

DM-  
24 May 1961

B-6

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Present: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Mr. Bissell, Mr. Amory,  
Colonel White, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Helms, Mr. Barnes,  
Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Kent, General Balmer, Mr. Earman



MR. DULLES:

a. Stated he was quite concerned about the way essentially 5412 projects are being handled and stated CIA is totally unprotected if we do not follow established procedures in discussing and obtaining approval of these projects before implementation. Mr. Bissell commented that he and Mr. Barnes were seeing Mr. Goodwin of the White House today to discuss a 5412-type project on Cuba, and stated that this was an exploratory discussion only and at Mr. Goodwin's request since he was already knowledgeable of the program. He said he wanted to make it clear neither he nor Mr. Barnes are seeking formal authority from Goodwin to go ahead with the proposal in question. A discussion ensued regarding the Special Group's relationship with the various task forces appointed on Iran, Vietnam, Korea, and other <sup>Cuba</sup> together with the Special Group's connection with NSC actions. The Director agreed that this was a problem for the Special Group and asked Mr. Bissell to prepare a brief memorandum on this matter for his use at the Special Group meeting on Thursday, 25 May. Mr. Bissell also undertook to bring up to date Messrs. Gilpatric, Bowles, and General Lansdale on the above-mentioned Cuba program.

b. Noted a letter from J. Edgar Hoover containing information reportedly received from Roa, and in particular a statement that Roa made that some of the information had been obtained by the Soviets from a CIA contact. This particular information alleged that the U. S. planned to invade Cuba before the Kennedy Administration took office in order that President Kennedy would not be left with the problem of Cuba. The Director commented that possibly some misleading information along these lines had been put out and asked DD/P to check this point. It was also agreed that immediate action would be taken to run down the statement that the RIS has contacts in CIA and this task was assigned to DD/P (Mr. Angleton) in coordination with Security.

c. Noted that Mr. Robert Lovett, while a member of the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities,

Rockefeller Commission Parallel File, b.6, f. Assassination Material, Misc (5)  
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