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Jm 9-3-97
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Date: January 30, 1959
To: Director, FBI (97-3596)
From: Legat, Mexico (105-1180)
Subject: CHANGED:
RICARDO DE LA LORIE BALS
IS - CUBA

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) DATE 3/2/82

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP3 JER/PH/CD 2/2/89
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2/15/95 / SP3 JER/PH/CD
Declassify on: OADR (JFK)

ReBullets to Miami dated 11/20/58 and 12/5/58 in captioned matter; also Mexico letter to the Bureau dated 1/26/59 in case entitled "FRANK ANTHONY STURGIS, aka - RA."

Classified per CIA Act 9/10/81

The title of this case has been marked "changed" to reflect the addition of the maternal surname of the subject as reflected in the files of the [CIA station in [redacted] (c)

The [CIA station] advises that the subject is undoubtedly identical with the RICARDO LORIE mentioned on Page 24 of the report of SA [ROBERT JAMES DWYER] dated 8/5/58 at Miami concerning the July 26 Revolutionary Movement in Miami. The [CIA station] has advised that captioned subject was one of the principal leaders of the July 26 action group and occupied a position described as "Chief of the War Department" for the rebels. The [CIA station] further advised that the subject has returned to Cuba. X

Relet of 12/5/58 requested details concerning the arrests of Cuban rebels described in the CIA report dated 11/25/58, captioned "Information on Cuban Rebel Aircraft Headed for Venezuela." Available details concerning these arrests were set forth in my letter of 1/26/59 in the STURGIS case. This information is as follows:

5 - Bureau
1 - Mexico City
GFM:mas
(6)

PREVIOUS CIA CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS ON ALL IS UPHELD PER 8/23/86 LTR (105-16449-257) SP3 BJA/GCL #211,326 11/21/90 (2ND LTR BE. IN R3 DECLASSIFIED)

2-1499- NOT RECORDED 126 FEB 17 1959 9-27-97 CLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSR DECLASSIFY ON 25X (JFK)

ORIGINAL FILED IN 97-3596-7

Declassified per CIA Act 9/10/81

309-1351

Confidential

"A news clipping from the Mexico City daily newspaper, "Excelsior," of November 25, 1958, entitled "Action Against Cuban Rebels at Apatzingan - Judicial Action at Morelia Against the Eleven Smugglers," reported that eleven persons had been arrested at Uruapan at dawn on 11/20/58, when they were discovered endeavoring to send arms to the rebels of FIDEL CASTRO RUZ in Cuba. The article listed the following as having been arrested:

JOSE MARTINEZ MACHADOS
 ENIO LEYVA FUENTES
 MANUEL CARBONELL DUQUE
 ORLANDO VENTURA REYES
 PEDRO LUIS DIAZ SAENZ
 FRANK FIORINI
 MANUEL HERNANDEZ TURRO
 GUSTAVO ARGOS DERCLES
 JOSE ALBERTO MENDEZ
 ISALDO E. RODRIGUEZ LOPEZ
 ARMANDO FRANCO MAYNEZ
 ROBERTO WILLARTE

"The article concludes by stating that a North American, FRANK FIORINI, the "pilot of the airplane," and the Cuban, PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ, had requested permission to be interviewed with an attorney present and that this request had been granted.

"Mr. [redacted], CIA representative [redacted] furnished the following information which he said had been forwarded to CIA headquarters with respect to the activities and associates of FRANK FIORINI: (X)

"FRANK FIORINI, PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ and RICARDO DE LA LORIE BALS had arrived in [redacted] (X)(u)

*Class. by [redacted]
 Declassify on: [redacted]
 CIA Dec 11/01/81*

Confidential

509-1033 J

~~Confidential~~

on 10/27/58, after having traveled from the Miami, Florida area by automobile and having encountered difficulty with Mexican Immigration authorities upon entering Mexico. [redacted] did not know their Mexican port of entry but stated that they had been in Monterrey; therefore, he concluded that they had crossed the border at Brownsville or Laredo, Texas, and that they must have entered Mexico 10/24, 25 or 10/26/58. Following the arrival of the trio in Mexico City, DIAZ LANZ and DE LA LORIE proceeded by air to Venezuela, returning about 10/31/58. Shortly thereafter they again left Mexico City by air en route to San Francisco, California. (S)

*Classification
per CIA/100 9/10/81*

"Meanwhile, on 11/4/58, FIORINI departed from Mexico City in the automobile and is reported to have met DIAZ LANZ and DE LA LORIE at Yuma, Arizona. (S) (u)

"On 11/8/58, they are reported to have been at the Highway House Motel at Phoenix, Arizona. [redacted] believed that from Phoenix they proceeded to Kingman, Arizona, where they made the purchase of a C-46 airplane which had been U.S. Government surplus and which was purchased and registered in FIORINI's name, even though it is presumed that the funds were provided by the two Cubans. (S) (c)

"From Phoenix, Arizona, the group flew the airplane to Veracruz and Acapulco, Mexico, before proceeding to Apatzingan. (S) (u)

"Mr. [redacted] expressed the belief that some member of the Cuban group may have advised Mexican military authorities regarding the truck load of arms and the airplane. He added that the best of his knowledge, after being detained (S) (c)

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~~Confidential~~

for several days, all subjects and the airplane were released; however, [redacted] was not certain as to whether or not the arms were returned to them. X (C)

[redacted] advised that from 10/27/58 (C) until 11/4/58, FIORINI was registered at the Bel Sol Apartments in Mexico City and gave his U. S. address as being 422 Glen Ridge Road, Key Biscayne, Florida. He also was registered at the Hotel Statler in Mexico City and gave his U. S. address as being 310 N.E. Fifth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. [redacted] stated that a recent newspaper article in the Mexico City afternoon paper, "Ultimas Noticias," had published a photograph of FRANK FIORINI standing on some of the graves of BATISTA followers who had been executed by the triumphant FIDEL CASTRO RUZ revolutionaries." X (C)

Classification per 9/19/81

Extra copies of this communication are being furnished to the Bureau for transmittal to the Phoenix and Miami Offices and Legat, Havana, for information.

RUC.