
Agency Information

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Document Information

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FROM : NORRIS, JOHN A. JR.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION **SECRET** **WINTEL**

REPORTING OFFICE SAN JUAN	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SAN JUAN	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD FEB 20 1962	1/16 - 2/1/62	FGI
TITLE OF CASE "CHANGED" FRANK CHAVEZ, aka. Frank Chavez, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY JOHN A. NORRIS, JR.	TYPED zho	

APPROVED	DATE	CHARACTER OF CASE IS-DR	NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT. JM 6/25/94
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SYNOPSIS: The title is marked "Changed" to show name of FRANK CHAVEZ, JR. as furnished by Lt. RAFAEL ALVAREZ.

REFERENCES: San Juan airtel 1/16/62. Bureau letter captioned "ARTURO ESPAILLAT, IS-DR" 1/4/62.

Classified by *[Signature]*
Declassify on: OADR *[Signature]*

LEADS:

ALBUQUERQUE DIVISION

AT ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Will attempt to verify subject's date of birth. It is noted that POPR records show CHAVEZ born 12/1/26 at Albuquerque, New Mexico, while information furnished by CIA indicates birth date as 2/15/25 at Albuquerque.

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	CLASS BY	REASON-FCIM, 1-2.4.2	DATE OF REVIEW	105-106633-5	REC-32	REC-72
COPIES MADE:		9-Bureau (RM) 1-ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand) 1-471st INTC Detachment, SJ (By Hand) 1-OSI, Ramey AFB (RM) (RRR) 2-Albuquerque (RM) 2-Los Angeles (RM) 2-Miami (RM) 2-St. Louis (RM) 2-WFO (RM) 2-New York (RM) 3-San Juan (105-5396) (1-159-17)					
AGENCY STATE LIAISON		REQ. REC'D ASI 6/11/62 DATE FORW. 3-5-62 HOW FORW. R/S to 2-14-62 BY <i>[Signature]</i> 8-14-62, 0-14-62, 0-6-62					

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INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source:

Files Where Located:

SJ T-1 is Lt. RAFAEL ALVAREZ
(NA), DI, POPR (By Request)

94-32-90
Characterizations of JAIME
AMADOR and FEDERICO VIRELLA
94-32-1

SJ T-2 is CS LA 3353-C

94-32-2

SJ T-3 is Former SJ 413-S

Characterization of:
PEDRO GRANT

SJ T-4 is SJ 346-S

134-329A- 134 through 141

SJ T-5 is SJ 420-S

134-242A-, 260, 262 and 306

SJ T-6 is SJ 394-S

105-3904 and
134-542-3 and 4

SJ T-7 is SJ 474-S

SJ T-8 is FREDDY CASTRO, Former
Union organizer, Local 901 (By Request) 159-17-38

SJ T-9 is MM 768-C

105-3116-38

SJ T-10 [is CIA letter dated
12/11/61] (S) (u)

105-3116-43

SJ T-11 [is the Royal Canadian
Mounted Police] (S)
Legat Ottawa

105-3116-45

SJ T-12 is Col. SALVADOR ROIG
(NA), Division of Field Operations, POPR
(By request)

97-89-52

Source used for the characterization of the SLTDE
was SJ 440-S.

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

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It is noted that FRANK CHAVEZ, Secretary Treasurer, Teamsters Union, Local 901, subject of this report, is the subject of the following pending cases in the San Juan Office:

FRANK CHAVEZ, aka.; San Juan File 159-17, Bufile 159-504, wherein San Juan Office is following the local prosecution of CHAVEZ at Caguas on a charge of attempted murder in connection with Union activities.

CHAVEZ is the subject of another matter captioned "FRANK CHAVEZ, San Juan File 159-15, Bureau File No.

CHAVEZ is indirectly involved in case captioned "JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, Miscellaneous Information Concerning Accounting and Fraud Section," Bureau File 63-5327 and case captioned "El Imparcial", Unknown Subject, Interstate Transportation of Strike Breakers," Bureau File 6-190 and in file captioned "Criminal Influence in International Teamsters Union, Local 901, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Anti-Racketeering".

Lieutenant RAFAEL ALVAREZ (NA), who is [SJ T-1] ^{(e)(u)} in the report, advised that the information he furnished was obtained from FEDERICO VIRELLA, Public Relations Official in the Local 901 Teamsters Union, who is a paid informant of the Police Department and operates under the cover name of "Ace".

Lieutenant ALVAREZ advised that "Ace" could furnish no other information other than that set out and was unable to furnish any additional details regarding this information.

