

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : INSCOM/CSF
RECORD NUMBER : 194-10002-10319
RECORDS SERIES : FOREIGN PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATIONS
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : C8005823W - PAGES 1139-1171

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : [RESTRICTED]
TO :
TITLE : REPORT
DATE : 02/02/55
PAGES : 33
SUBJECTS : [RESTRICTED]

[RESTRICTED]

CUBAN CIVIC FRONT

MARISTANY, CARLOS

ANTI-BATISTA ACTIVITIES

COMBAT TRAINING

TRIPLE A

NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : ~~SECRET~~
RESTRICTIONS : 1B, 2, 3, 4
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED WITH DELETIONS
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 03/07/95
OPENING CRITERIA : COMPLETION OF REVIEW BY FBI
COMMENTS : COORDINATION WITH FBI HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND
DETERMINED TO BE RELEASED WITH DELETIONS, PER MEMO DTD
26 FEB 98.

~~SECRET~~

FD-72
(3-9-54)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

REPORT MADE AT MIAMI, FLORIDA	DATE WHEN MADE FEB 2 1955	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/3; 10/5, 15, 18, 19, 21-30; 11/1-5,	REPORT MADE BY GEORGE E. DAVIS, JR.
TITLE CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, ET AL		11, 12, 18, 19; 12/3, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 30/54; 1/4, 6, 10, 11, 18, 20, 24/55	CHARACTER OF CASE FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS CUBA REGISTRATION ACT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

In the Fall of 1954 many reports and rumors were circulating to effect that an attempt to overthrow BATISTA would be launched on or before Cuban elections 11/1/54 by persons associated with CARLOS PRIO, exiled former President of Cuba, who lives in Miami, Fla. Several members of a small organization, Cuban Civic Front, engaged in commando tactics in yard of its President, CARLOS MARISTANY, in 11/54 in Miami, but MARISTANY claimed they did not plan to participate in any revolution against BATISTA, and denied any connection with PRIO. Reliable informants reported that during period immediately preceding and following 11/1/54, MARIO MARTINEZ, licensed "ham" radio operator in Miami, operated clandestine radio transmitting and receiving station in close conjunction with EMILO OCHOA, an Orthodox Party leader, and made contact with persons in Cuba and Mexico. Informants state that OCHOA, who had been in frequent contact with PRIO, departed Miami and entered Cuba clandestinely from Jamaica shortly prior to 11/1/54, and later claimed that PRIO left him "holding the bag". Informants report PRIO advanced JOSE CARAMES, Cuban in Miami, \$25,000 to purchase two vessels, "Le Francais" and "Mollie-0", on condition that these boats would be made available to PRIO if and when needed. "Le Francais" cleared Port of Miami 1/20/55 for Costa Rica without cargo. Other

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

1/21/95
Classified by SP8 mme/ksk
Declassify on: OADR (JFK)

Reg 229062
R 9901421

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC REGRADING:
DOD DIR 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

1139

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT See Page 2		PROPERTY OF FBI This report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.
REGISTERED MAIL <i>AC + S Atlanta, Ga.</i>		

PROPERTY OF FBI--This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

202-268

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

Copies to: 11 - Bureau (109-430)(RM)
3 - New York (109-43)(RM)
1 - ONI, Miami, Fla. (RM)
1 - OSI, MacDill Field, Tampa, Fla. (RM)
① - (AC of S), G-2, Fort McPherson,
Atlanta, Ga. (RM)
1 - U. S. Customs, Miami, Fla. (RM)
3 - Miami (2-165)

reports have been received indicating armed action or attempt to assassinate BATISTA may take place prior to 2/24/55 when BATISTA is scheduled to take office as result of his election 11/1/54. During recent past CARLOS PRIO and other Cubans in Miami area have been successfully prosecuted by U. S. Customs on charges of conspiring to illegally export arms from the U. S. Reports indicate arms activity involving Cubans still continues to some degree. Organization known as "Resistance Commandos" now reportedly active with several members PRIO group participating in Miami area. Alleged purpose of this organization is for instituting reign of violence against BATISTA regime. Dr. RAPHAEL GARCIA BARCENAS, leader of National Revolutionary Movement (MNR), which purports to be an anti-BATISTA organization of a revolutionary character, according to published remarks of BARCENAS, is now residing in Miami but claims no connection with PRIO.

- P -

-2-

~~SECRET~~

1140

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

	<u>Pages</u>
I. REPORTS OF ALLEGED REVOLUTIONARY ACTION PLANNED AGAINST BATISTA GOVERNMENT OF CUBA	4 - 23
A. UPRISING ALLEGEDLY SCHEDULED ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER 1, 1954	4 - 16
(1) Clandestine Radio Operation	8 - 10
(2) Boats Allegedly Involved in Revolutionary Schemes	10 - 13
(a) Le Francais	10 - 12
(b) Sachem II	12 - 13
(c) Mollie-O	- 13
(3) Combat Training of Cuban Civic Front, Miami	13 - 15
(4) Reaction of Carlos Prio to Batista's Election as President November 1, 1954	15 - 16
B. REPORT SUBSEQUENT TO NOVEMBER 1, 1954 INDICATIVE OF REVOLUTIONARY ACTION BEING PLANNED AGAINST BATISTA GOVERNMENT . . .	16 - 20
C. INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGED TRAFFIC IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION	20 - 23
D. MISCELLANEOUS	- 23
II. RESISTANCE COMMANDOS	24 - 31
LUIS ORTEGA y SIERRA	26 - 27
MARIO KUCHILAN	- 27
MARCOS G. VILLAREAL	27 - 28
ARACELIO AZCUY	28 - 31
III. TRIPLE A	31 - 32
IV. MOVIMIENTO NACIONAL REVOLUCIONARIO (MNR) (NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT)	32 - 33

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

DETAILS: AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

I. REPORTS OF ALLEGED REVOLUTIONARY ACTION
PLANNED AGAINST BATISTA GOVERNMENT OF CUBA

A. UPRISING ALLEGEDLY SCHEDULED
ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER 1, 1954

On October 5, 1954 Miami Informant T-1, a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, reported that PASCASIO LINERA, Cuban textile leader living in Miami, had disclosed that the time of the revolution in Cuba was near and that it would take place before November 1, 1954; that JOSE DUARTE and CANDIDO DE LA TORRE had entered Cuba clandestinely and possessed information concerning the location of arms hidden in the Havana area. This informant stated that CARLOS PRIO planned to be in Havana several days before the revolutionary effort occurred. (S)

According to the same informant, the revolutionaries had issued orders that their followers were not to commit any acts which would arouse the authorities, and that plans were centered on a frontal plan to end the present regime in Cuba and not merely on minor acts to disrupt the elections (scheduled for November 1, 1954). (S)

PASCASIO LINERA LOPEZ, age 33, 836 S. W. Third Avenue, Miami, pleaded guilty to charges based upon investigation by United States Customs, Miami, for conspiring to transport arms and ammunition from the United States without a license.

JOSE DUARTE and CANDIDO DE LA TORRE were the victims in a \$240,000 robbery at Fort Worth, Texas in about December, 1952. This money had allegedly been taken from New York City to Fort Worth for the purpose of buying arms and ammunition on behalf of CARLOS PRIO.

