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DIRECTOR, FBI (109-584)

10/3/61

SAC, NEW YORK (105-35253)

ANTI-FIDEL CASTRO ACTIVITIES
 IS - CUBA

EXCEPT FOR BRICKS
 ON PGS 9, 10 KP 11/19/67

ReBulet to Miami dated 9/14/61, captioned as above,
 and Bulet to Miami dated 9/26/61, entitled, "CLIP".

Since 4/17/61, there has been little organized anti-CASTRO activity in the Metropolitan New York area. The activity which has taken place since April, 1961, has been dominated by the Frente Revolucionario Democratico (FRD), and this activity has taken the form of pickets and public meetings. There has been activity by the Junta de Liberacion Nacional (JLN), and the individual groups within the framework of the FRD have also sponsored individual meetings. Dr. CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, former President of Cuba, was scheduled to hold a meeting in New York on 9/30/61, but this meeting was allegedly cancelled on advice given by unknown individuals from Washington, D.C.

The following statements are conclusions based upon information received from established sources and from various leading figures in the anti-CASTRO field who have been interviewed on various occasions since 4/17/61. The ideas and conclusions which follow are based on information furnished by NY 2865-S, NY 3248-PSI, CSNY 2822-S, CSNY 2623-S, Dr. ANTONIO de VARONA, Dr. ERNESTO ARAGON, secretary to Dr. JOSE MIRO CARDONA, President of the Revolutionary Council, EDUARDO GONZALEZ, Coordinator of the FRD in New York, JOSE GONZALEZ, Financial Secretary of the FRD in New York, JOSE MESTRE, of "Bohemia Libre", and other individuals who are in a position to have firsthand information from leading anti-CASTRO leaders.

(1) ORGANIZATIONS

In general, the anti-CASTRO organizations can be characterized by three leading groups, namely the FRD, the Movimiento Revolucionario del Pueblo (MRP), and the JLN. In the

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ARAGON said that MIRO CARDONA went to PRIO's residence in Miami and asked for PRIO's support and anything that PRIO could do that could enhance the position of the Revolutionary Council. ARAGON advised that at this meeting PRIO promised his support, but also asked Dr. MIRO to put several of his, PRIO's, men on the payroll of the Revolutionary Council. ARAGON stated that Dr. MIRO told him that the Council did not handle the money, as this was at that time handled directly by the FRD. ARAGON stated that Dr. MIRO and CARLOS PRIO have met several times since and on each occasion Dr. PRIO has informed Dr. MIRO that he is in support of Dr. MIRO but then PRIO goes on and makes propoganda which definitely is against Dr. MIRO and in his, PRIO's, favor. ARAGON advised that as a result of recent statements made by Dr. PRIO, Dr. MIRO CARDONA no longer has any desire to speak with CARLOS PRIO.

NY 2865-S advised that in early September, 1961, he was with GUILLERMO ALONSO PUJOL in New York, and PUJOL showed him a confidential letter on the stationery of the U.S. House of Representatives written by VICTOR L. ANFUSO to Secretary of State DEAN RUSK. NY 2865-S stated he was not sure of the date of this letter but believed it was 8/27 or 28/61. In this letter to DEAN RUSK, Representative ANFUSO asked RUSK to recognize a Cuban government in exile and offer it all the necessary assistance in order to overthrow the present Cuban Government. ANFUSO also, in his letter to RUSK, stated that Dr. CARLOS PRIO had supported Dr. JOSE MIRO CARDONA as Provisional President in the event such a government in exile was recognized by the United States.

From information available thusfar, there does not appear to be any definite plans on the part of CARLOS PRIO to set up a government in exile in a Latin country. The Cuban exiles are divided about PRIO and the majority of them greatly question his ability to unify a majority of Cubans.

(4) INVASION EFFORTS

There has been no information received from Cuban exiles in the Metropolitan New York area indicating any serious plans to mount an invasion from the US to Cuba. There are also no reports of any invasion being planned by individuals in the

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have taken place during July, August and September, 1961, ARAGON stated that he and Dr. MIRO CARDONA discussed problems facing the Revolutionary Council and what the Revolutionary Council believes should be done in the Cuban question. He also advised that the main difficulty of the Revolutionary Council is with liaison with CIA. ARAGON stated that at his last meeting with RICHARD GOODWIN on 9/14/61, GOODWIN advised that there was a retired Colonel from the New England area, now under transfer to Miami, who would act as liaison man between Dr. MIRO CARDONA, the White House and CIA. ARAGON stated that he was informed by GOODWIN that this man would have complete authority to make final decisions in all matters. ARAGON advised that as of 9/25/61, when he last spoke to Dr. MIRO CARDONA, Dr. MIRO stated that he had not yet been contacted by this liaison man. ARAGON also stated that neither he nor Dr. MIRO CARDONA was given the name of this man, but they were informed that Dr. MIRO would be contacted by this individual on his arrival in Florida.

ARAGON also expressed his personal opinion regarding RICHARD GOODWIN and other advisors at the White House by stating that they were very brilliant young men who can advance wonderful theories but cannot put anything into practical working order.

ARAGON also stated that CIA continues to operate with various underground groups, and these groups are being supported by CIA. ARAGON advised that the underground inside Cuba is being built up and it is becoming efficient, but ARAGON believes that there is a lack of coordination and a lack of authority and although it is possible by underground activity to overthrow the present Cuban Government, he believes that unless this matter of unification is attended to immediately, the end result could be chaos and untold bloodshed.

ARAGON also stated that his contact at CIA is one [redacted] with whom he is in regular contact and who furnishes him money which he carries to Miami for Dr. MIRO CARDONA. ARAGON advised that the Revolutionary Council has been given a financial cut by CIA and this, to a great extent, has hampered the activity of the Revolutionary Council. ARAGON

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further advised that Dr. MIRO CARDONA is considering increasing the Revolutionary Council by four, and he, ARAGON, had given the names of the four individuals to ROBERT HURWITCH, of State Department, to see if the State Department opposed any of these individuals. ARAGON identified the four proposed members of the Revolutionary Council as RICARDO LORIE, NINO DIAZ, JORGE SOTUS, and CONTE AGUERO. ARAGON advised that he furnished these names to ROBERT HURWITCH on 9/20/61, and he had to go to Washington on 9/21/61 to see [redacted] to pick up some money, and upon meeting with [redacted] informed him that the four people proposed for the Revolutionary Council by Dr. MIRO were acceptable to CIA, and stated that as a general rule of thumb, Dr. MIRO can select anyone he wants but must exclude all Batistianos, Communists and fellow travelers.

ARAGON stated that he was not entirely optimistic about the future of Cuba. ARAGON said that the Cuban people cannot be entirely unified as there are so many politically ambitious leaders among the exiles and there are many jealousies and there is much criticism leveled against the Revolutionary Council and the United States Government because of the unsuccessful invasion of April, 1961. ARAGON advised that he believed that the Cuban Government was weakened day by day, that the underground would eventually overthrow CASTRO, together with the economic hardships which the Cuban Government is suffering, but without a strong unified opposition and 100 per cent cooperation from the United States, he saw a very unhappy picture for Cuba in years to come.

The Bureau is respectfully requested that if the above information is disseminated, extreme care be used concerning information furnished by ERNESTO ARAGON. ARAGON has cooperated fully with the New York Office, is cognizant of what is being done with the Revolutionary Council and Dr. MIRO CARDONA in particular. It is also pointed out that at some of these meetings at the White House there were only two or three individuals present and his identity could easily be determined if information furnished by him is not properly paraphrased.