Colonel SALVADOR ROIG (NA), POPR, advised that POPR had an investigation on ROLANDO HERRERA PEREZ. He stated that the POPR had developed an informant extremely close to FRANK CHAVEZ, whom he contacted on a daily basis. This individual is a delicate source of the POPR and ROIG requested that any investigation conducted based on information coming from the source should be most discreet to avoid compromising the informant. It is not known if the informant to which ROIG referred is the "Ace" mentioned above.

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ROIG also requested that in disseminating the information from POPR records regarding CHAVEZ, that it be paraphrased and/or properly protected to further conceal the source.

Under separate communication, the Bureau is being requested to authorize investigation in the Bahama Islands and in Canada. ~~(S)~~ ~~(U)~~

The report is classified "Secret" because it contains information so classified by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police ~~(S)~~

It should be noted that the information furnished by ALVAREZ and ROIG is classified "Confidential" by POPR, and therefore, in the event of downgrading of the information from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the report should be classified "Confidential". ~~(S)~~

It is noted that the information furnished by CIA bore no classification. ~~(S)~~ ~~(U)~~

Careful consideration was given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

The pretext telephone call was made by SA JOHN A. NORRIS, JR. using a wrong number pretext. When efforts were made to determine who was speaking or whose number this was the unknown female stated it was a private number and refused to repeat the name. The number was dialed a second time and again the unknown female answered: "Union de Tronquistas".

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105-1066335

SECRET UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 9/27/82

Copy to: 1-ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand) 1-471st INTC Detachment, SJ (By Hand) 1-OSI, Ramey AFB (RM)

Report of: JOHN A. NORRIS, JR. Office: SAN JUAN

Date: FEB 20 1962

Field Office File #: 105-5396 Bureau File #:

Title: FRANK CHAVEZ

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

REC-32

Classified by SP8 Mac/rdc Declassify on: OADR (JFK)

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-CUBA

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT. JMM

7-25-97 520/1162 7-28-97 (JFK)

CHAVEZ is also known as Frank Chavez, Jr. He was born 12/1/26 at Albuquerque, New Mexico and is a U.S. citizen. He is Secretary-Treasurer of Teamsters Union, Local 901, San Juan, Puerto Rico. He resides at 30 Doncella Street, Punta las Marias, Atlantic View, Puerto Rico. CHAVEZ sent to Puerto Rico in 1958 from Los Angeles, California as personal representative of JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA. CHAVEZ reported to have told advocates of independence for Puerto Rico that if they supported him in strike against "El Imparcial" he would support them in their struggle for independence. CELESTE ANTONIA MATOS GONZALEZ, a self-admitted courier for the Dominican Republic, in July, 1960, was ordered by Secretary of ARTURO ESPAILLAT, SIM functionary, to deliver a letter to CHAVEZ. MATOS carried a reply from CHAVEZ to the Secretary of ESPAILLAT in Ciudad Trujillo. Later MATOS was instructed by the same Secretary to go to San Juan and verbally tell CHAVEZ to come to Dominican Republic. An article in the 7/23/60 issue of "El Mundo", indicates that members of Teamsters and the ILA unloaded two Dominican ships picketed by the SLIDE. ROLANDO AUGUSTO HERRERA PEREZ met CHAVEZ at farm of ARTURO ESPAILLAT in Dominican Republic. [SJ T-12] received information that ROLANDO HERRERA and CHAVEZ were in contact relating to a shipment from the Dominican Republic given the code name of "pedal pushers". In November, [u] 1961, [SJ T-1] learned that CHAVEZ was in the Bahama Islands and had met with various generals and TRUJILLO followers. On November 24, 1961, ARTURO ESPAILLAT called by telephone one Mr. CHAVEZ at telephone #724-4729, San Juan, Puerto Rico, which number is listed to the Teamsters Union, Local 901. CHAVEZ SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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CLASS. BY REASON FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW

8/27/80

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<u>Date of Arrest</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
April 19, 1961	Carrying arms; speeding; not obeying instructions of a policeman	Released on \$2,300 bond

Arrival in Puerto Rico:

On September 17, 1958, SJ T-2 (c)(u) advised that FRANK CHAVEZ who has been a business agent for Local 208 (line drivers), International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Warehousemen, Chauffeurs and Helpers of America, was to have departed Los Angeles during the last weekend for San Juan where CHAVEZ is to be the personal representative of JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, Teamsters International President.

CHAVEZ is to coordinate the merger between the Maritime Union, the Longshoremen's Union and the Teamsters Union, which is planned by HOFFA.

According to the source, CHAVEZ is an avid supporter of HOFFA and has been contacting other Teamsters locals in Southern California trying to line up support for HOFFA.

