

Selections from
**“Cuba: The Human Cost of Social Revolution:
The Black Book of Cuban Communism”**
MANUSCRIPT / WORK-IN-PROGRESS
by Armando M. Lago, Ph.D.¹

U.S. CITIZENS

The following information has been obtained as part of the investigation for a book in progress. Abundant sources have been used and cross-referenced -existing lists, press reports, prison memoirs, personal testimonies and others. Further research as well as corroboration work is underway.

BY ALPHABETICAL ORDER

**I. U.S. CITIZENS EXECUTED OR ASSASSINATED IN CUBA
BY THE CASTRO REGIME**

HOWARD FREDERICK ANDERSON. 19-04-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. AGE: 41. OCCUPATION: BUSINESS EXECUTIVE - OWNED SEVERAL GASOLINE SERVICE STATIONS, A JEEP DISTRIBUTION AGENCY AND A MANUFACTURING PLANT. PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION'S HAVANA CHAPTER AND AVID SPORTS FISHERMAN. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: HAVANA. MOVED TO CUBA IN 1947, WHERE HE MET HIS WIFE DOROTHY AND RAISED A FAMILY OF FOUR CHILDREN (GARY, MARC, LEE AND BONNIE). WAS ARRESTED IN MARCH 1961 AND CHARGED WITH BEING A C.I.A AGENT, OF BELONGING TO, AN ANTI-CASTRO GROUP (ACCION CIVICA), SERVING AS CONTACT BETWEEN THE BAY OF PIGS INVADERS AND THE ANTI-CASTRO CUBAN RESISTANCE, AND OF SUPPLYING ARMS TO GUERRILLAS FOR THE GUERRILLA UPRISING. DURING HIS TRIAL, WHICH WAS LABELED BY SWISS DIPLOMATS IN ATTENDANCE AS A SHAM, HE WAS CONSTANTLY HARRASSED BY THE PROSECUTION WITH CRIES OF "DEATH TO THE AMERICAN." BEFORE HIS EXECUTION HE WAS **SAVAGELY TORTURED** BY PRISON GUARDS PERERA AND SARGEANT SANGUILY **AND HAD HIS BLOOD EXTRACTED WITHOUT CONSENT.** HE WAS **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** ON 19-04-61 AT PRISON 5 1/2, LUIS LAZO, PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE AND BURIED IN A COMMON MASS GRAVE IN PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE. IN 2001 HIS WIDOW, DOROTHY ANDERSON CURRENTLY A POMPANO BEACH RESIDENT, AND FOUR CHILDREN, SUED THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT IN U.S. FEDERAL COURT FOR DAMAGES.

SOURCES: UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY, 1993, YEAR 1961. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993 PAGE 88. CLARK, CUBA: MITO Y REALIDAD, 1990, PAGE 158. ENCINOSA, CUBA EN GUERRA, 1994, PAGES 95 & 287. TESTIMONY OF MIAMI HERALD JOURNALIST BONNIE ANDERSON (DAUGHTER), EL NUEVO HERALD, 6 MARCH 1989, PAGE 2-C. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVIEMBRE 1998, PAGE 10-A. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994. DIRECTORIO REVOLUCIONARIO ESTUDIANTIL, LA REPRESION EN CUBA, 1965, PAGE 24. WAQI-RADIO MAMBI, PAGE 36. ALEJANDRO GOMEZ-ESTRADA, LA BESTIA ROJA DE CUBA!, 1990, PAGE 147. L. RUIZ, DIARIO DE UNA TRAICION: CUBA01961, 1972, PAGE 82. DAVID GONZALEZ, "CUBA IS SUED FOR EXECUTION OF AMERICAN 40 YEARS AGO," THE NEW YORK TIMES, 1 DECEMBER 2001, PAGE A-14. THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, 3 OCTOBER 1997. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES. DECEMBER 2001, PAGE A-12, COLUMN 1.

FREDERIC RICHARD CARTER. 08-82. U.S. CITIZEN. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: MIRAMAR, HAVANA. **ASSASSINATED WHILE UNDER ARREST** AT STATE SECURITY HEADQUARTERS IN HAVANA.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 100. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SU PRESIDIO POLITICO, 1994, PAGE 166. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994.

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ANDREW DEGRAUX (ALIAS "ANDY"). LAST SEEN 13-09-62, PRESUMABLY KILLED. AGE: 19. U.S. CITIZEN. OCCUPATION: STUDENT OF AUTO MECHANICS AT "JOSE MENDOZA GARCIA" TECHNOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN TRINIDAD, CUBA. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: TRINIDAD, LAS VILLAS PROVINCE, CUBA. ORGANIZER OF A STUDENT STRIKE IN LAS VILLAS, HE HAD JOINED THE ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLAS IN THE ESCAMBRAY MOUNTAINS. WAS WOUNDED IN COMBAT AND **DISAPPEARED** IN TRINIDAD. **IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED** AT LA CAMPANA, LAS VILLAS, OR AT LA CABAÑA FORTRESS IN HAVANA. STATUS: MISSING PERSON.

SOURCE: TESTIMONY OF MS. MARY LOUISE DEGRAUX ALONSO (SISTER), JANUARY, 1999.

MATTHEW EDWARD DUKE. 14-05-60. PRESUMED U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. **KILLED BY PRISON GUARD BRUTALITY** AT LA CABAÑA FORTRESS IN HAVANA.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGE 111. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994.

ROBERT OTIS FULLER. 17-10-60. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A. LANDED IN NAVAS BAY, ORIENTE, IN OCTOBER OF 1960 TO START AN ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA GROUP. WAS CAPTURED, TRIED BY A REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL IN SANTIAGO, SENTENCED TO DEATH AND **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** AT THE SAN JUAN SHOOTING RANGE IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA, ORIENTE PROVINCE.

SOURCE: RUIZ, *DIARIO DE UNA TRAICION: CUBA-1960, 1970*, PAGE 316. ENCINOSA, *ESCAMBRAY LA GUERRA OLVIDADA*, 1989, PAGE 145. UNITED STATES FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION, *DECISION CU-6199, AWARD TO JENNY M. FULLER ET AL.*, 1972. BERUVIDES, 1993, PAGE 174. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, *DIARIO LAS AMERICAS*, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A.

ANDY GRANEY (ALIAS "EL AMERICANITO"). 01/62. U.S. CITIZEN. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN SAN JUAN, ORIENTE PROVINCE.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGE 124.

AUGUST K. MCNAIR. 10-04-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A. RADIO-TELEGRAPH OPERATOR, LANDED IN PINAR DEL RIO WITH MARCIAL BELLO TO START AN ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA GROUP AND WAS CAPTURED. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN PINAR DEL RIO.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGES 139 AND 143. ENCINOSA, *CUBA EN GUERRA*, 1994, PAGE 95. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, *DIARIO LAS AMERICAS*, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MORGAN. 12-03-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. FORMER "COMANDANT" IN CASTRO'S REBEL ARMY. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: HAVANA, CUBA. SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR TAKING PART IN AN ANTI-CASTRO CONSPIRACY, WAS **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN LA CABAÑA FORTRESS IN HAVANA - RECEIVED MULTIPLE COUP DE GRACE SHOTS. AT HIS EXECUTION, MORGAN REFUSED TO KNEEL AND BEG FOR HIS LIFE. HE WAS, THEN, SHOT IN THE KNEES. WHEN HE TOPPLED TO THE GROUND, THE PLATOON COMMANDER TOLD HIM "SEE, WE MADE YOU KNEEL" AND PROCEEDED TO GIVE THE ORDER TO FIRE.