Miami Informant T-2, of known reliability, being the representative of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, advised on October 18, 1954 that he had received information from several sources that the CARLOS PRIO group was attempting to charter, or otherwise acquire,

-4-
1142

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

a yacht for the purpose of transporting arms and men to Cuba in the immediate future in an attempt to overthrow the BATISTA Government.

Miami Informant T-3, of known reliability, who is well informed concerning the activities of Cuban exiles in the Miami area, and Miami Informant T-4, of known reliability, who also possesses the same type of information, reported on October 21, 1954 that a boat called the "SACHEM II" and several other vessels in the Miami area would allegedly participate in an attempted revolution against BATISTA, and that approximately 150 Cubans from the Miami area would participate. These informants said that the wives of Cubans belonging to the PRIO group in Miami had been weeping in anticipation of the approaching revolution against BATISTA, which T-3 and T-4 said would take place on or about November 1, 1954, the date of Cuban elections. They expressed the opinion that DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA, a very close associate of PRIO, would lead this expedition.

TEJERA pleaded nolle contendere in Federal Court, New York City, in October, 1954 on a charge, based upon United States Customs investigation of conspiring to illegally ship arms to Cuba without a license.

T-3 and T-4 said that Doctor RICARDO LINARES, a personal friend of Cuban Presidential candidate GRAU SAN MARTIN, had been in Miami for several days for conferences with PRIO in an attempt to persuade PRIO to postpone any revolutionary attempt until after November 1, 1954, as GRAU felt there was a possibility he might defeat BATISTA in the Cuban elections, thereby avoiding the necessity of a revolution. (It is to be noted that GRAU SAN MARTIN withdrew from the elections several days prior to November 1, 1954).

T-3 and T-4 said LINARES had expressed satisfaction with his mission to Miami and he felt he had successfully persuaded PRIO to postpone action.

T-3 and T-4 said that NOEL DEL PINO, another of PRIO's close associates, had recently succeeded in entering Cuba clandestinely, but had sought sanctuary at the Uruguayan Embassy in Havana because of the "heat" which had

-5-

1143

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

been placed on him by the Cuban authorities, it having been reported that DEL PINO came to Cuba in order to attempt to assassinate BATISTA. They said that DEL PINO had shipped eight panel trucks into Cuba and had purchased two high-powered rifles with telescopic sights in the United States which were believed to be used for the purpose of attempting BATISTA's assassination.

T-3 and T-4 expressed the opinion that it was fantastic to believe that any revolutionary invasion or attempt launched by Cubans in the United States and Mexico could succeed, unless high Army Officers and Police in Cuba had sold out to PRIO. They also felt that it was entirely possible that an attempted assassination might be made against BATISTA.

Miami Informant T-5, of known reliability, reported on October 21, 1954 that MARIO MARTINEZ, a partner in Continental Communications of Florida, had been clandestinely operating a short wave radio transmitter and receiver on behalf of EMILO OCHOA, leader of one faction of the Orthodox Party of Cuba. It is to be noted that OCHOA and PRIO, according to numerous reports, have been closely associated with each other and representatives of the Authentic and Orthodox Parties, respectively, in order to unseat the BATISTA Government. (This clandestine radio operation will be dealt with in greater detail elsewhere in this report.)

T-5, said that MARTINEZ was in short wave radio contact with PRIO and OCHOA followers in Cuba and Mexico. He said that MARTINEZ had indicated that a revolutionary attempt against BATISTA would take place shortly before Cuban elections, scheduled for November 1, 1954, and that the revolution would be preceded by a student uprising, followed by armed landings from boats, including one boat which was then at Campeche, Mexico. This boat was allegedly destined for Bata Bono, a port in the extreme southwestern side of Cuba.

T-5 said that MARTINEZ also disclosed that 80 men would board an unidentified vessel in Miami, being picked up from small boats as this vessel proceeded down the Miami River and out of Biscayne Bay. MARTINEZ disclosed to T-5

-6-

1144

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

that he had been invited by OCHOA to personally accompany OCHOA on this revolutionary maneuver. He claimed that if the revolution succeeded he, MARTINEZ, expected to be named Chief of Communications in Cuba and that he would also get a "cut" on electrical imports into Cuba.

MARIO MARTINEZ is an American born citizen residing in Miami. T-5 also said MARTINEZ was in very frequent contact with OCHOA and visited in the homes of both OCHOA and PRIO.

Miami Informant T-1 reported in October, 1954 that CARLOS PRIO had made a statement in confidence to one of his close supporters to the effect that plans for a revolution which had originally been scheduled for October 9, 1954, were disrupted by the breakdown of support allegedly expected from certain key Army groups, and that preparations were then going ahead for plans for a reorganization so that PRIO expected to be in Cuba before November 1, 1954. (S)

Miami Informant T-5 reported on October 29, 1954 that MARIO MARTINEZ had learned through either a Cuban radio operator or members of the PRIO group in Miami that a general uprising in Cuba was scheduled for the night of October 29, 1954 or the following day, in Camaguey, Cuba. At about the same time, however, MARTINEZ advised Miami Informant T-6, of known reliability, that a revolution was scheduled for election day, November 1, 1954, in Cuba, although about ten bombs had been set off in the eastern part of Cuba on October 29, 1954.

On October 28, 1954 Miami Informant T-7, of known reliability, ascertained through SEGUNDO CURTI, one of PRIO's closest associates, that a revolution would not take place until after the November 1, 1954 elections. CURTI told this informant that a seizure of guns which had taken place by the Cuban Police in Havana several days previously would not alter PRIO's plans. CURTI did not indicate to this informant any specific date for a revolution.

The October 29, 1954 issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "100 Arrested as Cuba Bags 'Subversives'". This article disclosed that 100 persons

-7-
1145

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

were jailed in Cuba after raids by Police which were aimed at "subversive commandos" intent on disrupting the November 1, 1954 elections. Those arrested were said to be adherents of CARLOS PRIO. Along with this article was a photograph showing a cache of arms seized in a private home in the country club section of Havana by Police. These arms were said to have a value of more than \$300,000 and included 82 machine guns.

T-3 reported on December 13, 1954 that EMILO OCHOA, who entered Cuba clandestinely several days prior to the November 1, 1954 elections there, was expected to issue within the next few days a declaration to Cuban newspapers that he is coming over to the side of the Cuban Government. T-3 said that OCHOA was also expected to issue an expose of CARLOS PRIO which would include a statement to the effect that OCHOA went to Cuba under an agreement with PRIO to participate in a revolutionary move against BATISTA which had been scheduled for November 1, 1954, but that PRIO had backed out, fearing to return to Cuba, thereby leaving OCHOA in Cuba "holding the bag".

(1) CLANDESTINE RADIO OPERATION

As previously indicated, Miami Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised on October 21, 1954 that MARIO MARTINEZ, a partner in Continental Communications of Florida, a concern which specializes in repairing and installing two-way radios, had been operating a clandestine transmitter and receiver for EMILO OCHOA, a leader of one faction of the Orthodox Party of Cuba. T-5 said that MARTINEZ was in almost daily contact with OCHOA and also with CARLOS PRIO, or some of PRIO's associates in Miami.

It is to be noted that CARLOS PRIO is a leader of the Authentic Party and EMILO OCHOA, representing his faction of the Orthodox Party, attended a joint conference of the two Parties at Montreal, Canada in June, 1953, at which time it was agreed, according to reports, that the two Parties would join forces in order to overthrow BATISTA.

