

19 December 1963

*Noted by D
W.E.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with the President on Cuba at 1100 on
19 December 1963

LEB: John McGeorge Papers, 6.1, F: Mtgs w/ Pres 11/23-12/27/63.

1. Included in the meeting were Acting Secretary of State Ball, Acting Secretary of Defense Gilpatric, Secretary Cyrus Vance, Secretary Douglas Dillon, Ambassador Thompson, General Wheeler, Mr. Donald Wilson, Mr. McGeorge Bundy, Mr. Bromley Smith, Mr. Edwin Martin, Mr. Ted Sorensen, Mr. John Crimins, Mr. Gordon Chase, Mr. George Ready, Mr. Bill Moyers, General Carter, Mr. Helms, [REDACTED]

1.5(c)
3.4(b)(

2. The President, after full discussion, postponed any sizable operations [REDACTED] primarily to avoid any possible embarrassment to our OAS negotiations on the Venezuelan arms cache. We are authorized to continue to put forward proposals for operations and also to continue preparations for air ops. The main thrust was to greatly increase political action with Canada, Britain, Spain, Italy, and others in an effort to promote greater economic blockade.

3. Mr. Bundy later stated that his analysis of the meeting was that the President would continue to approve smaller [REDACTED] operations even though they would be relatively unrewarding if they would assist in keeping up the morale [REDACTED] and otherwise help in keeping the ball rolling.

1.5(c)
3.4(b)

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

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By iss, NARA Date 9-22-97

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Dictated by Mr. McCon

McCone went on to say the real issue to be considered at the meeting and by the President was a question of whether we wished to implement the policy as outlined in the 8th June paper and also less specifically in the paper circulated in the meeting by Mr. Bundy, or abandon the basic objective of bringing about the liquidation of the Castro Communist entourage and the elimination of Communist presence in Cuba and thus rely on future events of an undisclosed nature which might accomplish this objective. Specifically McCone said that he could envisage such issues as extreme economic distress caused by sharp drop in sugar prices or other external factors arising which might cause Castro great pain and, ultimately, his downfall. In summing up his position McCone stated that the actions favorably looked upon, that is, intelligence gathering, propaganda, economic denial [redacted] all would have some effect but definitely would not accomplish the stated objectives.

: 1.5(c)
3.4(b)(1)

JAM/[redacted]

LBJ: ~~McGone Papers~~ John McGone Papers, b. 1, f. 44ys w/ Dec 3 Apr 1964 - 20 May 1964.

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