SOURCE: FRANQUI, *VIDA, AVENTURAS Y DESASTRES DE UN HOMBRE LLAMADO CASTRO*, 1988, PAGE 346. ANA LAZARA RODRIGUEZ, *DIARY OF A SURVIVOR*, 1995, PAGE 128. CLARK, *CUBA: MITO Y REALIDAD*, 1990, PAGE 151. BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGE 149. VALLADARES, *CONTRA TODA ESPERANZA*, 1985, PAGE 27. ARIEL REMOS, *DIARIO LAS AMERICAS*, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994.

WILLIAM HORACE PATTEN-TABARES. 23-09-61. AGE: 34. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH (BORN IN CALIFORNIA IN 1927). OCCUPATION: GENERAL AVIATION PILOT FOR AGRICULTURAL AERIAL-SPRAYING APPLICATIONS / TICKET AGENT AT CAMAGUEY AIRPORT. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: FINCA LA AFRICANA, OFF THE AIRPORT ROAD IN CAMAGUEY, CUBA. LANDED IN CUBA TO START A GUERRILLA MOVEMENT AND WAS CAPTURED. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN GUANABAQUILLA SHOOTING RANGE IN CAMAGUEY.

SOURCE: TESTIMONY OF MARGARITA PATTEN MILLER (WIDOW), APRIL 12, 1999. ENCINOSA, *CUBA EN GUERRA*, 1994, PAGE 121. BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGE 154. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, *DIARIO LAS AMERICAS*, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A.

BILL PATTERSON. 03-06-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN SANCTI SPIRITUS, LAS VILLAS PROVINCE.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 154. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PG. 10-A.

RAFAEL DEL PINO SIERO. 22-08-77. AGE: 50. U.S. CITIZEN BY NATURALIZATION SINCE 1946 (WORLD WAR II VETERAN). PLACE OF RESIDENCE: MIAMI, FLORIDA. CAPTURED IN 1959 WHILE FLYING A PLANE TO PICK UP CUBAN MILITARY OFFICERS, WAS CONDEMNED TO A 30-YEAR SENTENCE, BUT IS **REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ASSASSINATED** INSIDE HIS PUNISHMENT CELL AT COMBINADO DEL ESTE PRISION, HAVANA. THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT CLAIMS HE COMMITTED SUICIDE BY HANGING WITH A STOCKING.

SOURCE: SZULC, FIDEL: A CRITICAL PORTRAIT, 1986, PAGES 173, 177, 366-387. ENCINOSA, CUBA EN GUERRA, 1994, PAGES 336-338. VALLADARES, CONTRA TODA ESPERANZA, 1985, PAGES 199 AND 398. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 187. GLORIA MARINA, THE MIAMI HERALD, 30 AUGUST 1977. CONTE, PAGES 181-182. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A.

THOMAS (PETE) WILLARD RAY. 19-04-61. AGE: 30. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: AIR FORCE CAPTAIN WITH THE ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, USA. WAS PILOTING A PLANE IN SUPPORT OF THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION FORCE, WAS SHOT DOWN NEAR THE AUSTRALIA SUGAR MILL IN CUBAN AIRSPACE. AFTER SURVIVING THE CRASH, HE WAS **EXECUTED WHILE LYING WOUNDED**, SHOT IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD. HIS BODY REMAINED IN EXHIBITION AT THE MORGUE IN HAVANA FOR 18 YEARS. FOR THE FAMILY TO FINALLY RECOVER HIS REMAINS, THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTED THEY PAY \$36,000 IN STORAGE CHARGES, WHICH THEY REJECTED. THANKS TO THE DAUGHTER'S RELENTLESS EFFORTS, THE BODY WAS EVENTUALLY RELEASED AND BURIED IN ALABAMA IN DECEMBER 1979.

SOURCE: TESTIMONY OF JANET RAY WEININGER (DAUGHTER) IN CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, ACTUALIDAD CUBANA, OCTOBRE 1998, PAGE. LYNCH, DECISION FOR DISASTER, 1998, PAGE 128. EDWARD FERRER, OPERATION PUMA, 1982, PAGES 213, 215 AND 216. CLARK, CUBA: MITO Y REALIDAD, 1990, PAGE 182. GONZALEZ-LALONDRY, BAHIA DE COCHINOS, 1995, PAGE 411. ENRIQUE ROS, PLAYA GIRON, 1994, PAGE 276. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994.

ANTHONY SALVARD. 13-10-60. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A. LANDED IN NAVAS BAY, ORIENTE ON 10-60 WITH ARMENTINO FERIA TO START A GUERRILLA MOVEMENT. WAS CAPTURED AND SENTENCED TO DEATH BY A REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

SOURCE: UNITED STATES FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION, DECISION CU-6199, AWARD TO JENNY M. FULLER ET AL., 1972. ENCINOSA, ESCAMBRAY LA GUERRA OLVIDADA, 1989, PAGE 162. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 174. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A.

JOHN B. SKELTON. 08-07-63. PRESUMED U. S. CITIZEN. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA, ORIENTE PROVINCE.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 177. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994.

ALLEN DALE THOMPSON. 17-10-60. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A. LANDED IN NAVAS BAY, ORIENTE ON 10-60 TO START AN ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN. WAS CAPTURED, TRIED BY A REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA ON 17-10-61 AND SENTENCED TO DEATH. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** AT THE SAN JUAN HILL SHOOTING RANGE IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

SOURCE: L. RUIZ, DIARIO DE UNA TRACION: CUBA-1960, 1970, PAGE 316. ENCINOSA, ESCAMBRAY LA GUERRA OLVIDADA, 1989, PAGE 163. UNITED STATES FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION, DECISION CU-6199, AWARD TO JENNY M. FULLER ET AL., 1972. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGES 187 AND 180. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A.

ROBERT TULLER. 1960. U. S. CITIZEN. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** AT LA CABAÑA FORTRESS IN HAVANA.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGE 181. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994.

ANTHONY ZARBA (ALIAS TONY). 12-10-60. U.S. CITIZEN. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A. LANDED IN NAVAS BAY, ORIENTE ON 10-60 WITH ARMENTINO FERIA TO START A GUERRILLA MOVEMENT. WAS CAPTURED AND SENTENCED TO DEATH BY A REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL. **EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD** IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA, ORIENTE PROVINCE.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, *CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES*, 1993, PAGE 187. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, *THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE*, 1994. WAQI, *RADIO MAMBI'S LIST*, p.82. GOMEZ-ESTRADA, *LA BESTIA ROJA DE CUBA*, 1990, P. 169. *LA REPRESIÓN EN CUBA*, DIRECTORIO REVOLUCIONARIO ESTUDIANTIL, 1965, p.38. LEOVIGILDO RUIZ, *CUBA: DIARIO DE UNA TRAICION*, 1960 (1970), TELLES, 307-310 HAS HIM EXECUTED ON 13/10/60.