The source stated that CHAVEZ was able to speak Spanish to a certain extent but that CHAVEZ refers to Mexicans as "wet backs". Source stated that CHAVEZ has few scruples and is desirous of promotion in the HOFFA group.

PEDRO A. GRANT
SJ T-3 on September 26, 1958 met PEDRO GRANT, organizer for the Seafarers International Union (SIU) and was told that CHAVEZ was in San Juan and had taken up office space with GRANT and VICTOR BOSCH, attorney and regional director of the SIU. CHAVEZ is in San Juan for the expressed purpose of organizing the Surface Transportation Workers. (c)(u)

Puerto Rico
SJ T-4 on September 22, 1959 advised that PEDRO A. GRANT attended a meeting of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) on September 21, 1959 and spoke on (c)(u)

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Santurce, Puerto Rico, on October 27, 1961 advised SA's EUGENE L. PAYNE and STEVE D. EVANS as follows:

He is a close friend of ARTURO ESPAILLAT, the former Dominican Consul General in New York City. He first met ESPAILLAT when they were boyhood companions in Ciudad Trujillo. They served together in the Dominican Army and continued their friendship in New York City. When HERRERA was in New York and was in need of money, ESPAILLAT furnished him with money in amounts ranging from \$20 to \$100. This was done because HERRERA was broke and on the basis of their friendship.

HERRERA stated he is acquainted with FRANK CHAVEZ, of the Teamsters Union in San Juan. He first met CHAVEZ in the Dominican Republic on a farm belonging to ARTURO ESPAILLAT near Ciudad Trujillo. HERRERA believes this meeting took place approximately eight to ten months previously. CHAVEZ was visiting ESPAILLAT and was enjoying himself drinking when ESPAILLAT introduced HERRERA to CHAVEZ. ESPAILLAT said he hoped CHAVEZ would be able to assist HERRERA to obtain a better job in San Juan. When HERRERA returned to the San Juan area, he contacted CHAVEZ on six or seven occasions in the Teamsters office, but when he realized that CHAVEZ would not be able to help him, HERRERA discontinued his contacts with CHAVEZ. HERRERA stated he has not attempted to arrange for delivery of any material to CHAVEZ and knows of no business connection that CHAVEZ has or had either with ESPAILLAT or the Dominican Government.

(u) [SJ T-12 on March 6, 1961] (u) advised he has received information that ROLANDO HERRERA, a Dominican and naturalized United States citizen, was in contact with FRANK CHAVEZ.

(u) [SJ T-12] (u) said his information indicates that HERRERA was in contact with CHAVEZ very often during November, 1960 relating to a shipment expected from the Dominican Republic. This shipment was given the code name "pedal pushers". The exact nature of the shipment is unknown to [SJ T-12] (u) but it is expected that it refers either to firearms, bombs, artifacts and related equipment. At first it appeared that this shipment was coming from the Dominican Republic by a ship belonging to RAFAEL ABREU. Later it appeared the shipment would arrive by air. It further was indicated that should

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the shipment arrive by air it would be given to the Dominican Consul for delivery to FEDERICO VIRELLA of the Teamsters Union.

[SJ T-12] (u) pointed out that while "pedal pushers" had not been specifically identified, [SJ T-12] (u) is of the opinion (u) that they have not yet arrived in Puerto Rico.

[SJ T-12] (u) stated it is believed that FRANK CHAVEZ is collaborating with the regime of RAFAEL TRUJILLO, but the exact nature of the collaboration is unknown.

[SJ T-12] (u) said it is believed that CHAVEZ has promised TRUJILLO that Dominican shipping arriving in Puerto Rico would be unloaded in spite of attempted boycott and pickets, in exchange for which CHAVEZ is paid by the TRUJILLO Government. The exact nature of the payoff is unknown, but it is apparently related to the Pan American Distributors Company, an organization operated by SAMUEL and LUIS JAFFE, who are Teamsters associates of CHAVEZ and apparently friends of the TRUJILLO Government. In addition, ROLANDO HERRERA is believed to have been the contact between TRUJILLO and CHAVEZ.

[SJ T-12] (u) learned on December 20, 1960 that CHAVEZ attended the Teamsters meeting at the Ponce Intercontinental Hotel in Ponce, Puerto Rico the previous day, at which time he received \$20,000 for general expenses in Puerto Rico. Shortly following this meeting, CHAVEZ was visited by SAMUEL and LUIS JAFFE of the Pan American Distributors, which distributes Dominican meat in Puerto Rico.

[SJ T-12] (u) learned on December 9, 1960 that CHAVEZ, several days previously, had travelled to the Dominican Republic regarding bean business concerning Pan American Distributors. It appeared that an expected bean shipment had something to do with the "pedal pushers".