T-5 said that MARTINEZ is a licensed "ham" radio operator whose call letters are W4JAV. This informant said

-8-

1146

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

that MARTINEZ had been operating clandestinely for several weeks and had been in radio communication with PRIO and OCHOA followers in Cuba and Campeche, Mexico. T-5 said that MARTINEZ usually received messages in telegraphic code and usually answered in plain text in Spanish. Informant ascertained that incoming coded messages are usually decoded by OCHOA, who maintained in his possession a code book.

This informant also reported on the same date that OCHOA was considering installing two-way radio units on several automobiles which he planned to ship to Cuba. One such unit had already been installed in OCHOA's car, which he then kept in Miami.

On October 28, 1954 Miami Informant T-2 advised that MARTINEZ had employed a code in communicating with one PEDRO UGALDE of Campeche, Mexico.

T-5 reported during the latter part of October, 1954 that MARTINEZ' contacts with OCHOA remained frequent and daily until October 27, 1954, or shortly prior thereto, when OCHOA, accompanied by EUGENIO GARCIA of Miami, went by plane to Jamaica. GARCIA returned directly to Miami from Jamaica. However, according to T-3 who reported in the early part of November, 1954, OCHOA made a clandestine entry into Cuba at Oriente Province in Cuba.

T-5 reported that after MARTINEZ was apparently unsuccessful in contacting OCHOA, that MARTINEZ' attempts to maintain contact with individuals in Mexico and Cuba reportedly decreased in frequency and that MARTINEZ apparently abandoned such efforts in December, 1954.

Miami Informant T-9, of known reliability, being a representative of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, T-2 and T-8 ascertained independently of each other in November and December, 1954 that MARTINEZ was extremely cautious in the operation of this radio station and took many precautions in avoiding detection and in concealing the identity of persons contacted. Some of his messages were in code and others were in plain text in Spanish.

-9-

1147

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

On November 19, 1954 Miami Informant T-5 ascertained that according to MARTINEZ, a radio contact on the Isle of Pines off the coast of Cuba had been arrested by the Cuban Government. T-5 reported that one of MARTINEZ' contacts in Cuba had been RENE BENTANCOURT, who uses call letters CO2CY, however T-5 also learned that MARTINEZ suspected BENTANCOURT of being a "plant" of the Cuban Intelligence Service, did not trust him, and consequently was very circumspect in his messages with BENTANCOURT. T-5 said BENTANCOURT is a "ham" radio operator in Cuba and had spent some time in November, 1954 in Miami in the company of MARTINEZ and associates of PRIO and OCHOA. T-5 possessed no knowledge of the operation of this clandestine radio station in January, 1955.

(2) BOATS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN
REVOLUTIONARY SCHEMES

(a) LE FRANCAIS

Information concerning the "LE FRANCAIS" has been previously reported to the effect, briefly, that CARLOS PRIO had entered into negotiations to have a 500 watt radio transmitter installed on this boat, apparently for the purpose of transmitting to commercial receivers in Cuba, but that PRIO cancelled this plan in favor of having a marine radio transmitter and receiver installed instead.

T-5 had reported on December 3, 1954 that this boat was owned as a matter of record by the Inter-Caribbean Corporation of Miami and T-3 had reported on December 6, 1954 that this boat belonged to JOSE MANUEL CARAMES, former Chief of Police in Havana who, according to T-3, was closely associated with CARLOS PRIO and his group.

Miami Informant T-10, of known reliability, being a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, reported on November 27, 1954 that a Canadian ship "LE FRANCAIS" had been acquired by certain radical Cuban elements in Miami for the purpose of using her in subversive activities against the present Cuban Government.

Miami Informant T-11, of known reliability, reported on January 6, 1955 that he had determined through

-10-

1148

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

various Cuban sources in Miami that JOSE MANUEL CARAMES, owner of the "LE FRANCAIS", had been furnished the sum of \$25,000 by CARLOS PRIO on condition that this vessel and another one owned by CARAMES, the "MOLLIE-O", be available to the PRIO organization should PRIO ever need it. T-11 said that inquiries relative to the present operations of this boat reflects that it is not hauling enough cargo at the present time to make expenses and that if it were not for PRIO's help, CARAMES would suffer a large financial loss in the operation of the vessel.

On January 24, 1955 Miami Informant T-12, of known reliability, being a representative of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, advised that the registry of the "LE FRANCAIS" had been changed from Canadian to Costa Rican and that the present owners of this vessel are listed as JOSE C. CARAMES, JR. and PILAR LINERA LOPEZ, as of December 17, 1954, according to the Provisional Registrar, as issued by the Costa Rican Consul General in Miami. The Master of this vessel is listed as WILLIE EBANKS, citizen of Honduras, and a resident alien of the United States living at 44 N. E. Seventh Street, Miami, Florida.

T-12 said that another member of the crew was WILLIAM MORALLES. This vessel cleared Miami January 20, 1955, according to T-12, and sailed January 21, 1955 without any cargo or contraband. T-12 said this vessel was supposed to go to Costa Rica for coffee and cedar.

T-12 said it had been noted by a representative of his agency that CARAMES possesses a card issued by the Costa Rican Government authorizing him to operate a radio station. However, T-12 had determined that the only radio equipment now on board this vessel is a marine radio receiver.

T-12 pointed out that PILAR LINERA LOPEZ, listed as one of the owners, is identical to PASCASIO LINERA, which fact he said was borne out also by the fact that a crew list filed with the Costa Rican Consul General contained the name PASCASIO LINERA LOPEZ. T-12 also felt it could be significant that LINERA and MORALLES are associated with this vessel, inasmuch as both of these men pleaded guilty on a charge of conspiring to illegally export arms and

-11-

1149

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

ammunition without a license from the United States during 1954, following investigation by United States Customs, Miami. T-12 said that MORALLES had claimed that he would be in Cuba when the shooting started. T-12 described MORALLES as being a Cuban National who had acquired American citizenship by virtue of service as a GI with the United States Armed Forces.

T-12 described the "LE FRANCAIS" as being a 138.1 foot vessel with a 12 foot draft and a tonnage of 225.88. It is motor driven.

(b) SACHEM II

On October 21, 1954 Miami Informant T-3 advised that the "SACHEM II" was to be known as the "EL ZORRO" and several other boats in the Miami area would allegedly participate in an attempted revolution against BATISTA.

Miami Informant T-13, of known reliability, reported on October 19, 1954 that TOM McCRORY, Miami yacht broker, had made inquiries concerning the "SACHEM II", an 82 foot yacht which had been purchased August, 1954 from a New York owner by the name of RAUL ALVA SANCHEZ of Mexico. This informant said at the time this boat was purchased, ALVA SANCHEZ had been accompanied to Miami by CRISTOBAL MARTINEZ ZORILLA, a Mexican who has been previously carried in this investigation as a contact or associate of the PRIO group. T-13 said that TOM McCRORY indicated that he might captain this boat when it left Miami at some time in the near future.

With regard to TOM McCRORY, it is to be recalled that he allegedly participated in a transfer of arms and ammunition to Cay Sal, a British West Indies Island off the coast of Cuba, in 1953. These arms were later seized by the Cuban Government. T-13 was unable to determine at any subsequent time that McCRORY had any further connection with the "SACHEM II".

T-13 said this boat was ostensibly to be used for luxury fishing in Mexico and had undergone extensive repairs in Miami and was then ready for departure at most any time. T-13 said that negotiations were then being made to transfer the registry of this vessel from the American to the Panamanian flag.