II. U.S CITIZENS ASSASSINATED BY THE CASTRO REGIME OUTSIDE OF CUBA

Research for this section is mostly pending until a future phase of this investigative project. Cuba under Castro has trained terrorists from all over the world and financed and participated in many international armed conflicts, from international solidarity wars in Africa to guerilla movements in Latin America. In fact, Fidel Castro has publicly acknowledged sponsoring wars of subversion against all countries of Latin American with the exception of Mexico. As a result, thousands of lives have been lost, primarily in Africa and Latin America, including a number of U.S. citizens. In fact, Cuba supported the Puerto Rican terrorist movement FALN (Frente Armado de Liberacion Nacional) known as "Macheteros" carried out its activities in U.S. territory—at least 72 bombing, 40 incendiary attacks, and 8 attempted bombings- causing 83 injuries, 5 deaths and over millions in property damage.²

ARMANDO ALEJANDRE JR. 24-02-96. AGE: 45. U.S. CITIZEN BY NATURALIZATION (VIETNAM WAR VETERAN). OCCUPATION: TRANSIT PLANNER, DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: MIAMI, FLORIDA. AS PASSENGER ON AN UNARMED CIVILIAN PLANE ON A HUMANITARIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION FOR BROTHERS TO THE RESCUE, WAS **SHOT DOWN BY CUBAN MIG JET FIGHTERS** IN INTERNATIONAL AIRSPACE OVER THE FLORIDA STRAITS, IN WHAT IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN A PREMEDITATED ACTION.

SOURCES: ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, *ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS* 1996, 1997, PAGE 691. PABLO ALFONSO, *EL NUEVO HERALD*, 25 FEBRUARY 1997, PAGE 1-A. ARMANDO CORREA, *EL NUEVO HERALD*, 25 FEBRUARY 1997, PAGE 10-A. ARIEL REMOS, *DIARIO LAS AMERICAS*, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A. CENTER FOR A FREE CUBA, "CONGRESSMEN TO CLINTON: BRING CASTRO TO JUSTICE", *CUBA BRIEF*, WINTER 1998, PAGE 26.

COBEIL, EARL GLENN, U.S. AIR FORCE CAPTAIN. SERIAL NO. 364327201. 5-11-70. AGE: 36. DOB: 29-8-34. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH, RESIDENT OF PONTIAC, MICHIGAN. MARRIED. CAUCASIAN. CAPTURED IN 1967 IN VIETNAM, CAPT. COBEIL WAS TRANSFERRED IN JANUARY 1968 TO THE PRISON KNOWN BY AMERICAN POWS AS "THE ZOO." THERE, HE WAS SUBJECTED TO WHAT WAS KNOWN AS "THE CUBAN PROGRAM" LED BY A SPECIAL CUBAN TEAM WHOSE HEAD THE PRISONERS NICKNAMED "FIDEL." THIS PARTICULARLY VICIOUS SYSTEM OF EXTREME PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN AN EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM OF DOMINATION TECHNIQUES, FOR WHICH SUCCESSIVE GROUPS OF AMERICAN POWS (18 IN TOTAL) HELD AT THE ZOO WERE RANDOMLY SELECTED DURING 1967-1968. COBEIL ENDURED "ONE OF THE MOST HENIOUS AND TRAGIC ATROCITY CASES IN THE NORTHERN PW EXPERIENCE" (ROCHESTER & KILEY, P. 399). **AFTER WEEKS OF VICIOUS BEATINGS, UNRELENTING PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE, SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, AND FORCED ELECTROSHOCKS, HIS MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITION DETERIORATED**

² See U.S. House of Representatives, Findings of the Committee on Government Reform, [The FALN & Macheteros Clemency](http://www.fas.org/irp/world/para/docs/final_faln_rpt2.htm), 12 December 1999, http://www.fas.org/irp/world/para/docs/final_faln_rpt2.htm. Also see pages 64 and 68-76 in Maria C. Werlau, "Cuba: Safe Haven for Fugitives, Hotbed for Terrorists," pp. 61-83, in Adolfo Leyva, Editor, *Cuba: Assessing the Threat to U.S. Security*, Endowment for Cuban American Studies, November 2001.

PROGRESSIVELY UNTIL HIS DEATH IN THE FALL OF 1970 IN A CELL AT HOA LO. HIS REMAINS WERE RETURNED ON 24-3-74.

SOURCE: ROCHESTER, STUART AND KILEY, FREDERICK. HONOR BOUND: AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, 1961-1973 (ANNAPOLIS: NAVAL INSTITUTE PRESS, 1999), pp. 399-405. ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, HISTORICAL OFFICE, 1998. WWW.VIRTUALWALL.ORG/DC/COBEILEG01B.HTM.

CARLOS COSTA. 24-02-96. AGE: 29. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR AT THE MIAMI-DADE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: MIAMI, FL. PILOTING AN UNARMED CIVILIAN PLANE ON A HUMANITARIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION FOR BROTHERS TO THE RESCUE, WAS **SHOT DOWN BY CUBAN MIG JET FIGHTERS** IN INTERNATIONAL AIRSPACE OVER THE FLORIDA STRAITS, IN WHAT IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN A PREMEDITATED ACTION.

SOURCE: ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS 1996, 1997, PAGE 691. PABLO ALFONSO, EL NUEVO HERALD, 25 FEBRUARY 1997, PAGE 1-A. ARMANDO CORREA, EL NUEVO HERALD, 25 FEBRUARY 1997, PAGE 10-A. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A. CENTER FOR A FREE CUBA, "CONGRESSMEN TO CLINTON: BRING CASTRO TO JUSTICE", CUBA BRIEF, WINTER 1998, PAGE 26.

MARIO DE LA PEÑA. 24-02-96. AGE: 24. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: PILOT INTERN WITH AMERICAN AIRLINES. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: MIAMI, FLORIDA. PILOTING AN UNARMED CIVILIAN PLANE ON A HUMANITARIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION FOR BROTHERS TO THE RESCUE, WAS **SHOT DOWN BY CUBAN MIG JET FIGHTERS** IN INTERNATIONAL AIRSPACE OVER THE FLORIDA STRAITS, IN WHAT IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN A PREMEDITATED ACTION.

SOURCE: ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS 1996, 1997, PAGE 691. PABLO ALFONSO, EL NUEVO HERALD, 25 FEBRUARY 1996, PAGE 1-A. ARMANDO CORREA, EL NUEVO HERALD, 25 FEBRUARY 1996, PAGE 10-A. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A. CENTER FOR A FREE CUBA, "CONGRESSMEN TO CLINTON: BRING CASTRO TO JUSTICE", CUBA BRIEF, WINTER 1998, P. 26.

III. U.S. CITIZENS KILLED OR MISSING IN OPERATIONS TO MONITOR OR COUNTER THE CASTRO REGIME

RUDOLPH ANDERSON, JR., U.S. AIRFORCE MAJOR. 27-10-62. AGE: 35. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH, BORN AND RAISED IN GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, 1948 GRADUATE OF CLEMSON COLLEGE. SHOT DOWN OVER CUBAN AIRSPACE (NIPE BAY, ORIENTE PROVINCE) BY A SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE WHILE FLYING A U2 SPY PLANE DURING THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS. RECIPIENT OF FIRST AIR FORCE CROSS MEDAL.

SOURCE: BLIGHT, ALLYN AND WELCH, ON THE BRINK: AMERICANS AND SOVIETS RE-EXAMINE, 1989, PAGES 60, 68, 113 AND 117. BLIGHT, ALLYN AND WELCH, ON THE BRINK: CASTRO, THE MISSILE CRISIS AND THE SOVIET COLLAPSE, 1993, PAGE 105. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 88. ARIEL REMOS, DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 11 NOVEMBER 1998, PAGE 10-A. STATEMENT GIVEN BY THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VIRGINIA CLARK, 21-12-2001.

LEO FRANCIS BAKER. 19-04-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: FLIGHT NAVIGATOR WITH THE ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA. SHOT DOWN IN CUBAN AIRSPACE WHILE NAVIGATING THE PLANE PILOTED BY CAPT. THOMAS RAY IN SUPPORT OF THE 2506 BRIGADE DURING THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION.

