

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 Siopillar 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 bat[teries] of 85[mm canons]
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