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

On December 14, 1954 Miami Informant T-12, advised that the "SACHEM II" had obtained permission from the U. S. Maritime Commission to transfer its registration from American to Mexican registry. He said the boat cleared Miami December 14, 1954 for Nassau and that CRISTOBAL MARTINEZ ZORILLA went as Master. Crew members included LORENZO HARO, a Cuban, and JAMES W. GREEN, an American. A passenger was listed as ERENA PERRERA. On December 30, 1954 T-12 advised that the "SACHEM II" had been searched with negative results. T-12 described CRISTOBAL MARTINEZ ZORILLA as being an admitted smuggler of gold and as a suspected narcotics smuggler. ZORILLA disclosed to T-12 that he intended to smuggle scotch whisky from the Bahamas to Mexico.

(c) MOLLIE-0

On October 21, 1954 T-3 stated that the "MOLLIE-0", owned by JOSE MANUEL CARAMES, mentioned above, was then in the Port of Miami and suspected of being involved in revolutionary activities of the PRIO group.

(3) COMBAT TRAINING OF CUBAN CIVIC FRONT, MIAMI

On October 15, 1954 Miami Informant T-14, of known reliability, advised that a group of Cubans had been practicing combat tactics in the yard of CARLOS MARISTANY, 1890 N. W. 81st Terrace, for several days preceding and that these Cubans had been using what appeared to be weapons made of wood. T-14 said that some of these Cubans had been overheard to make statements in Spanish about Cuba and "fire".

On the evening of November 27, 1954 SA EDWARD P. GAZUR and GEORGE E. DAVIS, JR. observed that there were a number of Spanish speaking men in MARISTANY's residence, and they appeared to be in a heated political discussion. SA GAZUR, who understands Spanish, could hear them mention CARLOS PRIO, BATISTA, GRAU SAN MARTIN and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. At one point in the meeting, which lasted until about 10:00 P.M., the Agents heard what appeared to be the racking back of a bolt on a Springfield rifle.

On November 2, 1954 CARLOS ISIDORO MARISTANY, 1890 N. W. 81st Terrace, was interviewed by SAs GAZUR and DAVIS.

-13-
1151

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

MARISTANY advised that he is presently of the Frente Civico Cubano, "Cuban Civic Front". Other members, in addition to himself, included GILBERT DELGADO in charge of publicity and propaganda; HUMBERTO ALVARADO, Secretary; ANGEL ESCARTIN and MIGUEL MARINO. He said that on occasions ALFREDO SANCHEZ ECHEVARIA had also been present. (This individual is reported to be the son of AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO, who is the alleged head of the anti-BATISTA underground in Cuba and who was formerly Minister of Education in PRIO's cabinet.)

MARISTANY said that the purpose of this club was to enlighten Americans as to the political situation in Cuba in order to restore democracy in Cuba. He claimed that the group was not affiliated with any political party in Cuba, nor organized Cuban group either in Cuba or the United States. He denied that it was associated in any way with CARLOS PRIO and said that it did not receive any funds from PRIO or any other individual or political party.

MARISTANY acknowledged that meetings of this group had been held at his own home and at the homes of other members. He admitted that on the evening of October 27, 1954 either ALVARADO or ESCARTIN had brought to his home a .30 caliber model 1903 Springfield bolt action rifle which had been used by DELGADO for demonstration purposes that evening.

MARISTANY also acknowledged that on at least three occasions during the recent past combat tactics had been held in his yard by members of the club. He said that on none of these occasions, however, did they use real weapons. They did use two wooden guns, a broom and a mop.

He denied that either he himself or any other member of the group, so far as he knew, planned to go to Cuba at any time in the near future or to engage in any revolutionary activities against BATISTA or anybody else. When questioned as to the purpose of such combat tactics, MARISTANY said he could not adequately explain why they had engaged in such tactics. He indicated that these maneuvers served as a sort of outlet for their feelings against BATISTA. He denied that he had made any attempts

-14-

1152

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

to recruit anybody to engage in any revolutionary activity against the present Cuban Government or that he himself had enlisted or attempted to enlist anyone for such purpose.

MARISTANY acknowledged that he had participated in an attempt to picket the Cuban Consulate in Miami in July, 1952, along with GILBERT DELGADO and other individuals. He said that the Cuban Civic Club has no connection whatsoever with the Accion Civica Cubano of New York City, although each exists for the same general purpose.

MARISTANY said that he is employed by the McKesson Robbins Pharmaceutical Company in Miami as a Price Clerk and has worked for this company six years. He said he formerly taught at a Baptist school at El Cristo, Cuba from 1945 to 1947 and that he is presently a Sunday School teacher in Miami. His uncle, CARLOS MARISTANY, was an official in PRIO's government.

(4) REACTION OF CARLOS PRIO TO
BATISTA'S ELECTION AS PRESIDENT
NOVEMBER 1, 1954

The Miami Herald on November 3, 1954 carried an article entitled "Election Outcome Tragic Joke on Cuban People, PRIO Asserts", by GEORGE SOUTHWORTH, Herald Staff Writer, who reported CARLOS PRIO as having declared that the election of BATISTA "represents a tragic joke played on the Cuban people".

In this article PRIO was quoted as having made the following remarks:

"What happened in Cuba on November 1 can not be called a general election.

"The state of persecution and violence created by the armed forces moved Doctor RAMON GRAU SAN MARTIN, BATISTA's only opponent, to withdraw from the election on October 31.

"GRAU had asked for a postponement but BATISTA rejected that demand, thus remaining the sole candidate for presidency in the election.

-15-

1153

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

"Such a situation has no precedents in Cuba's history and such a deed cannot validate the de facto regime established by revolution. Nor can it solve the constitutional crisis under which Cuba has lived since March 10, 1952."

The article stated that PRIO denied rumors that he had joined forces with GRAU. It quoted him as stating "It just happened that BATISTA forced GRAU to take the position that agreed with my own stand concerning the election."

"BATISTA's objectives in going through with the election were quite obvious.

"He wanted to make his dictatorship legitimate through an apparent popular electoral validation which would have allowed him to consider himself a constitutional president.

"Thus he needed some kind of a general election but when he was practically sure of his defeat at the hands of GRAU, he created a state of terror and violence and forced GRAU to withdraw."

The article also quoted PRIO as stating that the "so-called" election returns published by BATISTA "represent a tragic joke played on the people which embitters still more the already dangerous situation on the island."

This article pointed out that PRIO had been fined \$9000 in October, 1954 by a Federal Judge in New York on a charge of conspiring to ship arms illegally to Cuba; that PRIO had entered a plea of no defense to that charge.

**B. REPORT SUBSEQUENT TO NOVEMBER 1, 1954
INDICATIVE OF REVOLUTIONARY ACTION
BEING PLANNED AGAINST BATISTA GOVERNMENT**

Miami Informant T-5 reported on November 4, 1954 that MARIO MARTINEZ, previously mentioned as having operated a clandestine radio on behalf of the PRIO and OCHOA group, had confided that terroristic tactics would be employed

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

against BATISTA until such time as Cuban economy and security conditions made possible a successful revolutionary action against BATISTA. At the same time MARTINEZ disclosed that a split had occurred between PRIO and OCHOA because PRIO had failed to finance the purchase of certain automobile radio equipment needed by OCHOA.

