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Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
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TO : HQ  
  
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SUBJECTS :  
PODER CUBANO  
RICARDO MORALES NAVARETTE

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OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF CIA

COMMENTS : AT

**SECRET**

FBI

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO  
DECLASSIFY AND/OR,  
TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Date: 4/9/68

Transmit the following information (Type in plaintext or code)  
IN THIS DOCUMENT.

Via AIRTEL Except for the brackets  
KP 2-2-98 (Priority)

6-6-96

CLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSR  
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-176790)  
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (105-15556)  
SUBJECT: PODER CUBANO  
(CUBAN POWER)  
IS - CUBA  
(OO: Miami)

REC-13  
JFK  
M. Johnson  
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

ReBuairtels 3/28/68 and 3/29/68, and Miami teletypes  
3/23/68 and 3/25/68, captioned UNSUBS.; ATTEMPTED BOMBING  
OF CHILEAN CONSULATE, MIAMI, FLORIDA, 3/12/68, BOMBING  
MATTER, in which information is set forth re contact by the  
Miami office with CIA source, [redacted]

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies and for  
New York, Newark and Washington Field one copy each of  
CIA, Miami memorandum dated 3/20/68, classified "SECRET,"  
under the Cuban Power caption. This memorandum is identified  
as CAS/M-2401 and is the original document received from  
CIA which prompted interview with [redacted] It is noted  
[redacted] was identified by CIA as the sole source of this  
information, even though it was attributed to a group.

Bureau note that information set forth under  
Items 1 a, b and c and 2 a in CIA letter to the Director  
dated 3/26/68, is identical with the information in the  
enclosed memorandum, with the exception of some minor

- C. C. Bishop
  - 3 - Bureau (Encs. 2) (RM)
  - 1 - New York (Enc. 1) (105-94169) (RM)
  - 2 - Newark (Enc. 1) (105-22901) (RM)
  - 1 - Washington Field (Enc. 1) (RM)
  - 1 - Miami
- JCB:jhk  
(8)

ENCLOSURE

REC-13 105-176790-30

12 APR 10 1968

LATIN-AMERICAN

**SECRET**

VASCA

Approved: [Signature] Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

100 copies each retained for electronic storage

Letter to MM  
1-209  
1-NK  
1-WFO  
4/12/68  
VHN:scd

**SECRET**

additions such as correction of the name IRMINA BOUZA ENRIQUEZ, addition of aliases of BOUZA, incorrect stating of BOUZA's address, etc. Despite these additions, the basic information in these paragraphs obviously was taken from CAS/M-2401. (S)

As set forth in referenced teletypes, [redacted] upon contact by Bureau Agents on 3/23/68, advised he had not furnished certain information attributed to him in this document, specifically that Cuban Power is composed of two numbered cells and the listing of members of each cell. In fact, [redacted] advised he had no information to the effect this organization is composed of two numbered cells, leading Miami to believe CIA has inadvertently furnished misleading information in their attempt to round out [redacted] report. (S) ~~(S)~~

[redacted] advised Bureau Agents that on Saturday, 3/16/68, he had been seated in the Camaguey Restaurant, Miami, where he overheard a conversation among three Cuban males and one Cuban female seated nearby. With the exception of the female, he was unable to furnish any description of these individuals, stating he had not looked in their direction. The female departed and he briefly glanced at her as she passed, but he did not see her face and would not recognize her again. He could describe her only as a white female, of Latin appearance, who was "tall and thin." (This is believed to be an attempt on his part to strengthen the later identification of her as BOUZA, who is actually nearly 6 feet tall and very slender.) Following her departure, one of those remaining inquired as to her identity and was told she was IRMINIA BOUZA, former secretary of WENDELL ROLLASON and currently a night employee of "The Miami Herald" newspaper. According to [redacted] all of the additional details concerning her connection with and activities on behalf of the Cuban Power, as well as names of Cuban Power members and sympathizers and other details [set out in CAS/M-2401,] were obtained by him during this conversation. (S) (u)

his over hearing

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MM 105-15556

[redacted] advised he is not acquainted with BOUZA, MORALES, CORNILLOT or any of their associates and was simply reporting information overheard by him on the above occasion.

