

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION ON REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Haiti/Dominican Republic	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Explanation of the Attack on Haiti on 5 August 1963	DATE DISTR.	10 September 1963
		NO. PAGES	2
		REFERENCES	APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE OF INFO.	4 August 1963	DATE:	MAR 2001
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	[REDACTED]	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]

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

SOURCE:

[REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] has said that the reason he moved into Haiti on 5 August 1963 with a small, inadequately-armed force was that he had a secret agreement with Rolando Arcadia Masferrer Rojas, former Cuban Senator now in exile. Masferrer had promised to meet [REDACTED] at Ft. Liberte at dawn on 5 August. Masferrer said that he had a boat, from which he would put ashore two hundred fully-armed Cubans who would join forces [REDACTED] and attack Cap Haitien.

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2. [REDACTED] said that on the night of 4 August he had slightly over 100 men. [REDACTED] had left [REDACTED] because he felt that the move was unwise. Others refused to move at the last minute. When [REDACTED] actually crossed the border he had 80 men armed with 52 Springfield rifles, 10 sub-machine-guns, and one thirty-caliber machine-gun. None of the men was trained.

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3. [REDACTED] moved according to the plan with Masferrer, meeting with practically no resistance. On entering Ft. Liberte he found the barracks of the Armed Forces of Haiti (FADH) deserted. Masferrer failed to appear. After learning that FADH reinforcements were coming from Cap Haitien [REDACTED] knew he had no chance alone and withdrew to Derac, inflicting some casualties upon the Tonton Macoutes (TTM) and small units of the militia. From Derac he and his men straggled back across the Dominican border, where they regrouped. According to [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] said that on the night of 4 August he had slightly over 100 men. [REDACTED] had left [REDACTED] because he felt that the move was unwise. Others refused to move at the last minute. When [REDACTED] actually crossed the border he had 80 men armed with 52 Springfield rifles, 10 sub-machine-guns, and one thirty-caliber machine-gun. None of the men was trained.
3. [REDACTED] moved according to the plan with Masferrer, meeting with practically no resistance. On entering Ft. Liberte he found the barracks of the Armed Forces of Haiti (FADH) deserted. Masferrer failed to appear. After learning that FADH reinforcements were coming from Cap Haitien [REDACTED] knew he had no chance alone and withdrew to Derac, inflicting some casualties upon the Tonton Macoutes (TTM) and small units of the militia. From Derac he and his men straggled back across the Dominican border, where they regrouped. According to [REDACTED] he himself led the force into Ft. Liberte and out of Ft. Liberte to Derac, from which point he brought it back to the Dominican Republic.

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4. [redacted] said that he has known Masferrer for some time. His last contact with him was in New York before [redacted] left for the Dominican Republic. At that meeting Masferrer showed [redacted] a list of names of the Cubans who would come ashore on the morning of 5 August to join [redacted] said that Masferrer and he worked out the plan together, and Masferrer, claiming possession of a suitable boat and arms and an airplane for bombing Cap Haitien, gave his solemn promise he would arrive on schedule. [redacted] said that he had accepted Masferrer's word, as he had no reason to mistrust the man or his motives. [redacted] said that he had received a message from Masferrer on 15 August in which Masferrer wrote that he had been blocked by the FBI in Miami and he and two of his lieutenants had been detained, thus preventing his participation. [redacted] said that Masferrer was then in New York.
5. Starting on 8 August from Dajabon, [redacted] entered Haiti for the second time on 10 August and attacked Mont Organise. He said that he led the forced march over difficult terrain to Mont Organise and the men were completely exhausted. They rested under cover of darkness before moving on the town. [redacted] was accompanied by 24 members of the Mouvement Jeune Haiti (MJH), who had arrived from Santo Domingo and who were armed by [redacted]. Again, [redacted] met little resistance. Of a seventeen-man garrison of the FADH, two were killed, and the others joined [redacted] Civilians in Mont Organise did all they could to help [redacted] forces.
6. Fighting did develop subsequently around Mont Organise, and [redacted] force inflicted heavy casualties on equally poorly-armed TTM and militia groups in what was actually hand-to-hand fighting. [redacted] force at this point was almost out of ammunition. The thirty-millimeter machine-gun repeatedly broke down, and automatic weapons (10 Thompson sub-machine-guns) were used only for single shots.
7. Knowing he was finished as soon as the FADH could arrive from Hinche, [redacted] retreated and crossed the border on 17 August. The MJH group, using the last of the ammunition, made a small hit-and-run attack on Ferrier, where they inflicted numerous casualties. They, too, then crossed the border to Dajabon, and the action was over. [redacted] admitted that he himself had withdrawn from Mont Organise to the border and was already in the Dominican Republic before the MJH group split off and engaged in the brief action at Ferrier.