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EJGCR - 21124

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Contact Division

DATE: 7 May 1964

FROM : Chief, New York Office

SUBJECT: Carlos Guillermo Marquez Sterling-Operational Opportunity

1. Carlos Marquez Sterling, who lives at 355 East 72nd Street, Apt 14C, New York, New York, indicated to the local FBI that he would like to talk to someone from the Agency and we arranged to interview him at his home on 24 April 1964.

2. Marquez Sterling describes himself as a member of a Cuban family with a distinguished record of public service (his father was Ambassador to the US during the Franklin D. Roosevelt terms and he, himself, opposed Batista's nominee for president in 1958. He said he is now general delegate (top official) of a Cuban exile organization known as the Free Cuba Patriotic Movement (Movimiento Patriotico Cuba Libre). This movement consists of 61 clubs scattered throughout the US with an estimated five thousand adherents.

3. Marquez Sterling wanted to talk to the Agency because of the following circumstances:

Humberto Quinones, who is Secretary General of the Cuban Patriotic Movement in Miami, had recently received a telephone call from one Francisco Alabau Trellis, identified by Marquez Sterling as a former member of the Supreme Court in Cuba and now very close to, if not an actual recipient of support from, the Agency. Alabau suggested to Quinones that the Agency might very well be interested in the Free Cuba Patriotic Movement if it were made conscious of its size and influence within the exile community. Quinones brought this to Marquez Sterling's attention and also made an effort to communicate with someone in the Agency through one Miguel Caspa, an official of the Pan American Union. At the same time, Marquez Sterling received a phone call from Manuel Artimo who sought his support and backing for leadership in a military capacity, suggesting possibly that Marquez Sterling might be interested in the civilian leadership of a unified exile movement.

4. Against this background Marquez Sterling believes he should speak with someone in the Agency sufficiently highly placed to make a commitment if the program he plans to lay out is of interest.

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5. Briefly, this is what he has:

- a. 61 clubs (in almost every state) of which he is the national head.
- b. an underground in Cuba (but he refuses to estimate its strength.)
- c. communications channels to and from Cuba, mostly via Mexico, and also, in emergency, thru the Uruguayan diplomatic pouch to his sister who is still in Cuba.

6. Mail is received and sent, on the Cuban end, by

[redacted] who covers Havana and its nearby provinces, [redacted] is said to be a person with good credentials in the Castro regime and a specialist in food production. In Cuba he is regarded as a staunch supporter of the government.

[redacted] who covers Oriente and nearby provinces. He is a former owner [redacted] and is believed, within Cuba, to be a staunch friend of Castro.

7. Mail comes out via Mexico through one Gonzalo Chirino, an official of the OAS, Apartado Postal 7458, Mexico, DF. Mail is routed to Cuba through Mexico but Marquez Sterling did not offer to identify the live drop, except to say it is a different person. Frequency of mail exchange is about fifteen days.

8. It could be derived from the conversation with Marquez Sterling that he would like Agency support in the form of money and arms, to equip the younger members of his groups who would encamp outside the US. His notion is to keep them in a state of readiness for such time as the OAS decides to move an invasion force against Cuba.

9. Marquez Sterling has sent a memorandum on the activities of his group to Thomas Mann (whom he claims to know). A copy will be made available to us soon. He has also promised to make copies of his recent correspondence with Cuba available to us in the near future.

10. We assured Marquez Sterling that we would faithfully report his cause to Washington and gave him a line of communication to us. He seemed highly pleased with the interview.

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