Although [redacted] claimed he was able to recall without notes the names of all persons mentioned in this conversation, he was unable to recall these names at the time of this interview and found it necessary to refer to a copy of his written report [to CIA] for these names. [redacted] (S)(u) attention was directed to the fact he had furnished a bank account number of RICARDO MORALES and he was specifically asked if he had also been able to recall this number without benefit of notes, at which time he admitted this number had been furnished by a "confidential connection" whom he refused to identify. He was obviously upset at being pinned down as to the source of his information and attempted to explain his refusal to identify his source by vaguely stating he was a friend in the bank where MORALES had maintained his account, which is not believed to be true. He denied his source was OVIDIO KABA ACOSTA, stating he had never met KABA.

*Flb*  
In connection with the above, during previous interviews with RICARDO MORALES, it was determined MORALES had loaned his car to KABA while MORALES was in jail. In the trunk of his car was a box of papers containing a passport of BOUZA, erroneously issued under the name IRMINIA BOUZA, and in the locked glove compartment was a bank book showing MORALES' bank account number which was known only to him.

- 2A -

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MORALES also indicated during these interviews that he had placed sports-type hub caps on this car just prior to his arrest on 2/14/68, when the car was loaned to KABA (note reference to sports wheels in enclosure). The car is a brown Pontiac sedan, purchased by MORALES in September, 1967, in the name of IRMINA BOUZA, his mistress. Although the car is in her name, she has no driver's license and has never driven it (note reference to her having transported explosives and Cuban Power papers in this car). Since she was unable to drive the car, it was loaned to KABA upon MORALES' arrest.

*File  
Cuba*

During a subsequent interview with MORALES, he advised he had obtained a confession from KABA to the effect he had been collecting and reporting information to a Cuban exile, MARIO MASIP, and it is now felt MASIP is probably [redacted] source.

[redacted] stated he was positive of the date of the above conversation as 3/16/68, a Saturday. Regarding the identification of the "tall and thin" female as IRMINIA BOUZA, it is noted inquiry by Bureau Agents at the apartment of BOUZA on the night of 3/14/68, in an attempt to locate MORALES for interview, determined MORALES had taken BOUZA to Mt. Sinai Hospital, Miami Beach, to have her baby. It was subsequently determined that she had a baby on the night of 3/14/68 and remained in the hospital over the weekend. Thus, she could not have been in the Camaguey Restaurant on 3/16/68, as claimed by [redacted]. This fact, along with the illogicalness of [redacted] story that he was able to overhear and retain all names and facts set forth in this report and his subsequent evasiveness during interview, leads to the conclusion his story was fabricated. It would appear this conclusion should have been reached [by CIA] also. (S) (u)

[redacted] report contains enough accurate information, such as names and account number of MORALES, to give it the appearance of authenticity when the source or method of obtaining the information is not known. If [CIA] had included (S) (u)

SECRET

in their memorandum the fact this information was hearsay or unverified rumor and gossip, which fact was reportedly furnished to CIA by [redacted] this information could have (S) been placed in its proper perspective. It would appear that if [redacted] (S) in fact, [advised CIA] of his method of obtaining (S)(u) this information, [CIA deliberately omitted this point of evaluation from their memorandum] to the Miami office, conveying (S)(u) the erroneous impression the facts emanated from a knowledgeable source.

A great deal of information sent to Miami [by CIA is attributed to "a group of Cuban emigres trained in the techniques of information collection," with no attempt at identifying the origin of the information. Apparently, CIA, Miami, operates several such groups, some of which are more reliable than others.] In most instances, it is apparent no effort has been made to evaluate the source or to determine the identity of the original source of the information, causing the Miami office to expend investigative effort in determining the true facts. All such information [furnished by CIA] is given official character and weight by its being placed in a written inter-agency communication. It is felt street gossip should be identified as such when included in this type of communication, particularly when this fact is readily known. All other facts which would have a bearing on the veracity of the source or truthfulness of the information should be obtained [and reported by CIA,] along with the information being furnished. (S)(u)

It is recognized this is a delicate issue and as stated in retel of 3/26/68, this matter was discussed informally [with CIA liaison, AUSTIN HORN, on 3/25/68, at which time he agreed with these observations, stating he would discuss the matter with appropriate personnel and attempt to correct this situation in the future.] (S)(u)

This matter was again brought up on 4/2/68 [when the SAC met with PAUL HENZE, Chief of Station, CIA, Miami. HENZE stated his organization is not now operating any agents or informants, as such, in exile groups, and is not engaging in any counterintelligence activities in the United States. He stated his station is, in fact, cutting back its operations, and many of the exiles they have previously used (S)(u)

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