

PID 13/63
18 Jan 1963

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, NPIC

FROM: Chief, CIA/FID(NPIC)

SUBJECT: Programs for Continuing Surveillance of Cuban
Photography

1. Since early 1960 this division has done considerable work on Cuban photography in the form of immediate reporting, coverage indexes, detailed studies in support of [] and other components of the Agency, reports evaluations, and compilation of reference files. This work has been performed at various field sites as well as at Headquarters. As a result of this work this division is able to bring considerable experience and background knowledge to bear on current problems. The key to a continuing program of surveillance is continuity and every effort is made to maintain this continuity in project and personnel assignments to project work. 25X1

2. A group of sixteen interpreters has been assigned to work on all Brass Knob immediate readouts. Twelve of these sixteen interpreters have been working on these missions at least since September 1962.

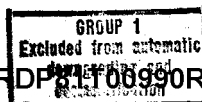
3. The coordinator for all Brass Knob missions has been furnished by this division and it is highly recommended that this procedure continue for the sake of continuity and the area background knowledge that they have accrued over a two-and-one-half year period.

4. The Geo-Military Branch has been charged with the responsibility for maintaining area knowledge of Cuba and performing all photo studies of Cuba except in certain specialized areas as missiles, electronics, industry, transportation and nuclear energy. They maintain an Order of Battle file and will shortly have in operation a wall-mounted map for support of immediate readouts and division reference.

5. In support of ORR, area studies are prepared which consist of an updating of the AMS map series E723 showing significant cultural, vegetation or military activity or changes. Photographic enlargements of

25X1

SECRET



PID 13/63
Page Two

major cities within these geographic areas are forwarded to ORR for the preparation of city plans.

6. The Geo-Military branch also carries on a continuing reports' evaluation program. Published or unpublished information or reports are forwarded to GMB on a daily basis for evaluation from a photo analysis viewpoint. This support is provided [] on a daily basis and frequently also to ORR, OCI and others. A formal publication is prepared titled "Photographic Evaluation of Information on Cuba". To date, seven such reports have been issued and work is proceeding on the eighth.

25X1

7. Incoming Navy messages and photography pertaining to merchant ships entering or leaving Cuban waters are received and scanned daily, and items of significance are brought to the attention of the Director, NPIC.

8. The Missiles-Electronics Branch of this division has taken several steps in order to assure that no new missile buildup is taking place in Cuba. All previously identified surface-to-surface missile sites are being studied on each current Brass Knob mission and compared with previous coverage for evidence of changes. All surface-to-air, cruise missiles sites, and support facilities are being studied to determine the degree of activity, operational status, and identification of new equipment. All major ports are being studied to determine degree of activity and to search for missile or missile-related equipment that may be stored, loaded, or unloaded at such ports. Military camps and vehicle parks are being studied for missile activity, especially FROG-type missiles. All suspect activity reported in the immediate reports is checked for missile-related activity.

9. The Industrial Branch and Atomic, Biological, Chemical Branch work primarily on detailed studies levied by various Agency components. However, as each branch provides personnel for the Brass Knob IPIR teams, they are kept current on items in their respective fields by these personnel.

25X1

Dist.

O&I - addressee

1 - PID Chrono

25X1

CIA/PID: []

SECRET

