

# COVERT CUBAN INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS IN THE AMERICAS

The Americas department is a division of the Cuban General Directorate of Intelligence (D.G.I.) that manages all of Havana's covert activities in the Western hemisphere, especially its moves to undercut democracy and capitalism. A handful of strategically placed D.G.I. operatives are assigned the task of implementing programs that are formulated in cooperation with the Kremlin. These agents execute measures intended to divert American society from the orderly pursuit of its national purpose. Cuban intelligence is skilled in manipulating the terrorist groups that are lodged in a targeted country, edging them into using armed propaganda to highlight significant economic and social grievances. The objective of these Communist-contrived terrorist acts is to advertise that the American system of government is in shambles and that Americans lack the will to protect their vital national interests.

Moscow calculates that acts of terror by its surrogates, that is, the groups which are used for the purpose of masking its own involvement, will cause the citizens of the United States to question the determination and foresight of their government and business leaders. Once this process begins, the Kremlin conjectures, any American approach to protect its interests will be characterized by indecisiveness and failure.<sup>1</sup>

The Soviet Union forecasts that the American people, upon being confronted with danger and riddled with discord, will abandon democracy and accept some form of dictatorial rule in its stead. According to

Karl Marx, dictatorships are eventually transformed into socialist systems through an inevitable historical process that is keyed to violence, its catalyst for change. Italy's Red Brigades, West Germany's Baader-Meinhof Gang, and various Latin American terrorist organizations have served as instruments for the Communist bloc in its campaign of surrogate warfare directed against the United States and its Allies.

The dimensions and characteristics of this form of warfare have received scant attention in the popular media. American officials admit that their country can wage nuclear war, or participate in a large-scale guerrilla war, but has not yet developed a comprehensive strategy to protect itself against acts of terror unleashed by the Kremlin's surrogates.

The Communists have skillfully contrived a scenario of terror that is designed to constrict the economic system of the United States. The plan involves the use of terrorist action in overseas areas vital to American interests, particularly in Central America. Among the significant components of this strategy are:

1. The disruption and eventual severance of the trade connections between the United States and Western Europe by creating an insecure environment for commerce.
2. The reduction of the American corporate investment and involvement in Central and Latin America, Asia, and Africa as a consequence of the high risk and vulnerability of business assets.
3. Denying the United States safe access to oil produced by the OPEC countries, while simultaneously increasing its dependency on foreign oil. The American antinuclear movement and advocates of environmental stability are unwitting but vital components in this portion of Moscow's analysis.<sup>2</sup>

The D.G.I., while acting as Moscow's surrogate, manages intelligence operations specifically contrived to assist the Communists to realize their objectives in the Americas, particularly by acts of terror and trade in narcotics.<sup>3</sup>

### **CUBA'S ROLE IN THE NARCOTICS TRADE**

The American deployment of air and ship patrols to stifle the Cuban-supervised drug traffic that flows north to the United States from the Caribbean Basin has been ineffective. Some Latin American drug merchants have connected with the D.G.I. for the purpose of helping them elude surveillance by American patrols. The Cubans use the smugglers and their extensive clandestine connections to move weapons to terrorist