MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE
ZONE L.V. 17
AGUADA DE PASAJEROS, L.V.

FROM: ........................................ TO: ........................................ 17/5/2010

RE: Fernández:

I have decided to send the other 12 howitzers and back them up with two multiple-mounted machine gun batteries and one anti-aircraft gun battery as well because I think it is of the utmost importance to open up a hell of a barrage. Do your best to fire with the largest number of mortars possible, creating a barrage of fire.

Fidel Castro
Australia S[ugar mill], April 17, 61
7 p.m.

(Sideways stamp reading)
DECLASSIFIED
March 3, 2001
Julio [Flavio Bravo]:

Right now it is already 1 a.m. and I can still hear your cannon fire.

I think that it will possibly take at least two or three hours to take and clean out Playa Larga and Buenaventura. In that case, there would be no time left to advance on Girón by night. Under those circumstances and depending on the situation, you may decide to get yourselves well positioned along that part of the coast from Buenaventura and la Máquina, including Playa Larga, concentrate your forces and position all the anti-aircraft guns to form an impregnable bulwark to protect the tanks and the artillery, have the artillery move forward as much as they can by day, supported by 82 mm mortars and bazookas, and wait until night to carry out the rest of the plan. Meanwhile, I shall anyway send a battalion by a more inland route, from Soplílar to Cayo Ramona.

These are ideas that you must take into consideration depending on the situation, but you can act as you think best.

Anyway, in the early morning hours I shall send you, as we agreed:

2 batteries of 85[mm cannons]
2 Infantry battalions
1 battery of 120 [mm] mortars,
6 batteries of multiple-mounted machine guns

I am only waiting for you to inform me that the beach has been taken to put all those forces in motion.

Greetings

Fidel Castro

April 18, 1961
1 a.m.

Patria o Muerte
We shall win

(Sideways stamp reading)
DECLASSIFIED
March 3, 2001
MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE
ZONE L.V. 17
AGUADA DE PASAJEROS, L.V.

FROM: TO: 17/8/2041

RE: Fernández:

I am finding a solution to the gun park thing. The other tanks will reach the Australia mill at dawn. Sometime during the day we will decide the best time to move them.

Augusto [Martínez Sánchez] will remain at the Australia mill. I shall have to leave for Havana in a little while. I shall be in constant communication with you. Send me news constantly on how the operations are going.

Forward!

Fidel Castro
Australia [Sugar Mill] April 18, 61
3 a.m.

P.S. I still haven't received any news after the piece of paper informing me that the enemy was reducing its volume of fire.
Roger [Garcia]

Lieutenant Ermés [Peña] will give you a detailed explanation of the column's mission. You must leave as soon as Ermés arrives, head along the same route that Battalion 111 took, go as far as Battalion 111 has gone; from there you will set out to block the road which goes from Cayo Ramona to Girón and lay in ambush along that road to prevent the enemy positioned in San Blas from being able to withdraw towards Girón, which is where the rest of their troops are.

Today there is a new attack on San Blas and they will try to keep on advancing as much as they can. When you make contact with the 111, you must get fresh information on the situation. The crux of your mission: divide the enemy forces in two. It is a simple, easy operation. It is very important to avoid confusion.

Greetings
Fidel Castro
Havana, April 19, 1961

(Sideways stamp reading)
DECLASSIFIED
March 3, 2001