

Played Important Part

Dulles Reveals CIA Role in Cuba Fiasco

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WASHINGTON.

The man who should know Allen W. Dulles, recently retired director of the Central Intelligence Agency, made it official yesterday: The CIA did play an important role in the abortive invasion attempt against Cuba.

Mr. Dulles, whose meek and mild mien belies the sobriquet "America's master spy" he won in his heyday, conceded, too, that the last chance to unhorse Premier Fidel Castro's Red regime, without direct American intervention, probably disappeared with the remnants of the invasion force in Cuba's Bay of Pige last April 17.

But the adventure was not without its advantages, according to the brother of the late Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles.

"I think that Latin America is far more alerted to the dangers of Castroism and communism, as a danger to their system, than they were, let's say, a year ago, or last April," he said on a pre-taped interview for NBC's TV program "Meet the Press."

"Many countries in Latin America have now broken diplomatic relations with Cuba and I think therefore, the impact of Castroism has decreased in many Latin American countries over the last six months because of what has taken place in Cuba, and their apprehension of what might take place in their own countries."

Defeated by Red Planes

Mr. Dulles denied, in a round-about-way, that the unexpected appearance of Soviet-built MIG fighters over the invasion force was responsible for its defeat.

He asserted, too, that the invasion attempt was not intended as a prelude to popular uprising against the Marxist-Leninist Premier's regime. But he declined to say what its prime objective was.

Asked to state "very frankly" whether the invasion flop was an intelligence failure, Mr. Dulles replied:

"I don't think it was. . . There was no military hardware that appeared that was a surprise to us. Some of the (Castro) materiel was handled a little differently than expected.

"General Misapprehension"

"There is quite a general misapprehension that it was felt that there would be a spontaneous uprising. We have never contemplated that. In the days of the war (World War II) I worked a great deal with the French underground. The last thing we wanted was spontaneous uprisings, to be slaughtered by the Nazi troops.

"In the same way, we were not looking for a spontaneous uprising, but for other developments."

Asking if the CIA anticipated the appearance of jet fighters, Mr. Dulles' reply was: "We are getting into areas about which I have not only not done any talking, and I don't think I will start now."

Later, in response to another question, Mr. Dulles said: "We knew that the Cuban pilots were being trained in Czechoslovakia. We knew they were going to have, very shortly available, under Cuban direction, MIGs in considerable numbers, and I am inclined to think . . . that if a move were to be made short of intervention, probably this was the area of time when it had to be made. About April to November . . ."

On other topics:

Soviet-Red China's intentions: That Americans should not "beguile" themselves about the current "vital difference" between the two Communist nations. The "basic" goal of Moscow coincides with the "basic" goal of Peiping. "They both believe that communism is going to take over the world."

Defines Prime Role

The CIA's prime role: To "pull together" intelligence estimates from many sources, including the State and Defense Departments, to provide a solid basis on which American leaders can base their policies.

Use of spies: "Sophisticated methods of science" seem to be well on the way to displacing humans. But, "you can't get along without the human element."

Russia vs. the CIA: "I haven't any doubt whatever that Moscow has been trying to destroy this agency for many, many years. . . ." Mr. Dulles said the CIA was perfectly willing to remain the Kremlin's "favorite whipping boy" because that was the only way to carry out a cross against the opponent.

"Fight Fire With Fire"

Is spying moral? "Well, if the entire world was a democratic society like ours, I would agree" (that spying has no place in a democratic society). He added, however: . . . "But when we have a vigorous, vicious opponent that is using these methods, it is sometimes said you have to fight fire with fire, whether you like it or not."

On a forthcoming book about the CIA: "I would call it the 'upside-down' story of the CIA, if I had to quickly appraise it. I regret to say there are a great number of inaccuracies."

(The book, "CIA—The Inside Story," by Andrew Tulley, Washington newspaper man, will be issued Jan. 10 by William Morrow & Co. It says,

among other things, that Mr. Dulles relied on an ex-Nazi for estimates of Soviet operations in Europe; that the CIA abetted the 1953 rising in East Germany, and that the agency gave aid and advice to the Hungarians before their uprising against their Communist masters).

That the CIA is without Congressional controls: "The idea that we are not looked at by Congress is a fantasy." At least two committees "know all about our work, all our activities," and "we bar no information from them that they want."

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