SOURCE: ENRIQUE ROS, PLAYA GIRON, 1994, PAGE 276. CLARK, CUBA: MITO Y REALIDAD, 1990, PAGE 182. LYNCH, DECISION FOR DISASTER, 1998, PAGE 128. EDWARD FERRER, OPERATION PUMA, 1982, PAGES 213, 215 AND 216. GONZALEZ-LALONDRI, BAHIA DE COCHINOS, 1995, PAGE 412. BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 91. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994.

WADE CARROL GRAY. 19-04-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: FLIGHT NAVIGATOR WITH ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, U.S.A. SHOT DOWN IN CUBAN AIRSPACE WHILE NAVIGATING THE PLANE PILOTED BY MAJOR RILEY SHAMBURGER IN SUPPORT OF THE 2506 BRIGADE DURING THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION.

SOURCE: ENRIQUE ROS, PLAYA GIRON, 1994, PAGE 276. CLARK, CUBA: MITO Y REALIDAD, 1990, PAGE 182. LYNCH, DECISION FOR DISASTER, 1998, PAGE 128. EDWARD FERRER, OPERATION PUMA, 1982, PAGES 213, 215 AND 216. GONZALEZ-

LALONDRY, BAHIA DE COCHINOS, 1995, PAGE 412. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994.

MIKE RAFFERTY. 12-11-66. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: AIRCRAFT PILOT. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: FLORIDA, U.S.A. CRASHED HIS B-25 AIRCRAFT OVER THE FLORIDA STRAITS AFTER BOMBING THE CEPERO BONILLA REFINERY IN MATANZAS BAY.

SOURCE: ENRIQUE ROS, CUBANOS COMBATIENTES, 1998, PAGE 41.

ALEXANDER I. RORKE JR. 24-09-63. AGE: 37. U.S. CITIZEN, BORN IN NEW YORK CITY. OCCUPATION: FREE LANCE WRITER. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: NEW YORK, NY. DISAPPEARED IN A BEECHCRAFT BIMOTOR AIRCRAFT PILOTED BY GEOFFREY SULLIVAN DURING A FLIGHT FROM FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA TO PANAMA AFTER THE AIRCRAFT HAD REFUELED IN COZUMEL, MEXICO. ON 25-04-63 THEY HAD BOMBED AN OIL REFINERY IN HAVANA, CUBA, WITH HOMEMADE BOMBS, BUT THE BOMBS HAD FAILED TO EXPLODE. HE IS THE SON OF A FORMER MANHATTAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY. THERE IS A REWARD OUTSTANDING FOR INFORMATION ON HIS WHEREABOUTS.

SOURCE: TESTIMONY OF JACQUELINE BILLINGSLEY RORKE (WIFE) AT A NEW YORK STORK CLUB PRESS CONFERENCE OD 27-09-63. RICHARD PEDRAZA "BUSCAN A RORKE CON RECOMPENSA" EL TIEMPO NEWSPAPER, NEW YORK CITY, OCTOBER 1963. A.P. CABLE 27-09-63. CUBAN INFORMATION CENTER WEBSITE (UNDATED).

RILEY W. SHAMBURGER JR. 04-61. U.S. CITIZEN BY BIRTH. OCCUPATION: AIR FORCE MAJOR WITH THE ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA. SHOT DOWN WHILE PILOTING A PLANE IN SUPPORT OF THE 2506 BRIGADE DURING THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION.

SOURCE: EDWARD FERRER, OPERATION PUMA, 1982, PAGES 213, 215 AND 216. LYNCH, DECISION FOR DISASTER, 1998, PAGE 128. ENRIQUE ROS, PLAYA GIRON, 1994, PAGE 276. CLARK, CUBA: MITO Y REALIDAD, 1990, PAGE 182. GONZALEZ-LALONDRY, BAHIA DE COCHINOS, 1995, PAGE 412. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994.

SHELTON. 1963. PRESUMED U.S. CITIZEN. DIED AT BONIATO PRISON, NEAR SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

SOURCE: BERUVIDES, CUBA Y SUS MARTIRES, 1993, PAGE 176. NOTE: CONFLICT OF EVIDENCE. CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, THE QUILT OF FIDEL CASTRO'S GENOCIDE, 1994, HAS HIM ASSASSINATED IN PRISON.

GEOFFREY SULLIVAN. 24-09-6. AGE: 28. U.S. CITIZEN, BORN IN WATERBURY, NY OCCUPATION: COMMERCIAL PILOT. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: 86 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, NY. HIS AIRPLANE, A BEECHCRAFT BIMOTOR DISAPPEARED IN A FLIGHT FROM FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA TO PANAMA, AFTER REFUELING IN COZUMEL MEXICO. HE WAS A VETERAN OF SEVERAL FLIGHTS TO CUBA.

SOURCE: TESTIMONY OF JACQUELINE BILLINGSLEY RORKE AT THE NEW YORK STORK CLUB PRESS CONFERENCE OF 27-09-63. RICHARD PEDRAZA "BUSCAN A RORKE CON RECOMPENSA". EL TIEMPO NEWSPAPER, NEW YORK CITY, OCTOBER 1963, A. P. CABLE 27-09-63. CUBAN INFORMATION CENTER WEBSITE (UNDATED).

Edited by Maria C. Werlau, May 2002.

*This work is part of the **Truth Recovery Archive on Cuba**, which seeks to document the loss of life attributed to political-military causes associated with the Cuban revolutionary process (from 3/10/52 to the present). This independent, non-partisan, effort upholds the intrinsic right of all people to live safely and in freedom and is premised on the belief that truth is vital for the psychological wellbeing of survivors and society in general. It hopes to foster needed reforms, lay the foundation to attain justice and societal reconciliation, and help prevent similar horrors from happening now or ever again. The work is conducted with academic rigor and impartiality, irrespective of the social, political, and other attributes and affiliations of the victims. This is an initiative of the Free Society Project, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt (501(c)3) organization whose purpose is to promote human rights, particularly through*

research, scholarship, and publications. Additional information, photographs, and other evidence or archival material on the victims is appreciated. Please contact Maria C. Werlau, Tel. (973)701-0520, Fax (973)701-0521, CubaArchive@AOL.com.

"... in 42 years of Revolution there has never been in our country ...one disappearance, one political assassination, one person tortured, despite the thousands of vile slanders spread by a frustrated and unscrupulous empire that wishes to sweep from the face of the earth the image and example that is Cuba. Travel the whole the country, ask the people, find any shred of proof, that demonstrates that anyone belonging to the revolutionary government has ordered or tolerated any such act, and I will never again occupy a political tribune."

-Fidel Castro, Granma Internacional Digital, La Habana. Año 6 Nro. 959 / Viernes, 6 de Abril de 2001. <http://www.granma.cu/espanol/abril1/ningun-e.html>.

SELECTIONS FROM CHAPTER ON **FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS**

THE DEATH PENALTY DIDN'T EXIST IN CUBA BEFORE THE REVOLUTION. THE CONSTITUTION OF 1940 PROHIBITED THE DEATH PENALTY EXCEPT IN CASES OF MILITARY TREASON. IN FACT, IT HAD NEVER BEEN EXERCISED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE REPUBLIC. ALL THIS CHANGED WITH FIDEL CASTRO'S RISE TO POWER. ON 10 JANUARY 1959, MERE DAYS AFTER BATISTA FLED FROM POWER, THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MODIFIED ARTICLES 21, 24, AND 25 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF 1940 AUTHORIZING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE DEATH PENALTY. (RUIZ, 1965, PAGE 27). SOON THEREAFTER, ON 10 FEBRUARY 1959, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS PROMULGATED A NEW FUNDAMENTAL LAW WHICH ALSO AUTHORIZED THE DEATH PENALTY. (RUIZ, 1965, PAGE 49).

