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7 July 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with Tony Varona

1. The undersigned was advised by WH/4/Security on the morning of 7 July that Tony Varona had called asking to speak with Frank BENDER. Varona is in Washington where he is staying at the Roosevelt Hotel, DEcatur 2-0800, room 707. He will remain in Washington for three or four days.
  2. The undersigned was able to reach Varona by sterile telephone at about 16:15. The undersigned gave his name as Raymond S. Clark - who is a friend of Frank BENDER and indicated that Varona might tell the undersigned the same things he would tell Frank BENDER.
  3. Varona brought up the following four points:
    - a. He inquired as to the state of recruiting and as to what was taking place in connection with the Cuban situation, presumably from a military point of view.
    - b. He said that he wished to get in touch with General Taylor, whereupon the undersigned told him that the method of doing that would be through Mr. Goodwin.
    - c. He referred to a purported offer by the United States to take care of himself and his family while he was in the United States and that he had not received payment, the undersigned understood, for ~~the~~ last month.
    - d. In general, he wondered whether the U.S. was going to do anything about Cuba or not, and he said that he had talked with Goodwin and that nothing had been resolved.
  4. With the exception of answering as to the means of getting in touch with General Taylor, the undersigned stated that he knew very little about the matters which Varona brought up, but that he would pass on the information to others.
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5. The undersigned got in touch with Varona only after having the go-ahead sign from from C/WHD and discussion the matter with DC/WH/4, CWE/4/Security, Martha Sharpe and Frank BENDER.

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*R. S. Chamberlain*  
R. S. Chamberlain  
WH/CA/PROP

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