Miami Informant T-7 reported in the early part of November, 1954 that ENRIQUE HENRIQUEZ, brother-in-law of CARLOS PRIO who had been visiting in Miami, had disclosed that PRIO expected to be back in Cuba by Christmas, 1954.

T-3 expressed the opinion on November 4, 1954 that PRIO had lost his opportunity in not striking before the November 1, 1954 election, which election showed strong BATISTA support in Cuba. T-3 felt that PRIO would probably resort to terroristic tactics in Cuba in opposition to BATISTA.

Miami Informant T-15, of unknown reliability, but who has purportedly furnished some reliable information previously, on December 6, 1954 advised that he had by chance met CARLOS and ANTONIO PRIO a day or two previously in Miami and that during the course of the casual conversation, both had stated they hoped to see him in Havana soon. T-15 gathered from this remark that the PRIOS were still interested in fomenting a revolution in Cuba. This informant pointed out that since BATISTA is scheduled to take office February 24, 1955, that any attempt of PRIO to overthrow BATISTA would logically be made prior to that date.

T-3 reported on January 4, 1955 that a conference had been held at the home of CARLOS PRIO on New Year's Eve, or Day, at which time PRIO reiterated to some of his leading associates his intention to overthrow the BATISTA regime. T-3 possessed no details as to those in attendance at this meeting. T-3 was of the opinion that such an effort would succeed only through assassination of BATISTA and he felt this would probably be the means by which PRIO would attempt to overthrow the BATISTA Government, inasmuch as any other method would prove futile, since BATISTA had been elected by an overwhelming majority of the Cuban people.

-17-

1155

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

T-11 reported on January 6, 1955 that a small unit of the Triple A, the underground anti-BATISTA organization allegedly headed by AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO, is presently active in Miami, according to information received by him through several sources. T-11 said that members of this unit include DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA, one of PRIO's chief Lieutenants and close associates, TONY SANTIAGO and his brother ROBERTO SANTIAGO of Miami, and NOEL DEL PINO, also presently in Miami. T-11 said that meetings of this group are frequently held at the home of SANTIAGO. T-11 said that from what he can gather, the Triple A unit, described above, consists of an inner-group of secret members of the PRIO faction who are committed to engage in acts of violence when necessary. He said that members of this group have considered the possibility of assassinating BATISTA and that claims have been made that there is one among the group who is willing to make such an attempt. T-11 said however, he had been unable to obtain the identity of this individual or to obtain any substantiating evidence.

It is to be noted that all of the members of this unit described by T-11 are well known associates of the PRIO group in Miami.

Both T-3 and T-11 were of the opinion that any attempted assassination of BATISTA or other act of violence to seize his government would logically take place before February 24, 1955 when BATISTA is scheduled to take office as the new President of Cuba.

On December 13, 1954 and on January 10, 1955 T-3 made available the November 1, 1954, November 15, 1954 and the December 1, 1954 issues of "Panfleto", a small leaflet edited by SAVIUR CANCIO PENA, which is the pen name for SALVADOR PENA, who has been previously investigated under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, along with MILLO OCHOA for preparing and publishing a considerable amount of literature aimed against the BATISTA Government. PENA is a naturalized American citizen of Cuban origin now reportedly living in Mexico.

This pamphlet contains information to the effect that it is printed clandestinely in Cuba, this despite the fact that PENA is reportedly living in Mexico.

-18-

1156

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

MM 2-165

The December 1, 1954 edition of this pamphlet contains an article in Spanish reading when translated to the effect that CARLOS PRIO will restore democracy, constitutional government, and freedom to Cuba, and execute the traitors and will hold constitutional elections and then retire from Cuban politics. It also includes an article concerning OCHOA which describes OCHOA as the indestructible leader of the Orthodox Party and the hope of Cuban people who is now secretly in Cuba.

The November 1, 1954 issue of this same pamphlet carried an article reading as translated, "The revolution is on its way. It cannot be checked. It is coming without a doubt. CARLOS PRIO, MILLO OCHOA do not deflate the longings of the free men of Cuba. There are weapons and unsuspected methods of fighting. Have faith."

Another article read "Remember Moncada. Neither forget, nor pardon. PRIO, MILLO, BARCENAS, AURELIANO and a people. To arms."

Another article read "MILLO OCHOA kept his word. He is in Cuba to fight against the dictatorship. The people and their party are following him. He is a leader."

Another read "Revolutions are not made by the masses but by active minorities. The former follow the leader if he wins out."

PENA has admittedly worked on behalf of the PRIO group prior to leaving Miami, Florida for Mexico. He has also been closely associated with OCHOA.

Miami Informant T-1 reported on or shortly prior to January 11, 1955 that according to information emanating from official Cuban circles, young Cubans had begun to leave Cuba for Key West, Florida in order to join a revolutionary evasion force which was supposed to leave from that point for Cuba in the near future. These men were reportedly to travel at their own expense and report to 176 Doval or Duval Street, Key West, and ask for PEDRO ARMENTOS, using the passwords "Cuba needs Cubans".

-19-

1157

SECRET

MM 2-165

On January 11, 1955 T-3 advised that he had received no confirmation of such activity through his sources and T-2 reported that he had also received no substantiation of this information.

On January 12, 1955 Chief of Police VIENVEDITO PEREZ, Key West, advised that he had noted no influx of Cuban Nationals to Key West, other than as tourists.

SA JOHN C. BILLS ascertained that 176 Duval Street, Key West, is a non-existent address, being a vacant lot. Agent BILLS also ascertained that PEDRO ARMENTOS was unknown to individuals in that neighborhood.

T-1 also reported in December, 1954 that members of the Orthodox Party, members of the Communist Party (PSP) and members of the Association De Amigos De Aureliano were drawing up plans for revolutionary action. This informant also stated that unidentified wealthy merchants, ostensibly non-political but actually conniving with members of the former PRIO Government, were also involved and that armed action was planned for the Christmas (1954) holiday period. This informant said that an armed uprising was to begin in Pinar Del Rio Province and that members of the old Cuban armed forces would be involved in the revolt. This informant said that arms and uniforms were being transported daily to different destinations in the trunks of private automobiles and that arms were being landed at Arroyo De Mantua and at Guanibar Beach by fishing boats and other small craft.

This informant said that Doctor ARNALDO ESCALONA ALMEIDA, a Communist lawyer, represented the PSP in plans for the coup and that he had been negotiating with Doctor RAMON GRAU SAN MARTIN, former Cuban President, EMILIO OCHOA OCHOA, and AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO. This informant also reported that a second PSP representative involved in these plans was Doctor RAUL ROA, who was reportedly on close terms with the Mexican Communist Party and the Soviet Legation in Mexico.

C. INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGED TRAFFIC
IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION

T-16, who is believed to be reliable, reported on October 29, 1954 that he had received information reflecting

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

that JINO NEGRETTI, a Miami Attorney of Puerto Rican origin, had indicated that he possessed information concerning 1000 rifles which were to be shipped to Cuba via Key West, Florida and that NEGRETTI planned a trip to Cuba relative to this transaction.

T-3 reported on January 18, 1955 that NEGRETTI had recently approached representatives of the Cuban Government in Miami with a proposition of furnishing information concerning a large supply of arms and ammunition which was to be smuggled to Cuba in return for which NEGRETTI wanted \$5000. T-3 said that when the Cuban authorities questioned NEGRETTI at length concerning his proposal, it was determined that NEGRETTI had no specific information to offer.

