambray, all of the strategic positions had been occupied by Castro militia to prevent additional counter-revolutionary groups from obtaining control of these positions.

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