

Box 7 - Folder 4

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED
1997

12 FEB 1959

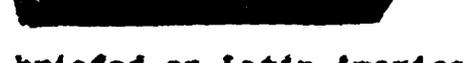
12 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

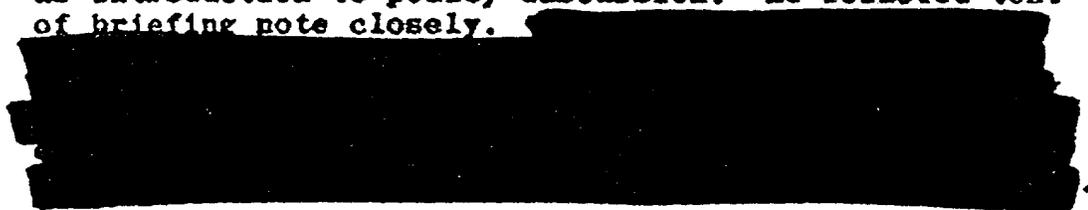
SUBJECT: NSC Briefing (394th) Thursday, 12 February 1959

DELETED TEXT
NOT RELEVANT
TO BAY OF PIGS

1. The following items were prepared:

- a. Latin America
- b. 
- c. 
- d. 

2. DCI briefed on Latin America for 10 minutes as introduction to policy discussion. He followed text of briefing note closely.



3. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, 16 February 1959 at 0900.

Cancelled

WALTER ELDER

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

SC-60 275/57

NSC BRIEFING

1997

11 February 1959

LATIN AMERICA

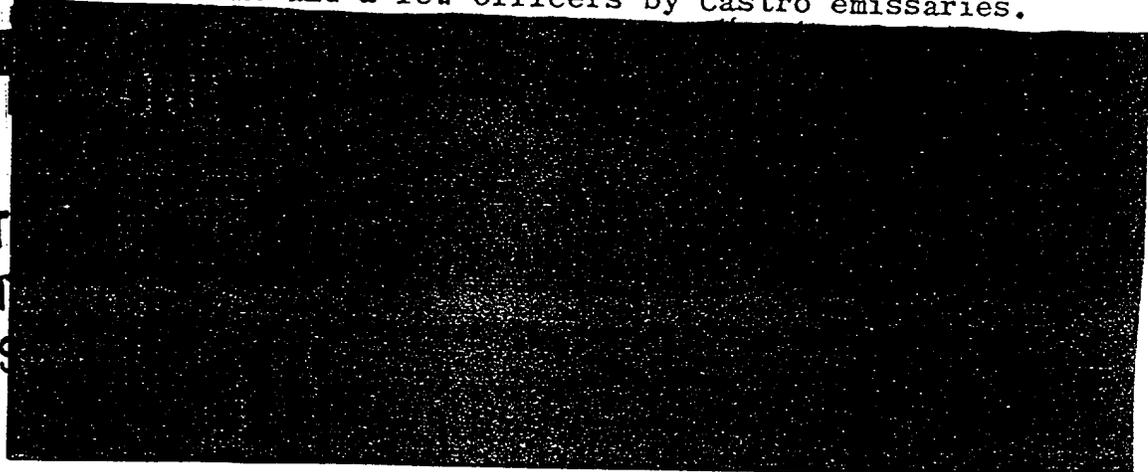
- I. Cuban situation still basically unstable.
 - A. Govt is ineffectual.
 1. Fidel Castro, nominally chief of armed forces, has neither assumed nor delegated his power.
 2. Provisional President Urrutia is weak.
 3. Some capable cabinet members, increasingly exasperated, may yet resign, which would seriously weaken public confidence
 4. Castro's public statements reveal strong antagonism to US.
 - B. Govt facing mounting problems demanding decisive action.
 1. Spreading labor unrest will, if continued, threaten vital sugar harvest now under way. Govt position is that management should in all cases give in to labor demands.
 2. Unemployment reaching serious proportions.
 3. Communists now operating freely.
 4. University in chaos with students purging faculty.
 5. Other political groups waiting opportunity to gain upper hand over Castro's now dominant 26 of July Movement.
- II. Castro, riding popular anti-dictator wave, becoming involved in plots against other govts.
 - A. Thinks of himself as the new Latin American liberator.

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1. He exploits latent anti-US feeling by charging US supports dictators.
 2. He and Venezuelan leaders evidently agree that every aid short of armed intervention should be given to anti-dictator revolutionaries.
 3. In recent public speeches in Caracas, Castro included Puerto Rico among countries to be "liberated."
- B. Extremely weak regime in Haiti may be first target.
1. Haitian opposition leader Dejoie now in Cuba broadcasting to Haiti that "liberation is near."
- C. Dominican Republic is Castro's primary target.
1. The 28 year dictatorship is very strong military position, but Trujillo is nervous.
 2. Anti-Trujillo exiles including some Commies now organizing in Cuba, Venezuela, and US.
- D. Somoza regime in Nicaragua also a target.
- E. Exiled opponents of Stroessner regime in Paraguay reportedly offered arms and a few officers by Castro emissaries.

III.

A.



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