[SJ T-12] (u) said that on December 7, 1960 CHAVEZ was leaving for the Dominican Republic and was in contact with ROLANDO HERRERA. There was some question as to whether or not CHAVEZ would personally risk bringing the "pedal pushers" when he returned.

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(S)(u)
[SJ T-12] stated that on November 28, 1960 ROLANDO HERRERA visited the Teamsters offices regarding "pedal pushers" which at that time had not yet arrived in Puerto Rico. The shipment was coming from General ARTURO ESPAILLAT and JOHNNY ABBES GARCIA. In the event the shipment arrived by Compania Dominicana de Aviacion (CDA), it would be sent to Dominican Consul NILO H. SOTO, who would hand it over to FEDERICO VIRELLA.

DOM REP
JOHN ABBES GARCIA is the former Chief of the Dominican SIM.

(S)(u)
[SJ T-12] stated that on November 16, 1960 it was indicated that as of that date the "pedal pushers" were expected to arrive on the "Ozama" owned by RAFAEL ABREU.

(S)(u)
[SJ T-12] said on December 20, 1960 that he learned that FRANK CHAVEZ was in a position to become the owner of the Escambron Beach Club. Indications were that CHAVEZ will operate this business outside of the union and there were indications that the Teamsters were taking over all exports from Santo Domingo arriving in Puerto Rico.

(S)(u)
On January 16, 1962 SJ T-1 advised that on July 20, 1961 he learned that FRANK CHAVEZ is planning to bring to Puerto Rico Major General ARTURO ESPAILLAT who was threatened with death by persons in the Dominican Government. According to information received by SJ T-1, General ESPAILLAT was detained in prison and later put at liberty by President JOAQUIN BALAGUER. ESPAILLAT reportedly has offered FRANK CHAVEZ \$100,000 to get him out of the Dominican Republic as soon as possible.

(S)(u)
[SJ T-8] on October 4, 1961 advised that FRANK CHAVEZ and JAIME AMADOR were in the Dominican Republic for the purpose of opening a Teamsters office in that country. [SJ T-8] stated that the last time that CHAVEZ was in the Dominican Republic he ran into difficulties and allegedly was detained for questioning by authorities there.

According to the source, CHAVEZ was friendly with an army officer in the Dominican Army and after the slaying

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its hands off its longshoremen's local in the Dominican Republic. The article indicates that "more surprising than the pull-back from the Dominican Republic is the decision of the Teamsters not to charter members there at least for the present, thus abandoning months of groundwork pushed through firstly under the dead dictator and more recently under his son RAMFIS. A lease the Teamsters had on office space in Ciudad Trujillo was cancelled about two weeks ago. The Teamsters program for the Dominican Republic, which was to begin with truck drivers, faltered when General ARTURO ESPAILLAT fell from grace last July. More recent talks with RAMFIS TRUJILLO have reportedly yielded a promise not to obstruct Teamsters organization, but officers of the HOFFA union feel the climate will not make organization worthwhile.

SJ T-11 advised on December 11, 1961 that ARTURO R. ESPAILLAT, Savoy Apartment Hotel, Ottawa, Canada, on November 24, 1961 had telephoned one Mr. CHAVEZ at Telephone No. 724-4729 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. On the same date ESPAILLAT telephoned HEINAMADORE (possibly JAIME AMADOR), Telephone No. 724-4445 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. (S)

The Metropolitan Telephone Directory as published by the Puerto Rico Telephone Company, lists the Teamsters Local Union 901, 800 Figueroa, Santurce, Puerto Rico as subscriber of Telephone No. 724-4729.

On January 8, 1962, a Special Agent of the FBI using a suitable pretext called No. 724-4445. The telephone was answered by an unknown female saying "Union de Tronquistas" (Teamsters Union).

Travel of CHAVEZ to the Dominican Republic

Sergeant FRANCISCO POVENTUD, Airport Detail, POPR, on July 20, 1960 telephonically advised SA J. CORTEZ BALL that he had been informed by a source that FRANK CHAVEZ and FEDERICO VIRELLA, of the Teamsters Union, were planning to rent a private airplane from the Mack Aero Company,

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Post Office Box 4312
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

FEB 20 1962

FRANK CHAVEZ
INTERNAL SECURITY-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-CUBA

Reference is made to the report of SA JOHN A. NORRIS, JR. dated and captioned as above at San Juan.

SJ T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, received the information furnished on January 16, 1962 from an individual in a position to know such data but whose reliability is not known to us. SJ T-10 is another governmental agency which conducts background and intelligence type investigations. SJ T-11 is a foreign source abroad. All other sources have furnished reliable information in the past.

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