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Cuba Hospital  
OCOM-4787  
Feb 1964

[Redacted] 24

28 April 1964

Section 2 of the above  
date certifies this summary.

INTERVIEW

IN CAMP

Vladimir Rodriguez Latorra

SUMMARY OF FIRST INTERVIEW

LYRONESTER

Very briefly we have gone over his history from his school days up to the present time. We have gone over in general what documents he has brought; what his present intelligence is; and what he knows that would appear to be most significant to the present time. I am going to go over this fairly rapidly in English so that you both will be up-to-date with me. One problem I've raised is that he wants to go to the U.S. He has relatives there and said that his intention was to work in the States in matter like this, because he feels that this is where he will be most useful. His father-in-law and wife are both in Cuba and he is worried about getting them out. He had given me his true name which is that which you have already mentioned to me and the pseudonym which he uses just depends on what he wants to do with the trip. He also gave me the pseudonym which he uses for his work inside which is Victor.

HISTORY

Very briefly, after he left school he had a couple of jobs but then he began working with the 26th of July movement. This is an anti-Castro movement and his job in this movement was like the work of many others. He used to commit acts of sabotage inside Cuba and try to do propaganda work. While he was engaged in such activities he was taken prisoner in 1957. This was after a fire-fight. He was in a fire with another fellow, two police cars came and they exchanged shots but they were captured. He was beaten and then stayed in the Castillo Principe which is a jail in Havana. He was sent in part until 11 February 1958 when he got out. He got out of jail and went into the Sierra. There he stayed there for about one year. This is the Cuban Revolution, it's not like the USA or a place like this sort of fellow. He did not play a very important role in those years, that is, practically. During the time he was with Fidel Castro, when the Batista Government fell on 11 January 1959, the column with which he was fighting was in Barranco de Cobano. They're near to Havana with Rito Cardeona and a group of rebels who followed him. When he got there he was separated at first by 16 or 17 men and a regiment which at that time was under the command of Alvaro Vizcaino. He did a particular job in this regard. He did some work in the organization of political groups, that is, he organized some groups and he was responsible for the organization of the Cuban Communist Party in the Cuban Revolution. He was a member of the Cuban Communist Party.

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There he was, the second chief. He stayed there until 25 January of 1961. At that time he was transferred to National Police Headquarters but he did not have any specific assignment. He was a member of their without having any specific officer. He just signed the rosters in the morning and took off, until the end of July at which time he was transferred to a police-combo battalion. He remained with the police battalion until 3 September of 1961. At this time he was transferred to the Castillo del Moro to study. This was basic study and did not have anything to do with intelligence work. He was in school there until 20 December 1961 when he got holiday leave. He decided that he did not want to stay in the Army anymore. This police work was still an assignment while he was in the Army. He had already begun to have doubts about continuing to work for the Castro government and was thinking in terms of getting out. Then he resigned from the Army his papers were not processed right away, he did not report back to duty and so was reported for being away without leave. Because of this difficulty, he had the difficulty getting work and went out of town until April 1962, when he got a job in the Ministry of Interior in Havana. The particular location in which he worked was in with the registration of vehicles. He remained there until 15 April 1963.

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We had a fellow named Bert Gandy, who was an intelligence officer and when I got to town he got a job in Intelligence. He is a former friend of Captain the Officer or the 2nd Chief of Staff (Bennett) and my present contact is this in a section which does largely in training agents for assignments abroad, particularly in Latin America. Even our agents were began working in Intelligence we were assigned to the Latin American Section. This is the other agent which he has at present for his own personal protection. The Intelligence Service for which he worked is called Section "B" in some circles but is properly known as the "Intelligence and Security Department". If this section is engaged the English code "Gandy" goes with it" in intelligence operations. In other words, "Gandy" is an individual who exists for the purpose of protecting information or agents abroad. It is distinct from the "Chief", the head agent of Latin America, which is a combined section one, e.g., p. The two of them are completely separated but are close intelligence organizations. He knows nothing about the possible need of secret help of the intelligence service, e.g., the French Foreign Office, well known as "Int-Board", especially after the First World War, D.S.C. headed by General [unclear] a good example to me which I already knew the most important information in the country, so I am not going to go into that, "but the they are no less important as they are now" and the same reason. I can say it again as I do not know what the name is, but it is also quite secret.

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RECENT INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT  
CPTV/MEXICO

He recently made a trip to Mexico. He made the trip to Mexico in order to contact a Communist Party Group which was coming from El Salvador. There were people with whom he had contact in connection with his job as desk officer for El Salvador. They did not appear for the meeting so the meeting did not take place. He was in Mexico from the 14th of March until the 23rd of March and during that time, although his own operational meetings did not take place, he did meet some people of interest. Two people from Nicaragua ("Professor Torres" and Noel Guerrero) one of whom he met in the Cuban Embassy in Mexico and the other whom he met in a private house while in Mexico. In Mexico City he knows who the intelligence people are. One is the Cuban Consul Alfredo Mirabal. He is called the Chief of the Centre. That is his title but he is actually the intelligence chief, or, at least, he was until the 15th of April at which time a replacement came from the USSR to take over. This fellow's name is "Fernando". Our source says that the Commercial Attaché whose name is either "Fedorov" or "Fedor", now (he is not sure which) is an intelligence officer and his office is Bogotá. (I might add that none of these names are familiar to me.)

The man I know that is in the intelligence office is in charge of the ciphering machine. The job of the Secretary.

OPERATION OF THE DMI

All Soviet representatives are concerned he says that they have been using only secret cipher machines and secret writing. They have not been too successful, however, because the Cuban agents, for example, that is if they get a letter and go to the embassy, they can't read it. They also use radio (and they do not do it in radio which is quite interesting). Some of the radio stations are, however, not "in real" communications back to Moscow, probably only in the case of Venezuela. Some of the radio stations are and are usually used for emergency use. However, the radio stations are used, except in dire emergencies, for the same reason as the cipher machines, namely to insure security. For example, we sent a sample of other things, one of which was a photograph of the Cuban flag and intended for all of us, for the Cuban agents to intercept. If they want to send someone to the United States, for example, and the assignment is one to a Cuban agent (or anyone else for that matter) this matter would be referred to by Dzerzhin, Khrushchev, Tkach, Castro, Valdés, etc. etc. and the information would be given to them but, for instance, the Cuban agents would not know about it. So in the case of the Cuban agents, for example, definitely this would also be done through the Cuban agent with his "secret", the orders would be given to him and he would be told to do the same to the Cuban agents. The Cuban agents would then intercept and get a note from the Cuban agents and then intercept it. However, the Cuban agents would not know about it. So in this case, the Cuban agents would intercept it, but they would not know about it. The Cuban agents would intercept it, but they would not know about it.

## AGENTS

About agents the source said that he himself knew of the following: Five Cuban agents - he saw six of these two in Mexico very recently on his trip there and the fellow was advanced \$100 dollars to get to Guatemala. One Cuban agent. Two Panamanian agents. Three Salvadorans whom he knows personally and two more who are in Salvador but whom he does not know personally. Three agents in Mexico. One of them is a C.PES contact named Mauricio de la Salva. Two of them are Nicaraguans who are in Mexico. One Nicaraguan agent who is now in Cuba. Two agents from Santa Domingo who are now in prison in Santa Domingo. One from Chile who is now in Cuba. Up to now, I did not get the names. This debriefing is going to take a little while, that is, to get the whole thing down - but from what I have told you I think you can see pretty well what the situation is.