

Interviews

COMMISSION ON CIA ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES
Washington, DC 20500

Nelson A. Rockefeller,
Chairman
John T. Connor
C. Douglas Dillon
Erwin N. Griswold
Lane Kirkland
Lyman L. Lemnitzer
Ronald Reagan
Edgar F. Shannon, Jr.

David W. Belin,
Executive Director

June 11, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD
FROM: MARVIN L. GRAY, JR. *MLG*
SUBJECT: Interview with Mr. Murray (Under Cover)

On Monday, May 19, 1975 I met with Mr. Murray in the Commission offices at 712 Jackson Place. Mr. Murray was stationed at the Havana Station in 1960 when he was involved in an exchange of cables concerning the possibility of an accident for an aircraft carrying Raoul Castro and several other high officials of the Cuban government. He brought this exchange of cables to the attention of the Inspector General in a memorandum, a copy of which is in the Commission files. He is presently under cover.

Mr. Murray stated that his agent notified him that he was going to be the pilot to fly Raoul Castro and others to Europe. When Murray informed headquarters of this, headquarters cabled back that it was considering the possibility of a fatal accident and asked whether the pilot would be interested. Mr. Murray immediately left the Station to discuss the matter with the pilot. Within an hour of the time the first cable was received a second cable arrived countermanding the instructions. At this point it was too late to intercept Mr. Murray or the pilot. Thereafter the affair took the course described in Mr. Murray's memorandum to the Inspector General.

Mr. Murray stated that the pilot did not receive payment although he did make a currency exchange for him once in the approximate amount of \$1,500.00. The pilot was cleared and considered as a Station asset.

Mr. Murray stated that he never learned exactly how the foulup had occurred. He subsequently heard that the first cable had gone out without adequate clearance. He pointed out that as it arrived at 9:00 o'clock Havana time, it must have left Washington, D. C. very early in the morning.

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In a more general vein Mr. Murray stated that the Station began actively encouraging Cuban dissident groups in 1960. They were provided support in a combination of forms, including weapons drops as well as food, drugs, etc. Mr. Murray stated he was not directly involved in these drops.

Mr. Murray stated that every Cuban group had the assassination of Fidel Castro as one of its goals. He attributed this to the importance of Machismo in their psychological makeup as well as the practical consideration that this was one way of changing the form of government. He pointed out that in many Latin American countries assassination is historically not an unusual form of changing governments.

My original notes of the interview are attached to the original of this memorandum.

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