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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
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Date: May 8, 1958

To: Director, FBI

From: LA, Madrid, Spain (109-12)

Re: ROLANDO MASFERRER ROJAS
Police Cooperation - Foreign Miscellaneous
Foreign Political Matter - Cuba

By report dated 4-15-58 and received in the Madrid Office on 4-28-58, Lt. Col. Emilio Delgado, of the Internal Security Branch of the Information Section of the Spanish High General Staff, furnished the following information regarding a Cuban named "Max Ferrer": (S)

From information received from persons proceeding from Hispano-American ports, including Havana, it has been reported that a Cuban named Max Ferrer, an Anarchist and fighter in the International Brigade in the Spanish Civil War, was later in Russia and now holds a post in the present Cuban Government. (S)

Nevertheless, he does not appear to be very closely allied to Batista in that it is reported that he would like to join the Cuban rebels and in this connection, he has tried to infiltrate the religious orders and the secular clergy in order to attract them to the rebel camp. He took advantage of the letter of the ecclesiastical authorities asking for a national concord to present his resignation from his government post and to try to form a military junta. He received no support from either the military or political leaders. Soon he appeared with a slight wound and used it as an alibi, saying that he had received it when he tried to get into the Sierra Maestra to kill Fidel Castro. It is believed, however, that he had an interview in the Sierra Maestra with Fidel Castro and that they reached a political agreement. (S)

The above is a summary of the information furnished by Col. Delgado. (S) The background furnished causes me to believe that the information probably refers to Cuban Senator Rolando Masferrer Rojas, the

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(5)

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["Max Ferrer" having come from the first surname of the Senator.]^(S) Bureau files will reflect that Masferrer fought in the Spanish Civil War and was a member of the Partido Socialista Popular, the CP of Cuba, for a time thereafter. He later allegedly broke with the CP of Cuba and holds himself forth as being very anti-Communist at the present time.^(S)

It is the writer's personal recollection that Masferrer became a Batista supporter immediately following the latter's coup d'etat on 3-10-52 and that there was nothing to indicate any change of feeling thereafter. However, Masferrer has always had the reputation of being opportunist and completely unscrupulous, so it is not beyond the realm of reason that if he considered it to be to his benefit, he would turn against Batista.

Since [Col. Delgado requested to be furnished with any information which would tend to corroborate the report furnished by him]^(S) two extra copies of this letter are attached for forwarding by the Bureau to the Havana Office. If it meets with Bureau approval, the Havana Office is requested to furnish any information which may have come to its attention [that would tend to prove or disprove Col. Delgado's report.]^(S)

[SECRET]