T-15 reported on December 6, 1954 that he had ascertained from various members of the PRIO organization in Miami that a shipment of arms was to be handled by ANTONIO FUENTES, brother-in-law of CARLOS PRIO, and that this shipment was expected to leave from Tampa, Florida by way of fishing boats by way of Cuba during the following week. T-15 possessed no specific information concerning the identity of the boats involved.

Miami Informants T-2 and T-3 have reported during the recent past on several occasions that there still appears to be considerable traffic of a piecemeal nature in arms in the Miami area. T-3 has expressed the opinion that some of the activity in this field has been transferred from the Miami area to the West Coast of Florida, particularly in the area of Tampa, however he possessed no specific information.

Mr. JAMES OFFUTT, Assistant Supervising Customs Agent, United States Customs, Miami, Florida, reported on January 25, 1955 that investigations by United States Customs relative to the Federal laws involving exportation of arms and ammunition without a license, or conspiracy to do so, as prescribed by Section 452D of Title 22 and Section 371, Title 18, United States Code, have resulted as follows:

CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, Federal Court, New York City, pleaded Nolle Contendere and was fined \$9000.

-21-

1159

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SEGUNDO CURTI MESSINA (one of PRIO's closest advisors), Federal Court, New York City, pleaded Nolle Contendere; fined \$6000.

DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA, Federal Court, New York City, pleaded Nolle Contendere, fined \$5000.

EFREN RUDOLFO PICHARDO, Federal Court, New York City, pleaded Nolle Contendere, fined \$1000 and placed on two year probation.

RICARDO MADAN, Federal Court, New York City, pleaded Nolle Contendere and fined \$2500.

JESSE A. VICKERS, Federal Court, New York City, pleaded Nolle Contendere, fined \$1000 and placed on two year probation.

PASCASIO LINERA LOPEZ, Federal Court, Miami, Florida, pleaded guilty, fined \$750.

WILLIAM VIDAL MORALES, Federal Court, Miami, pleaded guilty, fined \$750.

MARCOS DIAZ y LANZ, case pending, Miami.

JUAN FERNANDEZ CASTRO y RODRIGUEZ, case pending, Miami.

CARLOS HEVIA (close associate of PRIO), case pending, New York City.

EUGENIO GARCIA, case pending, Miami.

EDUARDO GARCIA, case pending, Miami.

ERNESTO PRIETO, case pending, Miami.

DAVID ADELBERG, case pending, Miami.

ANTONIO ALFONSO, with alias BOLIVAR DIAZ VASQUEZ, case pending, Miami. (reported to be in Mexico).

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

Each of the above described individuals have been active in the Miami area. Mr. OFFUTT has advised that several additional arrests on the same Federal charges are pending in the Miami area.

D. MISCELLANEOUS

On September 3, 1954 Miami Informant T-17, who is an admitted former Communist and who has reported some reliable information in the past, advised that during the previous week he and another individual were called to the home of CARLOS PRIO, where they were received by Doctor MARTINEZ FRAGA and LUIS GUSTAVO FERNANDEZ, PRIO's private secretary. He said PRIO was also supposed to be present, but at the last minute was unable to attend.

T-17 said that FRAGA and FERNANDEZ wanted him to produce and turn over to Miami newspapers information showing BATISTA to be a Communist and to produce information concerning any tie-in between Cuban Communists and Communists in the United States. T-17 said that he made no commitments.

On September 3, 1954 Miami Informant T-18, of known reliability, confirmed information furnished by T-17. T-18 said that FRAGA and FERNANDEZ explained that they would be able to get evidence concerning Communism in Cuba and the Communist connections between Cuba and the United States from DIAZ VERNON, a Cuban now residing in Miami who had investigated Communist activities in Cuba over a long period of time.

On September 16, 1954 SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON, 2969 S. W. 15th Street, Miami, advised SA JOHN PAGE, JR., who speaks Spanish, and SA GEORGE E. DAVIS, JR. that BATISTA himself is not a Communist, but that BATISTA tolerates Cuban Communists in order to secure their votes and support. He claimed there are some 80,000 to 90,000 Communists in Cuba, among whom there are about 13,000 militant Communists. He alleged there is traffic between Cuban Communists and Communists in the United States, but he was then unable to produce any evidence to substantiate this allegation. DIAZ stated he himself had formerly been connected with the Counter Intelligence Espionage Unit of the Cuban Army and that he later headed the Anti-Communist League of Cuba.

-23-

1161

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

II. RESISTANCE COMMANDOS

On December 10, 1954 Miami Informant T-1 advised that an organization known as the "Comandos de Resistencia" (Resistance Commandos) had recently been formed in Cuba and was presumed to be an arm of the PRIO revolutionary movement. T-1 said the aim of this organization was to institute a reign of violence against the BATISTA regime.

T-1 named LUIS ORTEGA, MARCOS G. VILLAREAL, ARACELIO AZCUY and MARIO KUCHILAN as being the supreme command or directive committee of this organization, with headquarters in Miami, Florida. T-1 said that the general representative of this organization in Cuba was CANDIDO DE LA TORRE.

According to T-1, this organization in November, 1954 published the first issue of a bulletin called the Resistance Commandos, which included a declaration to the effect that the Resistance Commandos were ready to give their lives in order to obtain freedom, peace and tranquillity for the Cuban people, and that they intended to do physical violence to BATISTA and his partners in crime in an effort to rid the country of its enemies and to liberate the people.

On November 12, 1954 Miami Informant T-19, of known reliability, advised that on November 10, 1954 LUIS ORTEGA, who resides 3750 Park Avenue, Coconut Grove, Miami, had caused to be printed 2000 copies of a leaflet entitled "Bulletin Number One of the Resistance Commandos" and that on November 11, 1954 ORTEGA had produced 500 similar copies on an air mail type paper. This bulletin, as translated from Spanish into English, reads as follows:

"BATISTA MUST BE FOUGHT WITH TERROR

"We are now at war with BATISTA. And we proclaim, before public opinion, that all means are good. Everything is lawful in this death struggle. The Comandos de Resistencia are now fighting in the streets of Cuba...Our men are prepared to offer up their lives to achieve the peace and calm of the mistreated Cuban people.

-24-

1162

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

"We are not prompted by infamous political sectarianisms. We are prepared to collaborate in every noble attempt at insurrection which will one day materialize -- but we believe that while waiting for the arrival of the hour of liberty, terror must be answered with terror. The men who are assuming the responsibility for the crimes of BATISTA must be duly sanctioned. And not afterwards, but now. That is the task that the Comandos de Resistencia are going to carry out. We are already working with fervor. From the moment and hour that we heard the first reports of the guns that announced our underground action, terror began to spread among the shameful members of the regime. Nothing will stop us. We are going to attack the persons of all the individuals who appear to be publicly compromised with the murderer, FULGENCIO BATISTA, and those of all those who surround them, whether they be politicians, newspapermen, public officials, businessmen, foreigners or soldiers. We believe that Cuba is a country occupied by the enemy. Therefore, every Cuban guilty of collaborating with the enemy is a traitor to the fatherland and must be shot. We believe that if BATISTA brings MARTA to all public functions, cowardly seeking to shield himself behind an unfortunate woman, the responsibility of what happens to this woman will be BATISTA's and not his executors'. We will not attack his family provided it is kept away, but neither will we renounce meting out justice for considerations of a sentimental character. This is a warning to those who are guilty and to the members of their families. And deeds will demonstrate that it is a warning to be taken into account.

