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Carlos Fernández Gondín. Born in 1939. Division General, graduated from military academies in the former Soviet Union. First Deputy Minister of Interior (MININT) since the Ochoa-La Guardia case in 1989, where he played a key role. He has become Abelardo Colomé Ibarra's right-hand man, responsible for the strict supervision and direct control of the "cleansing operation" and complete reorganization of the Intelligence and Counter-Intelligence directorates in the course of the early 1990s. A member of the Central Committee since 1980 (II Congress of the PCC).

Active in the July 26th Movement clandestine operations, he joined the Rebel Army in April 1958. As a lieutenant, captain, and first captain in the course of the 1960s, most of his military career was connected with the Eastern Army. He distinguished himself at the Bay of Pigs, as well as in numerous counterinsurgency operations in the course of the 1960s and early 1970s, when he was promoted to *comandante*.

In the summer of 1975, he was selected together with a group of experienced *comandantes* to lead the six initial advisory groups to the MPLA in Angola. His performance in the battlefield led to his appointment as second-in-command of Cuba's military mission in Angola, next to Colomé Ibarra.

After returning from Angola in 1978, he was promoted to MINFAR's Counter-Intelligence Directorate until 1989. Since the days of the Rebel Army, he has been extremely close to Abelardo Colomé Ibarra, as well as to Raúl Castro and his inner circle.