DOCUMENTED DEATHS FOR THE EARLY YEARS OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION (SIXTIES) ARE MOSTLY FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS THAT CARRIED OUT DEATH SENTENCES HANDED OUT BY REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNALS (KANGAROO-COURTS). SOME VICTIMS, ESPECIALLY IN 1959, WENT STRAIGHT FROM INTERROGATION TO EXECUTION BY FIRING SQUAD WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF A TRIAL. (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 42.) AMONG THE MOST HIDEOUS INJUSTICES WAS THE 1963 FIRING SQUAD EXECUTION OF THE SANTA CLARA MEDICAL DOCTOR LUIS BUESO, WHOSE "CRIME" CONSISTED OF RENDERING FIRST AID MEDICAL SERVICES TO A WOUNDED ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA REBEL. (ENCINOSA, 1989, PAGE 140 AND BERUVIDES, 1993, PAGE 96.)

THE EXECUTIONS STARTED IMMEDIATELY. ON JANUARY 12, 1959, BARELY TEN DAYS AFTER FIDEL CASTRO'S RISE TO POWER, 70 MILITARY OFFICERS AND PRO-BATISTA CIVILIANS WERE EXECUTED IN MASS BEFORE OPEN DITCHES AT THE MACEO REGIMENT'S SHOOTING RANGE AT SAN JUAN VALLEY NEAR SANTIAGO DE CUBA (BERUVIDES, 1993, PAGE 189). THEY HAD ALL BEEN SUMMARILY JUDGED IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF THAT SAME DAY IN COURT PROCEEDINGS LACKING THE SLIGHTEST GUARANTEES OF DUE PROCESS. THE EXECUTIONS TOOK PLACE IN THE PRESENCE OF RAÚL CASTRO, WHO WAS THEN MILITARY GOVERNOR OF ORIENTE PROVINCE. IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS, BULLDOZERS MOVED EARTH TO COVER UP THE UNIDENTIFIED MASS GRAVE. (RUIZ, 1965, PAGE 29).

IN RESPONSE TO THE ADVERSE INTERNATIONAL REACTION AGAINST THE CARNAGE OF THE FIRING SQUADS, COMANDANTES CHÉ GUEVARA AND CAMILO CIENFUEGOS CALLED FOR A MASS DEMONSTRATION FOR JANUARY 21ST, 1959 IN FRONT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IN HAVANA. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE CAME WITH SIGNS AND PLACARDS READING: "PAREDÓN"

("EXECUTION AGAINST THE WALL") FOR THE WAR CRIMINALS!, "WE WANT BATISTA COLABORATORS EXECUTED!" , AND *"WE WANT BATISTA'S HENCHMEN ("ESBIRROS") EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD!"* IN A SCENE REMINISCENT OF THE GORY DAYS OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, FIDEL CASTRO ASKED THE POPULACE TO SHOW RAISED HANDS IF THEY AGREED TO CONTINUE WITH THE EXECUTIONS. A VIRTUAL SEA OF ARMS WENT UP WHILE THE MULTITUDE CHANTED: *PAREDÓN!, PAREDÓN!, PAREDÓN!* (RUIZ, 1965, PAGE 35).

FROM THE BEGUINNING, THE SUMMARY TRIALS, WHICH LASTED 3-4 MINUTES PER CASE, WERE GIVEN "LEGAL COVERAGE" BY THE SO-CALLED REVOLUTIONARY LAWS. AT THE OUTSET OF THE REVOLUTION, FIDEL CASTRO DECLARED: "THE REVOLUTION IS A SOURCE OF RIGHT AND LEGALITY." CURIOUSLY THE SAME ARGUMENT HAD BEEN USED BY BATISTA'S LAWYERS IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL TRIAL AGAINST HIS 1952 COUP DE ÉTAT. BATISTA HAD JUSTIFIED USURPING POWER WITH THE OLD GERMAN LEGAL PRECEPT THAT "POWER AND STRENGTH ARE A SOURCE OF RIGHT AND LEGALITY". THE APPLICATION OF REVOLUTIONARY LAWS OF DUBIOUS LEGALITY HAS BEEN USED BY THE CASTRO REGIME TO CLAIM THAT IN CUBA THERE ARE NO ILLEGAL ACTS OR DISAPPEARANCES, BUT THE DATA AND TESTIMONIES PRESENTED IN THIS BOOK PROVIDE EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY.

FIDEL CASTRO HAS BEEN CAREFUL TO AVOID DIRECT IMPLICATION WITH THE KILLINGS. WHILE HE HAS INCITED FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS AND EXTRA-JUDICIAL ASSASINATIONS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS AT THE SIERRA MAESTRA IN THE PRE-1959 YEARS, HE HAS NEVER BEEN KNOWN TO HAVE DIRECTED A FIRING SQUAD PLATOON OR TO HAVE BEEN PRESENT AT ANY.

AMONG THE EARLY EVIDENCE OF CASTRO'S INCITEMENT OF THESE KILLINGS IS THE ROLE HE HAD IN THE TRIAL OF AIR FORCE PILOTS IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA DURING FEBRUARY-MARCH 1959, WHICH WE REVIEW IN ANOTHER PART OF THIS BOOK. CASTRO HAS ALSO SECURED THE COMPLICITY OF HIS SUBORDINATES, MAKING THEM ACCESSORIES TO CRIME. THIS WAS THE CASE WHEN HE EXTRACTED THE UNANIMOUS VOTE OF ALL THE GENERALS IN THE CUBAN ARMED FORCES (.A.R.) AND OF THE CUBAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE 1989 EXECUTIONS OF GENERAL ARNALDO OCHOA AND COLONEL ANTONIO DE LA GUARDIA.³

FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS TOOK PLACE ALL ACROSS THE ISLAND, BUT A HIGH NUMBER OCCURRED AT LA CABAÑA, THE OLD COLONIAL FORTRESS OVERLOOKING HAVANA HARBOR. CONSTRUCTED IN THE LATE 18TH CENTURY, IT WAS TURNED INTO A PRISON ON JANUARY 3, 1959 UNDER THE COMMAND OF COMANDANTE ERNESTO "CHÉ" GUEVARA, WHO ALSO PERFORMED THE FUNCTION OF CHIEF JUDGE AT SOME OF THE REVOLUTIONARY TRIALS.

THE NUMBER OF FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS WAS VERY HIGH IN 1959, THE FIRST YEAR OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION, WHEN APPROXIMATELY THREE CUBANS PER DAY WERE EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD. 1,023 CUBANS LOST THEIR LIVES TO FIRING SQUADS -MOSTLY PRIVATES AND ENLISTED MEN BELONGING TO BATISTA'S ARMY. THIS SERVED THE DUAL PURPOSE OF CREATING A CLIMATE OF FEAR AND TERROR WHILE MUZZLING THE OPPOSITION TO THE CASTRO REGIME. AT THE SAME TIME, IT ELIMINATED THOSE TRAINED IN THE USE OF FIREARMS, A PREVENTIVE MEASURE AGAINST THEM TAKING UP ARMS AGAINST CASTRO. IN FACT, AN ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA MOVEMENT DID EMERGE IN 1960-61.

