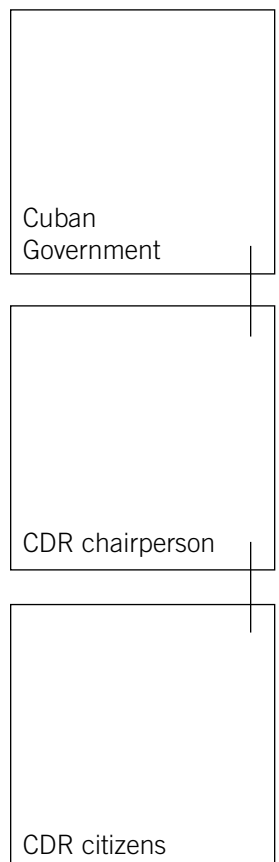


Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR), Cuba  
*El Comité de Defensa de la Revolución*



# Committees for the Defense of the Revolution

est. 1960

are neighborhood-based organizations that were initially formed in defense of the Cuban Revolution. They are networked all across Cuba with an estimated 122,000 chapters and approximately 7.6 million members.

Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR), are citizen-based forces meant to reinforce the Cuban government's goals and ideals. They exist so that information can be disseminated rapidly in a fashion that is not dependent solely on the affordances of mass media.

Their initial purpose was to protect Cuba from the United States Counter Intelligence Agency (CIA) spies, but over the years has transformed in a way that gears itself more towards the needs of the community.





CDR's have proven to be influential in sustaining and enhancing communities, but they have also been criticized greatly as being entities that exist as government watch-dogs against citizens suspected of "counter-revolutionary activity."

"We must save the Revolution. We must save socialism. This is the task we urge the 7.5 million CDR members to undertake."

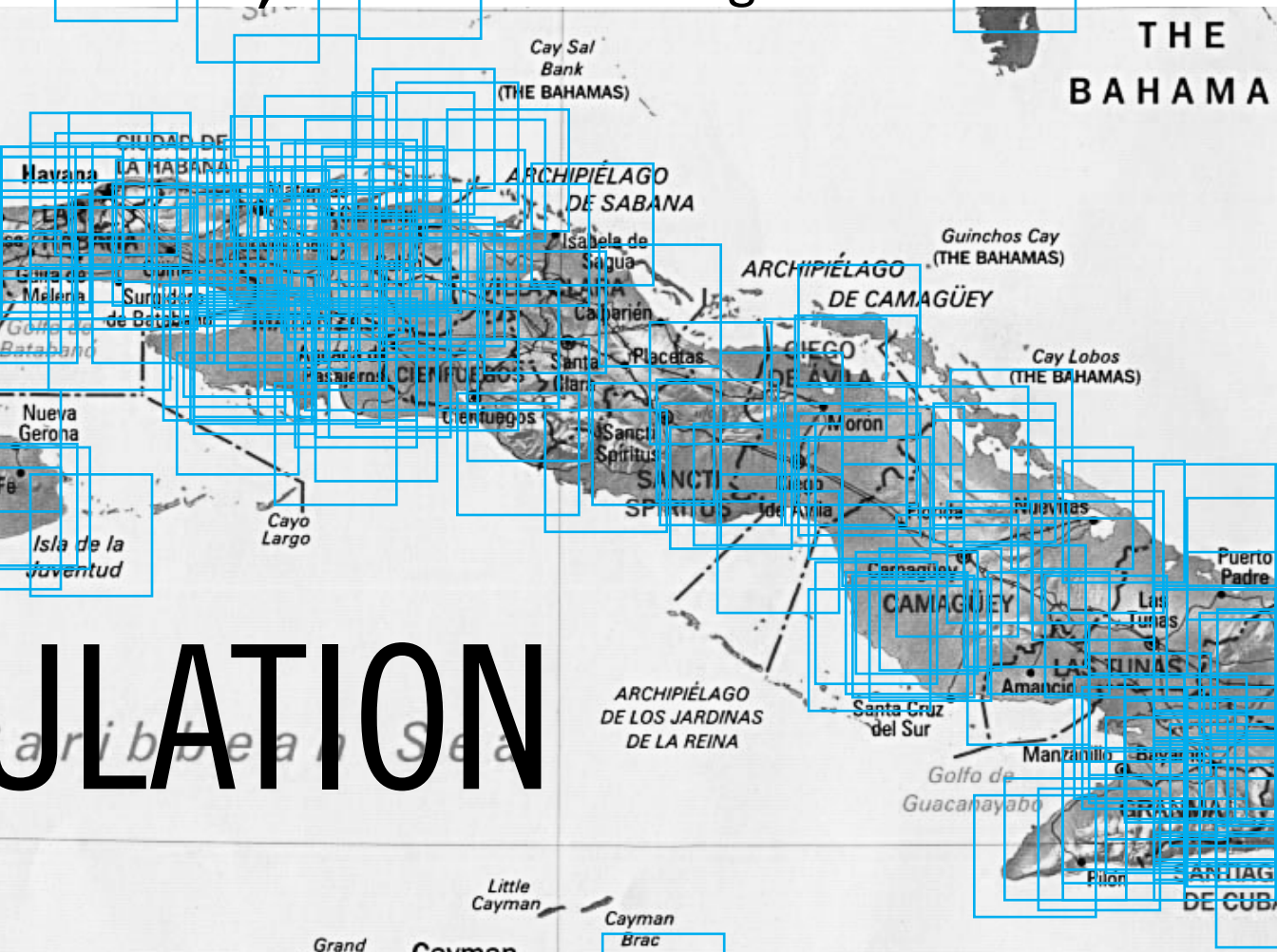
*Fidel Castro*

CDR committees are equipped with a president, vice-president, treasurer, as well as other officials who monitor and provide assistance to the residents of a particular CDR.

CDR's are comprised of 50 to 100 families who mostly live within one or two block areas.

10.7 million POP

122,000 CDR's throughout Cuba



ULATION

MEMBERSHIP 7.6 million MEMBERS



¡En cada barrio,  
Revolución!

In every neighborhood, Revolution!

# CDR

Today they serve important tasks like organizing blood donations, immunization campaigns, spearheading neighborhood cleanup and beautification, collection of recyclable materials and environmental protection.

All of this is done with the aim of protecting citizenry, property and community improvement.

More recently, the difficult economic situation brought about the need for the creation of collective gardens for the cultivation of food and medicinal plants, as well as aquaculture.

CDRs also host local forums for neighbors to discuss and debate new laws or any important issue or event. They carry out

cultural, sports and recreational activities for children and reinforce the relationship between the schools and the community, provide sex education, social matters and children's education.



