



Castro Sends Many Spies to U.S., Top-Level Defector Says

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A Cuban diplomat-spy who defected to the United States in 1969 with a batch of secret intelligence documents has disclosed the Fidel Castro regime's systematic infiltration of agents into the United States, Latin America and Africa.



In a book **GUEVARA** to be published here this week, Orlando Castro Hidalgo reveals the operations of Cuba's sophisticated intelligence apparatus at home and abroad and gives specific details of the Castro regime's espionage and guerrilla activities in three continents.

A third secretary in the Cuban Embassy in Paris before his defection, Castro Hidalgo, through the information he provided the United States also:

- Identified more than 150 Cuban intelligence agents and contacts.
- Revealed the extent to which intelligence has taken over the Cuban diplomatic service as well as other governmental organizations.
- Disclosed what happened to Dominican leader Francisco Caamano following his mysterious disappearance.
- Disclosed the full magnitude of the Castro-Guevara subversive plan for South America.
- Revealed the secret agreement between Castro and Moscow that is virtually converting Cuba into a Soviet colony.

CASTRO Hidalgo, who has been living in this country with his wife and family under an assumed name since his defection, says "Cuba has never had any real difficulty in infiltrating

agents into the United States."

Because of the large numbers of refugees arriving in the United States daily, he says, "There is no way of weeding out all the men and women who may be working for DGI (Directorio General de Inteligencia)."

The DGI operates in the United States using the Cuban mission to the United Nations as its headquarters, adds Castro Hidalgo, who is believed to be the highest-ranking Cuban intelligence officer ever to defect.

HE DETAILS Castroite attempts to infiltrate the militant anti-Castro Alpha 66 organization and other exile groups in Miami and says one key agent, who was "particularly well informed about (exile) missions to Cuba because of his work on small boats in the Miami area," still lives in Miami.

Although believed responsible for the capture of a number of exiles invading Cuba, no charges have been filed by the U.S. government against this agent "because his activities have not directly involved espionage against the United States," Castro Hidalgo says.

In the book, Castro Hidalgo mentions the refugee airlift, small-boat escapes, fence-jumping into Guantanamo naval base and emigration through Spain or Mexico as some of the channels available to the Castro regime to infiltrate agents into the United States.

HE ALSO tells of attempts to blackmail would-be refugees and individual exiles in this country into conducting undercover work for Havana.

Castro Hidalgo's book, "Spy for Fidel," reveals that Cuba has taken over to a large extent Cuba's diplomatic ser-

vice and other government organizations.

Upon arriving on assignment in Paris, Castro Hidalgo says he found "virtually the entire staff — except the ambassador and the counselor — were intelligence personnel. They doubled as diplomats."

THE PARIS embassy, he says, served as a center for much of the subversive work of Cuba's intelligence apparatus, not only for Europe but for Africa and Latin America.

Many of the visitors to Cuba, whether on legal or illegal missions, were funneled to Havana through Paris, Castro Hidalgo says, adding he was in charge of infiltrating guerrillas into Bolivia, Venezuela and other Latin countries through Paris and Prague.

One of those visitors was Col. Francisco Caamano Deno, the rebel military commander in the 1965 revolution in the Dominican Republic, who disappeared in October 1967 after a trip from London to The Hague, Castro Hidalgo says.

"IN PARIS, I received instructions to carry out a detailed survey of a section of the city where a meeting of two important persons could be held . . . I learned that the second person was Caamano."

The survey was carried out and the meeting was held, with "Caamano dressed in mufti and wearing a toupe that didn't quite match the rest of his hair," Castro Hidalgo says. Later, he says, he found out during a trip to Prague that Caamano was there preparing to go to Cuba.

"Clearly, Caamano was to participate in a new

Cuban subversive plan, probably one directed at the Dominican Republic," Castro Hidalgo says. "It may well be that Fidel Castro envisioned building Caamano into a second Guevara."

CASTRO Hidalgo says that while in Paris he also learned missing details about Ernesto (Che) Guevara's ill-fated attempt to lead a guerrilla war in Africa after dropping from sight in Cuba in 1967.

Castro Hidalgo describes Guevara's mission in Africa as an "odyssey in frustration," with little accomplishment. Rather than leading a guerrilla campaign, Che and his men found themselves giving their African allies "rudimentary military training, and when not occupied thus, they were busy trying to keep the tribes from fighting amongst themselves."

Once, the defector relates, an argument ensued between African partisans. Some who had advanced during an attack wanted those who had not to drink the blood of the slain enemies to regain their valor, Castro Hidalgo says. The Cubans were expected to do the same, but refused.

"Guevara and his Cubans had to flee through the jungles, pursued by enemy troops and their former allies. It took them a month to get to safety, and Guevara remarked in disgust that it would be another hundred years before the Africans would be ready to receive help in winning their liberation," Castro Hidalgo says.

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