

#27429-A

DATE: August 8, 1958
TO: Thomas J. Kelly, Metropolitan Sheriff
FROM: REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

On August 7, 1958, the writer in cooperation with Officer Zenoz from the Miami Police Department Intelligence Squad, investigated a meeting of Cuban revolutionaries held at 840 S.W. 1st Avenue.

The meeting was attended by an estimated one hundred and fifty Cubans, followers of the newly merged Cuban Revolutionary parties.

The assembly started at 9:00 P.M. as scheduled, and was presided by Carlos Prio Soccarras who was the only speaker.

Prio was apparently campaigning for the nomination as head of the new formed coalition Frente Civil, and most of the persons present were from Prio's own party, Partido Autentico, members of Aleman's party, Cuba Rebelde were also present.

The speaker exhorted the audience to forget past differences and jealousies and rally around the new coalition as the only means for a successful outcome of the fight against Batista.

No inflammatory remarks were made during the speech and the persons attending maintained peaceful attitude throughout the meeting.

The writer entered the premises in the company of a Cuban and nobody questioned his presence there.

Respectfully submitted,


W. D. McKee
Criminal Intelligence


Al Tarabochia
Intelligence Agent

Miami News 7/29/58

Foes Of Batista Plan Early Test

By HAL HENDRIX

Latin America Editor of The Miami News

The Cuban Civic Revolutionary Front, newly-formed union of groups seeking to overthrow the Batista regime in Cuba, is working at "full speed" toward a campaign to test its effectiveness, a leading spokesman for the organization said here today.

Dr. Jose Miro Cardona, dean of the Havana Bar Association and one of the signers of the Front's charter, said representatives of all the revolutionary groups in the pact still are meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, and shaping the Front's organizational structure.

Plans now are for the conference to move from Caracas to Miami late this week to complete campaign plans.

Seek Venezuela Funds

Dr. Miro Cardona, who has been named coordinating secretary (secretary-general) of the Front, also disclosed the Venezuelan Committee of the July 26 Movement, headed by rebel chieftain Fidel Castro, has begun a \$300,000 fund raising drive in Venezuela.

The drive has been named "The March of the Bolivar to the Sierra Maestra." The bolivar is the Venezuelan currency. Leaflets being distributed among Venezuelans state:

"Venezuelans obtained their liberty. Cuba is bleeding for hers. Contribute with a bolivar to the Sierra Maestra."

Public Support Claimed

Dr. Miro Cardona said the fund drive is not related directly to the Civic Revolutionary Front. The effort began July 26 and will end tomorrow. He said it was receiving generous public support. Heading the solicitation are Dr. Luis Buch and Sergio Rojas, July 26th spokesmen in Caracas.

Dr. Miro Cardona, who recently was named honorary president of the Cuban Bar Association returned here last night from Caracas.

He reported the Front had decided not to name a president or chairman. Neither will it have a permanent headquarters. Each representative will have a vote and an equal voice in the organization's planning.

In Contact With Castro

The conference, which is being held in Hotel El Conde in downtown Caracas, is in daily contact with Castro in the Sierra Maestra by short-wave radio, Dr. Miro Cardona said.

"I am convinced the Front will be an effective union of force," Dr. Miro Cardona said. "With the sound planning that has been done this time, it will be a lasting unity, and its effect will be evidenced in the near future. It has been Cuba speaking at the meetings, not personalities with individual ambitions."

Foes Plan Talks Here

27429-A

By GEORGE SOUTHWORTH

Herald Latin American Editor

The recently united enemies of Cuban President Fulgencio Batista will meet in Miami today or Wednesday to select a provisional president to take his place when and if they oust him.

Cuban revolutionary leaders were arriving in Miami Monday from Caracas, where they signed a harmony pact and banded together as the "Revolutionary Civilian Front to Combat Tyranny." Others arrived over the weekend.

"We are now sure our revolution will succeed," said Omar Fernandez, exiled leader of Cuba's Federation of University Students. "Fidel Castro's success in battles is demoralizing the Cuban army. The soldiers don't want to fight."

Fernandez and another student leader, Jose Puente, arrived here Saturday. Also arriving on that day were Dr. Armando Lora and Dr. Angel Santos Buch, representing the Civic Resistance movement, and Manuel Bisbe, head of the opposition Orthodox Party.

Among the enemies of Batista arriving in Miami Monday were Rodriguez Loeche and Dr. Primativo Lima, of the Revolutionary Directorate; Dr. Justo Carrillo, of the Montecriste Movement; Dr. Manuel Antonio Varona, chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Party, and Rivero Setien, of the Authentic Party.

Fernandez said that Dr. Luis Buch, will represent Fidel Castro and the 26 of July Association at the Miami meeting and that Capt. Rodriguez Villaverde will represent the military organization, Fourth of April.

The revolutionary leaders do not expect to encounter any difficulties with federal or local officials here "because we are not going to violate any laws."

"We are now looking for a place to hold the meeting," Fernandez said, "and in addition to selecting a provisional president we will study our plans for overthrowing the Batista dictatorship."

Fernandez said the Revolutionary Civilian Front will send its constitution to Washington authorities within a few days "so they will know about our great revolutionary, civic coalition that is going to tumble Batista from power."

In addition to being united, the revolutionary leaders think the fact that their propaganda campaigns are now aimed directly at Batista and not at his army will help their chances.

They said the next big meeting was scheduled for Miami because this city is "very close to Cuba and we have better communications with our people there."

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