

Agency Information

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ORIGINATOR : OSD
FROM : BRIG. GEN. LANSDALE
TO : SPECIAL GROUP (AUGMENTED)

TITLE : CONTINGENCY PLAN

DATE : 07/31/1962
PAGES : 18

SUBJECTS :

CONTINGENCY PLANS - CUBA
OPERATION MONGOOSE
UNITED STATES CONTINGENCY PLAN NO. 2, CUBA
US MILITARY INTERVENTION - CUBA

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COMMENTS : McNamara Papers, Box 86 (42), Mongoose. Memo from Lansdale to Special Group (Augmented) re: contingency plan for military intervention in Cuba.

b. Department of Defense Operations.

(1) When directed by higher authority, or as the situation demands, the Department of Defense will initiate preparatory actions for US military intervention in Cuba. These actions may include pre-positioning forces and equipment by execution of current cover and deception plans.

(2) Upon final decision of the President, the Joint Chiefs of Staff will direct execution of military intervention plans for Cuba.

(3) In concept, initial military operations commence with a blockade, concentrated air strikes and coordinated Naval gunfire to effect destruction of enemy air power and to neutralize and destroy as much as possible of the enemy tank, armor, artillery, and anti-air capability.

6(1)(c) (a) In western Cuba airborne and amphibious assaults will be conducted by a Joint Task Force with the initial objective of seizing the city of Havana and obtaining control over the seat of government. Army airborne units will secure the major airfields in the area as well as major port areas required for follow-on forces and logistic resupply. Navy/Marine amphibious forces will secure a beachhead in the vicinity of Havana and designated Army units will follow the Marines over the beach. The Marine amphibious forces will be prepared to re-embark for further operations as directed.

6(1)(c) (b) In eastern Cuba, Guantanamo will be reinforced by air- and sea-lifted Marines for defense

of the base. Additional Navy/Marine amphibious forces will be employed in operations against Cuban forces in the Santiago de Cuba complex or in other operations in eastern Cuba as directed.

(4) Subsequent to the seizure of Havana and Santiago and the successful defense of Guantanamo, operations will be conducted to defeat remaining pockets of resistance. Additional amphibious and airborne operations may be required. The most likely areas for such operations are: Matanzas, Nuevitas, Nicaro, Trinidad, Bahia de Cochinos, and the Isle of Pines.

(5) At such time as essential US military control is gained in Cuba, matters of civil affairs and military government will be given priority and undertaken in accordance with policy established by the Department of State. This includes provision for a provisional military government prepared to assume full legislative, executive, and judicial control until such functions can be turned over to other authority on direction in an expeditious and orderly manner. Remaining resistance elements of the Communist Cuban government, armed forces or other groups will be isolated, contained and destroyed or captured as rapidly as possible. US military combat units will be scheduled for early return to the United States consistent with security considerations.

c. Department of State Operations.

(1) Phase I. The Department of State will seek to place the United States in as broad a multilateral context as possible.

(a) Immediately sound out Latin American Governments to determine whether the United States can count upon a 2/3 majority decision authorizing the use of military forces under Article 6 of the Rio Treaty.