VALLADARES RELATES A COMMON EXECUTION OF THE EARLY DAYS OF THE REVOLUTION. ON JANUARY 12, 1959, AT THE SAN JUAN VALLEY IN THE ESTERN ORIENTE PROVINCE, HUNDREDS OF

³ IN FACT, THE MALICE AND BRUTALITY OF FIDEL CASTRO'S REGIME EXPLAIN THE RASH OF SUICIDES (CALLED "HISTORIC SUICIDES" BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PRESS) THAT HAVE OCCURRED AMONG HIS SMALL AND INTIMATE CIRCLE OF POWER.

MEMBERS OF BATISTA'S DEFEATED ARMY WERE FORCED TO DIG A DITCH 50 METERS LONG. WHILE STANDING INSIDE THE DITCH UP TO THEIR KNEES, THEY WERE MACHINE-GUNNED TO DEATH. A BULLDOZER MOVED THE EARTH AND CLOSED THE DITCH, LEAVING THE BODIES IN A COMMON MASS GRAVE. THE MEN HAD NOT BEEN TRIED IN COURT AND NO CHARGES HAD BEEN LEVELED AGAINST THEM -THEIR ONLY CRIME HAD TO BEEN TO WEAR THE UNIFORM OF A DEFEATED ARMY. RAÚL CASTRO PERSONALLY PRESIDED AT THIS BARBARIC EPISODE. SCENES LIKE THIS WERE REPEATED ALL OVER THE ISLAND IN THE FIRST MONTHS OF THE REVOLUTION. (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 35.)

THE SHEER SCALE OF THIS NIGHTMARE IS STRIKING. IN 1959, THERE WERE MULTIPLE EXECUTIONS, SOMETIMES 8-10 EXECUTIONS PER NIGHT, ALMOST DAILY AT LA CABAÑA FORTRESS. (ENCINOSA, 1994, PAGE 67 AND VALLADARES, 1985, 35.) SPANISH INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES THAT 2,284 POLITICAL PRISONERS EXECUTED DURING THE SIXTIES -THAT IS, AN AVERAGE OF SIX FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS PER DAY DURING THE FIRST DECADE OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION. (VARGAS LLOSA, 1998, PAGE 84.)

POET JORGE VALLS, A FORMER POLITICAL PRISONER WHO SERVED A 20-YEAR SENTENCE, VIVIDLY DESCRIBES THE ORDEAL OF THE EXECUTIONS (VALLS, 1988, PAGE 33):

“NIGHT WAS NOT TIME TO REST OR RELAX. TO THE CONTRARY, THAT'S WHEN THE HORRORS BEGAN. THE FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS BEGAN AROUND NINE O'CLOCK AT NIGHT AT LA CABAÑA A, AT THE SUKEN FIELD (DRY MOAT, IN SPANISH "FOSO") BEHIND OUR PRISON GALLERY, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE IRON FENCE. EVEN THOUGH FROM OUR GALLERY WE COULD NOT SEE THE EXECUTIONS, WE COULD HEAR EVEN ITS SLIGHTEST SOUNDS. THE STILLNESS OF THE NIGHT AND THE ECHO COMING FROM THE SUNKEN FIELD MADE THE SOUNDS MORE AUDIBLE.

WE KNEW WHAT WAS COMING WHEN THE LIGHTS ILLUMINATING THE FIELDS WERE TURNED ON. WE COULD HEAR THE FIRING SQUAD PLATOON MARCH AND THE VEHICLE TRANSPORTING THE CONDEMNED PRISONERS STOP. NEXT CAME THE SOUNDS OF THE GATE BEING OPENED AND OF STEPS IN THE NIGHT. WE HEARD WHEN THE CONDEMNED WERE TIED TO THE POLE, THEIR LAST CRIES, THE ORDER TO FIRE, THE VOLLEY OF FIRE, AND, FINALLY, THE SHOTS SLOWLY DYING OUT. THEN, WE LISTEND AS THE PLATOON MARCHED AWAY AND THE BODIES WERE MOVED. THE LAST SOUNDS WERE OF NOCTURNAL BIRDS COMING TO PECK AT THE CHUNKS OF MEAT STILL HANGING FROM THE POLE WHERE THE PRISONERS HAD BEEN TIED AND THE WALL (PAREDÓN) BEHIND THE POLE.

AS THIS WAS GOING ON, SOME PRISONERS IN MY GALLERY WOULD HOWL IN DESPAIR AND SHOUT OBSENITIES, OTHERS PRAYED IN LOUD VOICES DURING THE ENTIRE TIME. THIS SCENE TOOK PLACE EVERY NIGHT. GENERALLY, THE FIRING SQUADS EXECUTED GROUPS OF PRISONERS, (7-10 PER NIGHT ACCORDING TO ENCINOSA, 1994, PAGE 67), WHICH MADE THE EVENT LAST FOR SOME TIME. SOMETIMES, THE EXECUTIONS TOOK PLACE AT MIDNIGHT, AND, AT TIMES, BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING.

AT DAWN, THE PRISONERS WOULD CRY IN DESPAIR AND IMPOTENCE AND FOUGHT EACH OTHER AT THE SLIGHTEST PROVOCATION. WE HAD TO BITE OUR LIPS TIME AND AGAIN WHILE WE PRAYED FOR HELP SO THAT WE COULD CONTINUE BEARING THIS MISERY WITHOUT OUR BRAINS EXPLODING OR ENDING UP HATING OURSELVES." (VALLS, 1988, PP. 33-34.)

ARMANDO VALLADARES ALSO PROVIDES AS ELOQUENT TESTIMONY IN HIS POWERFUL BIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT OF 22 YEARS OF POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT (1985, PAGE 42). HE WRITES THAT, USUALLY, THE CONDEMNED WERE NOT ALLOWED A LAST VISIT FROM THEIR FAMILIES. IN FACT, THE FAMILIES DID NOT KNOW THAT THEIR LOVED ONE WAS TO BE SHOT; SOMETIMES THEY ONLY LEARNED OF THE EXECUTION WHEN THEY CAME FOR A VISIT. THE

CONDEMNED WERE ALLOWED SOME TIME TO THEMSELVES IN SMALL CELLS CALLED CHAPELS - NOT BECAUSE THEY HAD ALTARS, BUT BECAUSE OF THE PRAYING THAT TOOK PLACE THERE WHILE AWAITING DEATH. THERE, THE PRISONERS HAD ACCESS TO PAPER AND PENCIL TO COMPOSE THEIR LAST LETTERS TO RELATIVES (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 28). MANY OF THE FAREWELL LETTERS ARE QUITE POIGNANT. 29-YEAR OLD ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ GONZÁLEZ, EXECUTED AT LA CABAÑA FORTRESS IN 1982, WROTE: "*WHEN I DIE I WANT THE FLAG AS MY ROOF, THE EARTH AS MY MOTHER, AND FOR AIR, LIBERTY!*" (OF HUMAN RIGHTS, "THE TOLEDO FAMILY", 1984-1985, PAGE 4.) (SEE APPENDIX C FOR CAMPANERIA'S AND TAPIA RUANO'S LAST LETTERS.)

A TYPICAL OCCURENCE WAS FOR FIRING SQUAD VICTIMS TO SING THE CUBAN NATIONAL ANTHEM AT THE EXECUTION. THIS TOOK PLACE, FOR EXAMPLE, AT THE 22-06-64 FIRING SQUAD EXECUTION AT LA CABAÑA FORTRESS IN HAVANA OF TWELVE ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA LEADERS -MARIO BORGES, EMILIO CARRETERO ESCAJADILLO, RAÚL MOREL VISIEGO, ANDRÉS ORAMAS, MACHO JIMÉNEZ, TOMAS GARCÍA VALLE, CUCO CEDENO, BLAS ORTEGA, VALE HERNÁNDEZ, BENITO PEDRAJA, AND MANUEL MUNSO LA GUARDIA. (ENCINOSA, 1994, PAGE 180).