"We turn to the people of Cuba, in this first bulletin, soliciting their cooperation. The Comandos are at the service of the public and are the executors of its will. We are not gangsters. The gangsters are those who steal and murder, from the government. We are humble, hardworking Cubans. We detest bloodshed, but we love liberty too much.

-25-

1163

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

"We aspire to having Cuba live in happiness and peace. To the achievement of these ideals we rush with determination. And may God aid us!...

"RESISTANCE COMMANDOS

"Havana, November, 1954"

It is to be noted that this bulletin purports to have been prepared in Havana, Cuba, although actually it was prepared in Miami, Florida.

With regard to the individuals named by T-1 as being leaders of the Resistance Commandos, the following information is submitted.

LUIS ORTEGA y SIERRA

T-3 reported on January 10, 1955 that LUIS ORTEGA formerly owned stock in the El Pueblo Newspaper, Havana, Cuba, and recently sold this stock for the sum of \$40,000. He also allegedly brought into the United States from Cuba approximately \$25,000 when he left Cuba as an exile. T-3 said that since ORTEGA came to Miami about one and one-half years ago, he has been more or less persona non grata with CARLOS PRIO, inasmuch as ORTEGA became a critic of PRIO's activities while PRIO was still President of Cuba. T-3 said that PRIO is alleged to distrust ORTEGA and considers him somewhat of a blackmailer.

T-19 has previously reported in connection with a Registration Act investigation of SALVADOR PENA and EMILO OCHOA that LUIS ORTEGA was in very frequent contact with OCHOA during 1954 in Miami and collaborated with them in publishing a considerable quantity of anti-BATISTA propaganda and also in publishing a manual containing instructions relating to commando and military tactics, including the use of various types of small arms.

The January 9, 1955 issue of "Bohemia", page 61, contains a page entitled "1955 - In Exile", showing photographs of various Cubans in Miami. One of these photographs shows CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS sitting with newspaperman LUIS ORTEGA SIERRA and ARACELIO AZCUY, along

-26-

~~SECRET~~

1164

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

with a reporter of the "Bohemia". According to this reporter, PRIO commented, "Time has not been our ally, neither has it been the ally of our enemy".

Another photograph showed LUIS ORTEGA and ANTONIO PRIO, brother of CARLOS, discussing the bitterness of exiles.

Immigration and Naturalization Service records, Miami, reflect that ORTEGA last entered the United States March 31, 1954 with a non quota visa. On May 27, 1954 he was granted a permit to reenter the United States from a trip he planned to Mexico.

MARIO KUCHILAN

On January 10, 1955 T-3 advised that MARIO KUCHILAN, who is a Cuban citizen of the Chinese Race, is a former columnist for "Prensa Libre". T-3 said that KUCHILAN allegedly practiced blackmail tactics in editing his column. T-3 said he has received information that KUCHILAN makes frequent trips to Miami International Airport, where he sends and receives mail via various airline stewards and pilots. T-3 said that KUCHILAN is very close to ORTEGA and to other Cuban exiles in Miami.

Previous investigation relative to instant case has disclosed that KUCHILAN has been in frequent contact with PRIO, SEGUNDO CURTI and other leaders of the PRIO group.

Immigration and Naturalization Service records reflect that MARIO ERNESTO KU CHILAN y SOL last entered Miami November 24, 1954, destined to 2295 S. W. 9th Street, Miami, Florida. His visa has been extended to June 25, 1955. He was described as being a reporter by occupation of the Chinese Race and born April 26, 1910 in Havana, Cuba.

MARCOS G. VILLAREAL

T-3 reported on January 10, 1955 that MARCOS G. VILLAREAL had been arrested ten days previously in Cuba on a conspiracy charge. He said that VILLAREAL had been in Miami recently but only for a period of about one month. T-3 considered VILLAREAL to be "small fry". He described

-27-

~~SECRET~~

1165

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

him as having been a member of "Accion Guiteres", a secret terroristic group in Cuba which was active from about 1946 to 1952.

Immigration and Naturalization Service, Miami, possessed no record on this man.

ARACELIO AZCUY

T-3 reported on January 10, 1955 that ARACELIO AZCUY is presently receiving \$50 per week for expenses from RICARDO ARTIGAS, former Chief of the Cuban Lottery now living in Miami as a permanent resident, and who is one of PRIO's close advisors. T-3 said that AZCUY has always been associated with "left wing" organizations and ideas. He said that AZCUY frequently visits at the home of TONY SANTIAGO at 326 S. W. 20th Road, Miami, and also visits almost every day the office of ELISEO RIERA GOMEZ, who is registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

On December 14, 1954 T-12 made available for examination a book entitled "Cuba: Campo de Concentracion", written by AZCUY in the Spanish language. This was one of a number of books bearing the same title which had been sent to Miami from Mexico, where it had been published by "Ediciones Humanismo" on March 10, 1954 and printed by "Impresiones Modernas," S. A., Tabasco Number 275, Mexico City.

An examination of this book by SA LEMAN L. STAFFORD, JR., who understands the Spanish language, reflected that it treats with the bad economic condition of Cuba, this condition resulting allegedly because of the BATISTA dictatorship. It also attacks BATISTA's Government and alleges that freedom is suppressed; that people are tortured, and claims other outrages against the Cuban people. The book includes a long list of Cuban political exiles residing in Mexico, the United States, and other countries. The book contains approximately ten cartoons drawn by SAVIUR CANCIO PENA, previously mentioned in this report.

The book also contains a biographical sketch of AZCUY. It reflects that he formed a group of students known as the Authentic Youth Revolutionists; that he was a member

-28-

1166

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

of the Executive Body of "Youth in Defense of the Spanish Republic"; that he was a member of the "Committee For Assistance to the Spanish Children"; that he founded the youth division of the Authentic Party and was elected to the first National Board of that group, and that he attended the Law School at the University of Havana and while there founded a committee "Pro-Independence of Puerto Rico", a committee "Pro-Spanish Republic", a committee "Pro-Democracy in the Dominican Republic", and a committee "Aid to China Against the Japanese Republic".

This biography also reflects that while President of the Federation of University Students (FEU) he went to Puerto Rico at the invitation of a students' council and there made an appeal for independence for the "Island of Albizu Campos". The biography points out that AZCUY's appeal caused such a commotion within and outside of Puerto Rico that he was violently exiled from the island.

The biography also reflects that in 1948 he was appointed by AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO to be Chief of Personnel of the Department of Education.

On January 18, 1954 Miami Informant T-20, of known reliability, being a representative of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, advised that according to a June, 1948 report which had been brought to the attention of his office, AZCUY was described as being a suspected "fellow traveller", though not a Communist.

T-20 also possessed another report dated October, 1948, which described AZCUY as being a close friend of SANCHEZ ARANGO, who was then Minister of Education in Cuba.

T-20 was in possession of several newspaper clippings, including one dated December 28, 1954 (newspaper unknown), which quoted AZCUY as denying that he had suggested to JUAN MARINELLO (Communist Party leader in Cuba) that he attack the United States.

T-20 possessed information reflecting that AZCUY left Cuba October 15, 1953 for Mexico, after having been granted asylum in the Mexican Embassy in Havana, as result of

-29-

1167

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

having been involved in an uprising at Santiago de Cuba in July, 1953.

