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**Rogelio Acevedo Gonzalez.** Born in 1942 in Las Villas province. He studied military sciences in the U.S.S.R. and is a Division General, as well as President of the Civil Aeronautics Institute (IACC).

Acevedo Gonzalez studied at the "Instituto de Segunda Ensenanza" (Senior High) in the small provincial town of Remedios. He had no political training or ideology. He joined the "26 of July Movement," and took part in several demonstrations against the Batista dictatorship until he finally managed to reach the Sierra Maestra and join Fidel Castro. Under the guidance of Ché Guevara, he became a guerrilla fighter at age 15. The reckless and wild "Rogelito", as he was known, became not only one of the most distinguished and youngest captains of the Rebel Army, but also a man with strong leftist orientation, politically cultivated and very close to Commander Ché Guevara.

In the early days of the Revolution Acevedo was appointed national Chief of the Militia (1959-1969) and from 1961 he engaged in the organization of the new Armed Forces. Acevedo went to Angola for a short time in the early eighties, but he is not an experienced "internacionalista". Raul Castro was always very eager to have him by his side. He was excluded from Ché Guevara's operations overseas and other major international campaigns in the early 1960's. Nevertheless, his performance as a staff officer and an organizer has been highly praised. He was promoted to the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and to very high ranking positions in the Armed Forces.

In the sixties and seventies, Acevedo was assigned First Secretary of the Provincial Bureau of the Communist Party in Camagüey province. Acevedo undertook further military studies in the USSR and upon his return he was appointed to key positions within the General Staff and the Political Directorate - until 1989, when he was appointed to chair the Civil Aeronautics Institute.

Acevedo has no records connected with corruption. Ofelia Liptak, his last wife, is a university graduate in the field of education and a former member of the National Bureau of the Young Communist Union (UJC). Acevedo is very much considered and admired. He is respected and enjoys a remarkable prestige. He represents the kind of "young Generals" - those who were teenagers during the struggle against Batista -, more open-minded to future transitions and bound to take over from the "elders". He has proved to be more of a professional than a politician. Acevedo's brother is Brigadier General Enrique Acevedo, who is not a prominent commanding officer.