PRISONERS CONDEMNED TO DEATH WOULD OFTEN DISPLAY A COURAGEOUS AND DEFIANT ATTITUDE. REBEL ARMY CAPTAIN RICARDO OLMEDO, MAIMED FOR LIFE IN THE 13-03-57 ASSAULT ON BATISTA'S PRESIDENTIAL PALACE AND EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD IN 1963, VALIANTLY ADDRESSED HIS FIRING SQUAD PLATOON AS FOLLOW: "*TO THINK THAT I HAVE A WOUNDED LEG DUE TO MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSAULT ON THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE TO ELIMINATE BATISTA AND THAT I WILL END UP DYING AT THE HANDS OF COWARDS AND MISERABLE MEN LIKE YOU! IF YOU GAVE ME AN ARM TO DEFEND MYSELF YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OVERWHELM ME NOR WOULD YOU DARE TRY!. SO SHOOT, BECAUSE YOU ARE GOING TO KILL A REAL MAN!*" THOSE WERE OLMEDO'S LAST WORDS. (CLARK, 1990, PAGE 151.) THEY MAY HAVE KILLED HIS BODY, BUT NOT HIS INDOMITABLE SPIRIT!

INVOLUNTARY BLOOD EXTRACTIONS AND OTHER ATROCITIES

ON JANUARY 21ST 1961, FIDEL CASTRO ORDERED FOR ONE LITTER OF BLOOD TO BE FORCEFULLY EXTRACTED FROM EVERY PERSON SENTENCED TO DEATH. THIS BLOOD WAS THEN SOLD TO NORTH VIETNAM AS A HARD CURRENCY EXPORT (RUIZ, 1972, PAGE 27). THIS PRACTICE CONTINUED UNTIL 1967.⁴ YET, PLASMA TRANSFUSIONS HAVE BEEN COMMONLY DENIED TO POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CUBA. SOME, LIKE LIDIA PÉREZ LEÓN IN 1961, ARE DOCUMENTED TO HAVE DIED FOR THAT REASON.

THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES CONDEMNED THIS NEFARIOUS PRACTICE AND FOUND IT TO BE QUITE COMMON IN CUBA. (ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, 4TO. INFORME ESPECIAL, REPORTE DE 1967, 7 DE ABRIL DE 1967, PAGE 1). ONE OF ITS OBJECTIVES WAS TO PREVENT DEFIANCE BEFORE THE FIRING SQUAD PLATOONS, SEEKING TO DESTABILIZE THE VICTIMS AND MAKING THEM LOSE COMPOSURE BEFORE THE FIRING SQUAD. (CLARK, 1990, PAGES 156-157.

⁴ALREADY IN JANUARY 1959 IGNACIO RISELL LEYVA SUFFERED THIS FATE IN SANTA CLARA, LAS VILLAS PROVINCE. (UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY, 1993, YEAR 1959). OTHER RECORDED INSTANCES OF THIS PRACTICE ARE THE FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS OF LIEUTENANT IGNACIO ROSELL LEYVA IN 1959 (UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY, 1993, YEAR 1959), U.S. CITIZEN HOWARD ANDERSON, ISRAEL PÉREZ-PÉREZ, ELECTRICAL WORKER AND UNIONIST WILLIAM LE SANTÉ, AND GUERRILLA MOISÉS RUÍZ RAMOS (IN AGRAMONTE, MATANZAS PROVINCE), ALL IN 1961, OF GUERRILLA REBEL LEADER CLARO MOLLINEDO, ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA REBEL FLORENCIO RECINO (ALIAS "TATO") AND GUERRILLA REBEL ELIZARDO SANTANA BONILLA (BOTH IN VIANA, LAS VILLAS PROVINCE), IN 1962, OF JOSÉ HILARIO RODRÍGUEZ OCAMPO IN 1963, OF REBEL ARMY COMANDANTE RAÚL DÍAZ NARANJO (AT BONIATO PRISION) AND REBEL ARMY LIEUTENANT PEDRO GUTIÉRREZ-CAMPOS IN 1964, AND OF ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA BAND LEADER ISRAEL RODRÍGUEZ IN 1967 (AT EL CONDADO).

OTHER ATROCITIES ARE WORTH NOTING. THERE ARE KNOWN CASES OF VICTIMS (SUCH AS NIDIEL GONZÁLEZ'S IN 1995) WHOSE INTERNAL ORGANS WERE REMOVED WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT OR THAT OF THE FAMILY. (CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION, CUBA HUMAN RIGHTS MONITOR, OCTOBER 1995, PAGE 9). ALSO, UNBURIED CORPSES OF FIRING SQUAD VICTIMS HAVE BEEN LEFT TO BE DEVOURED BY REGIMENTAL DOGS. THIS OCCURRED AT THE MARCH 1959 EXECUTION OF LIEUTENANT MARIANO VELÁZQUEZ-PUPO AT HOLGUIN'S REGIMENTAL ARMY BARRACKS, ORIENTE PROVINCE. (UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY, 1993, YEAR 1959).

SINCE 1963 IT BECAME COMMON PRACTICE TO GAG OR TAPE THE MOUTH OF THE CONDEMNED FOR THEIR EXECUTION, FURTHERING THE SUFFERING OF THE VICTIMS. (CLARK, 1990, PAGE 134 AND VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 26.) THE FIRING SQUAD PLATOONS WERE BECOMING UNNERVED BY PRISONERS' LAST CRIES OF "VIVA CUBA LIBRE!" ("HURRAY FOR A FREE CUBA!"), "VIVA CRISTO REY!" ("HURRAY FOR JESUS KING!") AND "ABAJO EL COMUNISMO!" ("DOWN WITH COMMUNISM").

IN 1965, REBEL ARMY OFFICER ALBERTO PINO SANTOS WAS EXECUTED FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE SANTA ROSA DE LIMA CONSPIRACY. AT HIS EXECUTION, PINO SANTOS SHOUTED: "CUBA, RISE UP AND WALK!" ("CUBA, LEVANTATE Y ANDA!"). (UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY, 1994, YEAR 1965.) TO COMBAT THIS DEFIANCE, CONDEMNED PRISONERS' HANDS ARE ALWAYS TIED TO POLES. EVEN THOSE SICK AND FEEBLE DO NOT ESCAPE -PRISONERS TOO WEAK TO STAND ARE STILL TIED TO THE POLE. AT THE 1961 EXECUTION OF ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA ARMY LEADER COMANDANTE CLODOMIRO MIRANDA. MIRANDA HAD SUFFERED LEG WOUNDS IN ACTION AND WHEN TIED TO THE POLE, COLLAPSED. HE WAS EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD WHILE LYING ON THE GROUND. (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 24.)

EVELIO DUQUE-MIYAR, GUERRILLA COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN THE ESCAMBRAY MOUNTAINS, RELATES HOW FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS OF THE EARLY SIXTIES IN THE CITY OF TRINIDAD, LAS VILLAS PROVINCE, WERE SCHEDULED AS POPULAR FESTIVITIES IN WHICH THE VICTIMS, MOSTLY ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA REGELS, WERE SPAT ON, THEIR CADAVERS PINCHED IN THE TESTICLES AND THEIR EYES GOUGED OUT. (EVELIO DUQUE-MIYAR, 1995, PAGE 165).