On November 10, 1954 ARACELIO RAFAEL AZCUY CRUZ filed an "Application to Extend Time of Temporary Stay". This application reflected that he had arrived at the Port of Miami October 22, 1954 for a thirty day visit from Mexico and intended to visit his friend LUIS ORTEGA, 3750 Park Avenue, Coconut Grove, Miami.

T-20 advised that on November 17, 1954 a 42 year old Cuban woman, ANGELICA PETRONILA FERRER y MORALES, came to Key West, Florida and applied for admission as a temporary visitor, but was excluded after she admitted that the purpose of her visit was to have intimate relations with AZCUY, who had come from Miami to Key West to see her.

T-20 on December 2, 1954 said AZCUY was interrogated concerning the above-mentioned Cuban woman. He described her as being a female auxiliary of his political party, the Authentico in Cuba and he implied that the purpose of her visit was for a political talk with him in Key West, where he had gone to meet her, having made arrangements for rooms at a Key West hotel. AZCUY described himself as being a political refugee and said he had written a book very strongly opposed to the BATISTA regime which prevented his return to Cuba. He denied that he had ever been a member of the Partido Socialista Popular (Communist Party) in Cuba.

On January 24, 1955 T-18 advised having received information through AZCUY to the effect that AZCUY had transported forty .45 caliber revolvers or automatics from Miami to Key West, Florida in two suitcases in November, 1954 for the purpose of turning these weapons over to ANGELICA PETRONILA FERRER y MORALES so that she could transport them back to Cuba on her return trip. T-18 did not know the ultimate destination in Cuba of these guns, according to AZCUY's original plans. T-18 said that AZCUY, of course, had been prevented from carrying out his plan, inasmuch as the woman had been excluded from entering the United States by the Immigration and Naturalization Service authorities. T-18 did not know whether AZCUY still has possession of these guns, or whether he has since disposed of them.

-30-

1168

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

Also on January 24, 1955 T-18 reported that he had ascertained through Cuban friends that AZCUY is considered by them to be a Communist.

CANDIDO DE LA TORRE

On January 10, 1955 T-3 advised that CANDIDO DE LA TORRE disappeared from Mexico where he had been residing and is now located somewhere secretly in Cuba.

DE LA TORRE has been previously mentioned many times in this investigation and it has been pointed out in this report that DE LA TORRE was one of the victims in a \$240,000 robbery at Fort Worth, Texas, the money in question having allegedly been provided by CARLOS PRIO for the purpose of buying arms and ammunition

III. TRIPLE A

On January 6, 1955 T-11 advised that according to information which has come to his attention, a small unit of the Triple A, the underground anti-BATISTA organization headed by AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO, PRIO's former Minister of Education, is presently active in Miami. T-11 named as members of this unit DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA, TONY SANTIAGO and his brother ROBERTO SANTIAGO and NOEL DEL PINO. T-11 said that meetings of this group are being held at the home of TONY SANTIAGO, 326 S. W. 20th Road, Miami. T-11 said that from what he can gather through associates of the PRIO group, the Miami members of this organization constitute an inner-group of secret members of PRIO followers who are committed to engaging in acts of violence when necessary. He said that members of the group mentioned above have considered the possibility of assassinating BATISTA and claims have been made to the effect that one among the group has been found who is willing to make such an attempt.

On January 20, 1955 T-11 reported that he suspected that additional members of the Triple A include MARIO KUCHILAN, SEGUNDO CURTI, GULLEREMO PUJOL (who is now in Miami), PASCASIO LINERA, MARCOS DIAZ, and perhaps LUIS ORTEGA. T-11 said all of these individuals frequently meet at the home of ANTONIO PRIO and some of them meet at the home of TONY SANTIAGO, and that these meetings appear to be of a conspiratorial nature.

-31-

~~SECRET~~

1169

~~SECRET~~

MM 2-165

T-11 possessed no specific information and he indicated that the above information was based upon general observations and suspicions.

T-11 also suspects that MARIO KUCHILAN may be a contact man for the Communist Party. He said that this suspicion was based upon a conversation which MARIO KUCHILAN had with LOMBERTO DIAZ, a follower of PRIO, recently when reference was made to work for the Communist Party. T-11 possessed no additional information to support this suspicion.

IV. MOVIMIENTO NACIONAL REVOLUCIONARIO (MNR)
(NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT)

Miami Informant T-21 on December 9, 1954 directed attention to an article which appeared in the December 1, 1954 issue of the "Diario de las Americas" of Miami concerning an interview by a newspaper representative with Doctor RAPHAEL GARCIA BARCENAS, head of the Cuban National Revolutionary Movement. The translation from Spanish into English of this article reflects that it bore the heading "Waiting and Vigilance". The article reflected that BARCENAS, a Professor of the University of Havana, was named as the President of this organization. When questioned whether in the event of an insurrectional movement would he go with the MNR alone or in conjunction with CARLOS PRIO, he replied to the effect, "In any insurrectional opportunity that should open itself to us, we would return with revolutionaries made up of the different oppositional groupings...as before, and as in the future, we will maintain ourself faithful to the line of revolutionary independence sponsored by the MNR since its foundation."

When questioned as to his present position and future plans, he replied in part, "Our present position is one of waiting and vigilance. We will be zealously on the watch for the moment in which, with our forces, we might be of use to our suffering country. Our future plans are becoming oriented in the sense that insurrection and revolution are not concepts that are considered to be synonymous, nor do they contradict themselves, rather do they complement one another."

When asked to explain the foundations and doctrines of the revolutionary movement over which he

-32-

1170

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

presides, BARCENAS replied in part, "The MNR was constituted in order to fuse into a single front the revolutionary elements which are present in one part of the orthodoxy, in one part of the authenticity and in one part of the citizenry without soldiery".

On January 11, 1955 T-22, of known reliability, advised that Doctor RAPHAEL GARCIA BARCENAS, his wife and eight year old daughter rented an apartment at 871 S. W. Third Street, Miami, on November 13, 1954 and have been residing there ever since. T-22 said that on December 24, 1954 a Latin who described himself as being CARLOS ALFARAS made arrangements for a Cuban family consisting of two women, two men and two children to occupy another apartment; that shortly thereafter the woman and children moved out and the two men were joined by two additional Cubans. He said that Doctor BARCENAS was in contact with these Cubans, whose names were never known to T-22, however he felt that their activities were suspicious inasmuch as they engaged in excited discussions which appeared to be of a political nature. He said that ALFARAS, although making the arrangements for the occupancy of one of the apartments, did not remain there. He also recalled that ALFARAS was well supplied with money.

T-22 also made available for examination one copy of a small newspaper entitled "Unidad Revolucionario" dated January, 1955 which had been made available by the wife of BARCENAS. This is a Spanish language newspaper and it purports to be the official organ of "The Club of Exiled Cubans 'J. MARTI'". It contained an article mentioning the name of BARCENAS in conjunction with the National Revolutionary Movement "MNR". It also included a list of martyrs of the dictatorship of Cuba since March, 1952.

T-22 said that BARCENAS appears to lead a rather quiet life, although most of his time is spent away from the apartment. T-22 said that BARCENAS had claimed, upon being questioned, that he is not a "PRIO man".

On January 11, 1955 T-3 advised that BARCENAS, a former Professor at the University of Havana, and also at the Cuban Military Academy, is considered somewhat of a "crack pot". He said that CARLOS ALFARAS is a close associate of AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO and reportedly came from Mexico to wait for "D Day" in Cuba.

- P -

- 33-1

~~SECRET~~