

# Ibérica

PUBLISHING COMPANY

FOR A FREE SPAIN

Editor: Victoria Kent

112 east 19 street  
new york 3, n. y.  
gramercy 3-3717

15 de mayo, 1961

Sr. D, Manuel de Irujo  
50 rue Singer  
Paris 16

36

Amigo Irujo:

Le escribí hace unos días, hoy van estas líneas para enviarle ese recorte de prensa que a mi juicio, debe contestarse. Drew Pearson me ha parecido en muchos casos superficial y dando al viento suposiciones sin fundamento, pero en este caso es tan absurdo que el CIA pagara a Galindez ni a nadie para derribar a Franco que se hace necesario una aclaración en el sentido de rectificar lo que deba rectificarse.

Yo hubiese querido hacer algo, pero me encuentro sin base de conocimiento para desmentir o poner los puntos sobre las íes, por todo ello le envío el recorte para que pueda Vd. consultar con el Sr. Leizaola y acordar lo procedente.

En espera de sus noticias le envío mi afectuoso saludo.

*Victoria Kent*

46

49 Delegado

Honorary Chairmen: Salvador de Madariaga  
Norman Thomas

Advisory Board: Robert Alexander  
Roger Baldwin  
Claude G. Bowers

Frances R. Grant  
John A. Mackay  
Victor Reuther

# CIA: Spendthrift, Inefficient?

WASHINGTON, May 9—One aspect of the Central Intelligence Agency which few people realize is that it is the only government agency which does not have to submit its expenses to an accounting.

Its books are not scrutinized by the general accounting office, and the Congressional appropriations committees do not make the agency justify its funds, as with other branches of government.

**This makes for reckless, irresponsible spending, sometimes by Ivy Leaguers who have had little experience in hiring ships, buying arms, and masterminding political revolutions, as in Cuba.**

It also tends to make the CIA representative in foreign capitals more important than the American Ambassador. The CIA has an unlimited bankroll, the ambassador's expenses are carefully restricted.

The man with the money usually has the greatest influence, and word soon gets around in most capitals that the man to talk to is not the American Ambassador but the CIA man.

In organizing the revolt in Cuba, the CIA spent \$1,000,000 for building an air strip in Guatemala, of which a voucher for \$500,000 was turned in to pay for labor. Cuban freedom fighters inform me that they performed most of the labor, yet were not paid any part of the \$500,000.

The CIA purchased two LCI's (Landing Craft Infantry) through Charles A. Mills, a Miami yacht broker. The total cost, including reconditioning, was reported to be \$240,000. Cuban freedom fighters who know ships estimate that the vessels were worth around \$30,000 each.

Yacht broker Mills, when questioned by telephone in Miami regarding the value and cost of the vessels, flatly refused to comment. He insisted that he was sworn to secrecy.

The CIA also leased three commercial ships from the Garcia lines for two months at \$7,000 a month. Actually they were needed for less

than one month. CIA guaranteed \$100,000 for each ship in case of damage. Cubans who sailed on the ships and know shipping say this was excessive.

**As it turned out, the Rio Escondido was sunk and the Huston damaged, which means that CIA will be obliged to make a generous settlement.**

THE CIA paid fabulous salaries to civilian merchantmen on these ships, though some were incompetent. On the other hand the arms supplied by CIA were up-to-date and generally in good condition.

CIA inefficiency and extravagance in regard to the Cuban invasion might be condoned on the ground of expediency, if the invasion had been successful, or if CIA had not been caught in weird expenditures in the past.

**ONE OF THE WEIRDEST** was the tremendous sums of money the CIA gave Prof. Jesus deGalindez of Columbia University, who was kidnapped March 12, 1956, while entering a New York subway and has never been heard of since.

His disappearance has generally been attributed to dictator Trujillo of the Dominican Republic.

**Beyond any question of doubt, Professor Galindez was being paid by Central Intelligence, even though he was head of the Spanish Basque resistance movement in North and South America, working to overthrow Generalissimo Franco in Spain.**

The official policy of the United States government, whether right or wrong, has been to support Franco. We have naval and air bases in Spain. We have spent over two billion dollars building these bases and supporting Franco. Yet Central Intelligence spent around \$1,000,000 supporting the man who was trying to overthrow Franco.

The mystery remains unsolved as to why CIA was financing a Spanish Basque exile who was working against the government leader we were supporting with military and foreign aid.

**Thus the taxpayers were put in the position of both paying to support Franco and paying to undermine Franco.**

It indicates the mysterious operation of Central Intelligence, the agency which may be entirely necessary in these days of the cold war, but which should be kept under some kind of supervision by Congress and the general accounting office.

(© 1961, by the Bell Syndicate)



GALINDEZ