IN AN EVENT REMINISCENT OF MEDIEVAL ENGLAND'S WAR OF THE ROSES, GÓMEZ-ESTRADA RELATES THE CASE OF ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA REBEL EDUARDO CASOLA. IN 1961, CASOLA WAS KILLED IN COMBAT IN THE ESCAMBRAY MOUNTAINS, BUT CASTRO'S MILITIA TROOPS THINKING THE CADAVER BELONGED TO OSVALDO RAMÍREZ-GÁRCIA -THE LEGENDARY ESCAMBRAY GUERRILLA COMMANDER IN CHIEF- DECAPITATED HIS CADAVER TO EXHIBIT THE SEVERED HEAD IN THE PUBLIC PLAZAS OF THE REGION'S CITIES. (ALEJANDRO GOMEZ-ESTRADA, 1990, PAGES 107-109.)

VALLADARES RELATES THE HORROR CREATED BY U.S. CITIZEN, FORMER WISCONSIN RESIDENT, CAPTAIN HERMANN MARKS, A 40-YEAR OLD SADIST WHO ENJOYED PARTICIPATING IN THE FIRING SQUADS. HE SERVED AS CHE GUEVARA'S AIDE AT THE ESCAMBRAY MOUNTAINS AND WAS LEADER OF THE FIRING SQUAD PLATOON AT LA CABAÑA IN 1959. (ANDERSON, 1997, PAGE 387, AND PIERRE KALFON, 1997, PAGE 267.) HE REFERRED TO THE SUNKEN FIELDS (FOSOS) AT LA CABAÑA AS HIS HUNTING PRESERVE AND SHOOTING GALLERY. MARKS, WHO WAS RUMORED TO BE A FUGITIVE FROM U.S. JUSTICE (JORGE CASTANEDA, 1997, PAGE 187), WOULD BRING HIS DOG TO THE EXECUTIONS TO LICK BLOOD AND BRAIN TISSUE FROM THOSE LEFT ON THE GROUND.⁵ ANOTHER AMERICAN, NEILL MACAULAY, A GRADUATE OF THE CITADEL MILITARY

⁵ RESPONSIBLE FOR DIRECTING THE FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS OF 70 VICTIMS, AMONG THEM SEVERAL FELLOW U.S. CITIZENS, MARKS LEFT CUBA FOR MEXICO ON 03-06-60 (RUIZ, 1970, PAGE 152) AND NOW RESIDES IN THE U.S. HIS ACTIONS PROVE THAT CUBANS DO NOT HAVE A MONOPOLY ON ATROCITIES. (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 29, CONFIRMED BY VARGAS LLOSA, 1998, PAGE 184.)

COLLEGE IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND NOW A RETIRED PROFESSOR OF LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IN GAINESVILLE, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAINING FIRING SQUADS AND ACTUALLY GAVE THE COUP DE GRACE HEAD SHOTS IN PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE UNDER THE NOTORIOUS COMANDANTE DERMINIO ESCALONA. (REPORTED IN PAUL KINKLEY ROGERS, THE MIAMI HERALD, 10 JANUARY 1999, PAGE 2).

SOME OF THE GRUESOME DETAILS OF CERTAIN FIRING SQUAD EXECUTIONS COULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE SPANISH INQUISITIO. A FEMALE DISSIDENT, JUANA FIGUEREDO DÍAS WAS SIX MONTHS' PREGNANT WHEN PUT EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD IN DECEMBER 1961. IN JUNE 1962, 17-YEAR OLD EDELBERO OTERO WAS FORCED TO WITNESS THE FIRING SQUAD EXECUTION IN SANTA CLARA OF HIS FATHER, FIRST LIEUTENANT EUFEMIO GILBERTO OTERO LEÓN. THE TRAUMA REQUIRED FOR THE MINOR TO BE INTERNED AT THE HAVANA PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL (MAZORRA) FOR TREATMENT.

MANY VICTIMS' BODIES HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED TO THE FAMILIES FOR PRIVATE FUNERALS AND BURIAL. INSTEAD, MOST ARE THROWN INTO COMMON MASS GRAVES AND BURIAL SITES IN PLOTS OF LAND AND PARCELS BELONGING TO THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR, SUCH AS THE ONE AT COLÓN CEMETERY IN HAVANA. USUALLY, NO MARKER IS PLACED IDENTIFYING WHERE THE BODIES ARE BURIED, SO THE RELATIVES CANNOT KNOW WHERE TO FIND THEM. (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 42.) IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT AFTER EXECUTIONS AT BONIATO PRISON IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA, BODIES ARE SOMETIMES THROWN TO SEA AT DEPTHS OF 7,500 METERS AT THE BARTLETT DEEP TRENCH (THE HOYA DE BARTLETT). (DÁVILA MIGUEL, EL NUEVO HERALD, 11 NOVIEMBRE 1994, PAGE 16.) THIS WAS THE CASE OF THE 1996 EXECUTIONS OF FERNANDO VALLE GALINDO AND RAIMUNDO LÓPEZ SILVERIO, BOTH BELONGING TO MOVIMIENTO 30 DE NOVIEMBRE. (FRAGINALS, 1998).

VICTIMS OFTEN RECEIVE COUP DE GRACE SHOTS. THE CRUEL CAPTAIN HERNANN MARKS USED TO HARASS THE CONDEMNED PRISONERS BY ASKING THEM BEHIND WHICH EAR, THE LEFT OR THE RIGHT, THEY WANTED TO RECEIVE THEIR COUP DE GRACE SHOT. (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 28.) AMONG DOCUMENTED CASES ARE FROM THE 1961 EXECUTION OF MY FORMER LAW SCHOOL CLASSMATE, VIRGILIO CAMPANERÍA ÁNGEL, WHO RECEIVED THREE COUP DE GRACE SHOTS TO THE HEAD. U.S. CITIZEN COMANDANTE WILLIAM MORGAN ALSO RECEIVED MULTIPLE COUP DE GRACE SHOTS (VALLADARES, 1985, PAGE 27), BUT NOT BEFORE HE WAS SUBMITTED TO SADISTIC TORTURE. ANA LÁZARA RODRÍGUEZ, WHO WAS AT THAT TIME IN PRISION WITH MORGAN'S WIFE, RELATES HOW MORGAN REFUSED TO KNEEL AND BEG FOR HIS LIFE. HE WAS, THEN, SHOT IN THE KNEES; WHEN HE TOPPLED TO THE GROUND, THE PLATOON COMMANDER (PROBABLY THE NORTHAMERICAN CAPTAIN HERMAN MARKS) TOLD HIM "SEE, WE MADE YOU KNEEL" AND PROCEEDED TO GIVE THE ORDER TO FIRE. (ANA LÁZARA RODRÍGUEZ, 1995, PAGE 128.)

Edited by Maria C. Werlau, May 2002.

*This work is part of the **Truth Recovery Archive on Cuba**, which seeks to document the loss of life attributed to political-military causes associated with the Cuban revolutionary process (from 3/10/52 to the present). This independent, non-partisan, effort upholds the intrinsic right of all people to live safely and in freedom and is premised on the belief that truth is vital for the psychological wellbeing of survivors and society in general. It hopes to foster needed reforms, lay the foundation to attain justice and societal reconciliation, and help prevent similar horrors from happening now or ever again. The work is conducted with academic rigor and impartiality, irrespective of the social, political, and other attributes and affiliations of the victims. This is an initiative of the Free Society Project, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt (501(c)3)*

organization whose purpose is to promote human rights, particularly through research, scholarship, and publications. Additional information, photographs, and other evidence or archival material on the victims is appreciated. Please contact Maria C. Werlau, Tel. (973)701-0520, Fax (973)701-0521, CubaArchive@AOL.com.