

April 27, 2010

Information and Privacy Coordinator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  DATE:  
03-01-2011

Dear Coordinator:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C subsection 552, I am requesting copies of the 32 reports on the *Miami Forward Operating Base*, as cited in the footnote in the enclosed two pages from a previously declassified document.

Unfortunately, I do not have either the title or the rest of the document from which the footnote is derived. I have only the two pages which I am enclosing, along with a retyped copy of the footnote to make it more clearly readable. As noted in the footnote, the above cited reports which I am requesting deal basically with the period between 1962 and 1968.

My name is Don Bohning. I am the author of the *Castro Obsession: US Covert Operations Against Cuba 1959-1965*, published in 2005 by Potomac Books, Dulles, Va. I am requesting the above cited reports for a subsequent and related book I am writing.

Please supply the records without informing me of the cost if the fee does not exceed \$100, which I agree to pay.

If you deny all or any part of this request, please cite each specific exemption you think justifies your refusal to release the information and notify me of appeal procedures under the law.

If you have any questions about handling this request, you may telephone me at   
 or email me at

Sincerely,

Don Bohning

Encl: a typed copy of footnote on which this request is based, as well as the original page<sup>5</sup>

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*Footnote Retyped*

The Forward Operations Base (FOB) opened in May 1960 in Coral Gables, Florida and it was the second FOB that had been established since the formation of WH Division – the initial base having been set up during the anti-Arbenz operation in Guatemala in 1953-1954. In general, the Miami FOB paralleled the organization of headquarters with FI, CI, CA, Support, and PM units. FOB reported directly to the Chief, WH DIVISION, not to Jake Esterline, Chief, WH/4. Initially the satellite communications center for relaying commo between Headquarters and the field – including facilities in the Florida Keys concerning the maritime operations – was established; and ultimately the commo link would connect Headquarters with the operations in Guatemala and Nicaragua. The cover for the base, was Clarence A. DePew & Sons, a notional cover for an organization engaged in classified research.

A series of some 32 reports has been prepared on the FOB, and the reports are available through the Records Management Office of WH Division. These  
(footnote continued on following page)

reports deal basically with the period between 1962 and 1968; and while there is some feeling that the story of the Bay of Pigs operation should go into extensive detail on the initial operations of the FOB, this author has chosen not to do so, focusing instead only on those broad aspects of the problem relating to the Miami Base. 84/

