

6 JAN 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : E. H. Knoche
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence CommunitySUBJECT : Status Report on Efforts to Improve Intelligence
Community Coverage of Cuba

1. As you will recall, in October we grew concerned about the growing role of Cubans internationally in paramilitary, political, Communist Party, and intelligence activities. Of particular concern are the limitations of the Community's knowledge of Cuban affairs and the need to improve our coverage, analysis and reporting. Accordingly, we began a deep look at our Cuban work in CIA and this led to Community consideration of the subject. We have put in train some important actions. The following is a status report on what has been accomplished to date and our plans for future action.

2. National Intelligence Office-Intelligence Community Staff Special All-Source Review: The Community is conducting a review of intelligence coverage of Cuba, called a Special FOCUS. Unlike a regular FOCUS review, which deals only with human resources and which evaluates the performance of a particular mission abroad in meeting intelligence requirements, this Special FOCUS is all-source, covering imagery, SIGINT and human resources, and deals with a country in which there is no U.S. mission. It seeks to establish new national requirements and related guidance/action strategies for each of the collection disciplines.

A. The Special FOCUS began with the NIO for Latin America establishing tentative future major national requirements on Cuba, including both internal matters and Cuban activities abroad, after discussions with key policymakers in November 1976.

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B. On 9 and 13 November the NIO/LA held requirements and evaluation seminars on Cuba, which were attended by consumers of intelligence from both policy and production elements. Two reports are being completed based on these seminars:

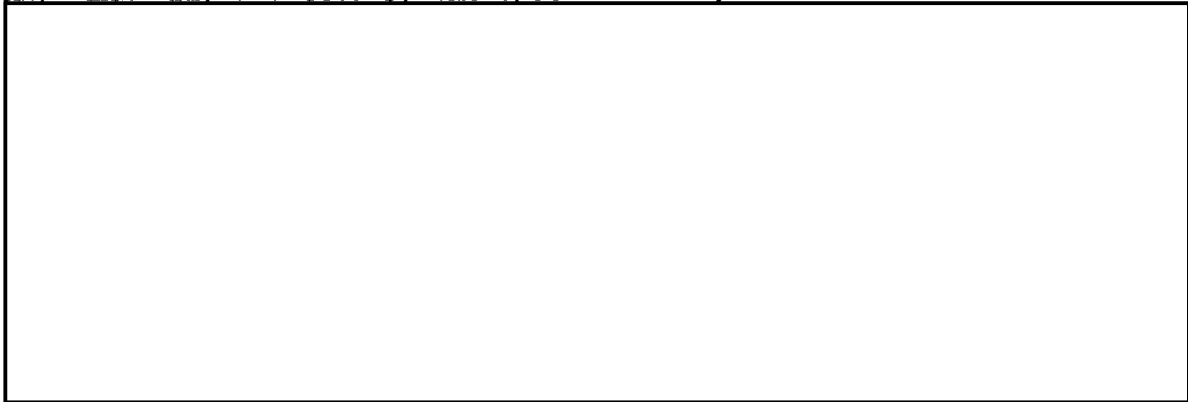
(1) A summary of prioritized future national requirements on Cuba, to be submitted shortly to the NFIB for validation and for revision of related priority authorizations; and

(2) An evaluation of recent reporting on six vital issues pertaining to Cuba.

C. The DCI SIGINT, COMIREX and Human Resource Committees will draw on these reports and by the end of January will have developed separate collection guidance/action strategy packages, including resource implications. (COMIREX made a preliminary review of imagery coverage in November 1976 on the basis of current requirements. Proposals derived from this review are under consideration; these include upgrading the exploitation priority of existing Cuban targets and the addition of one new target.)

D. The final step in the Special FOCUS exercise will be the development, by mid-February 1977, and subsequent implementation of an all-source collection guidance/action strategy using the three DCI Committee inputs, including any appropriate trade-offs and other resource implications.

3. CIA Actions: CIA has followed up its initial review of Cuban coverage without awaiting the results of the Special FOCUS. The CIA efforts involve both collection and production, and, except as noted below, can be handled from existing resources. CIA production efforts will be only minimally affected by the Special FOCUS, which is collection-oriented.



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