

DECLASSIFIED with deletions
Authority NLE 2011-67 #5
By MMK NLDDE Date 12/30/13

~~TOP SECRET~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



February 19, 1960

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT
(Wednesday, 17 February 1960 at 3:00 p.m.)

PRESENT: General Goodpaster

SUBJECT: 5412 Matters

sugar there, foreign
** see logs re finances, cutting off exchange P.S.*

I reported to the President with respect to certain activities in

[Redacted]

I discussed in some detail a proposal which was being considered with respect to Cuba and which had been discussed at the February 17 meeting of the 5412 Group. The President made the following points. He doubted the efficacy of the undertaking from the point of view of stopping subversive activities because of his feeling that support for the subversive activities would be forthcoming from the Soviet Union in any event.

Aside from the efficacy question, he said first he wondered why we were thinking of something on such a narrow basis. He said that he wondered why we weren't trying to identify assets for this and other things as well across the board, including even possibly things that might be drastic. He thought it would be a good idea for the Group to talk with a man he had talked with as Government officials interested in the problem. I pointed out to him that this was only an authorization to identify assets and to see whether this even could be done. I made it clear that Allen Dulles was not prepared to go ahead with it; that he didn't know whether he had the capability of going ahead. I suggested that we ask that the study and identification of assets go ahead on a broad basis, including this one and then upon his return from the trip he would be in a better position to sit down and consider it. He said he didn't mind making the study of possible courses but he wanted to make it clear that this action is forbidden until the Group has fully reviewed it and if they think we should go ahead he would like to be involved. I said this would enable people to go ahead with finding out what is possible but without any authorization and this and other things could be considered at that time. He said that was fine.

Gordon Gray

Gordon Gray
Special Assistant to the President

~~TOP SECRET~~