

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

SECRET

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Contact Division
 FROM : Support and Liaison Branch
 FROM : Chief, New York Office

DATE: 6 July 1960

SUBJECT: Conversation with Alexander L. Rorke, 52 Chambers Street,
 New York, N. Y.

1. Having called on Rorke the morning of 5 July 60 as a result of a telephone call from [redacted] Division, who stated that Rorke might have information of value concerning Cuba.

2. Rorke is a tall, slender, personable man, about 34 years old, who by his own admission is somewhat garrulous. He did not appear to be a sharp operator. Rorke described himself as a free lance reporter and photographer who has worked mostly for the National Broadcasting Company on assignment. He says he is also trying to make a living by producing documentary films for television station WHEW in New York. He claims that he will shortly finish for them a documentary concerning the various groups which are in opposition to Castro. Rorke's business address is the office of his father, an attorney. Biographic data concerning Rorke is being forwarded 6 July 60.

3. Rorke explained that he knows many people in Cuba and other Caribbean countries as a result of his reportorial work in Nicaragua, Panama, Costa Rica, Cuba and other areas, and he says that because of a keen interest in the problem of what can be done about Castro and Communism in Cuba, and his work on the current documentary film, he has been keeping in close touch with various Cuban opposition groups. He insisted on going into his Caribbean background at great length and described in detail his visits to Nicaragua, Panama, Cuba etc. The events he mentioned are all past history now however, and we will not attempt to recount them here.

4. Rorke gave all this background merely to try to prove that he is well acquainted with the situation in Cuba and understands the various opposition groups. He then came to his real point which is that he regards Blas Lenz, whom he has seen a great deal of recently, as the most solid of all those who want to take action against Castro. He feels that Lenz is completely able, and is in contact with the right people in the Cuban army and other Cuban organizations who can lead the support when the right time comes. According to Rorke, Lenz believes that the job should be done by Cubans from a base outside the US, and that Lenz is brave and resourceful enough to lead a successful action if he is furnished the necessary arms and ammunition. Rorke believes, further, that Lenz is politically in the middle of the road, that he is not motivated by hatred and would not bring about a blood bath in Cuba. In short, he feels that Lenz would be with the US all the way.

SECRET

Copy from [redacted] file
 for information of [redacted]
 action
 HH 62741

DO NOT REPRODUCE
 RETURN TO CIA

08848

SUBJECT

Conversation with Alexander P. Burke, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

of the return of a base from which to operate. Burke says that he has talked with groups of Cubans and they say that the Samozas will launch one.

8. In covering Lanza with other figures who are in opposition to Castro, Burke mentioned Gulgass, Pedraza and Varona, none of whom he feels compares favorably with Lanza. Varona, for instance, is too far to the left. According to Burke, Lanza has met with 3 different groups in the last few days in New York, all of which promised to join Lanza if he can get the right backing. Burke says that he does not know the names of these groups but can get them if we are interested.

9. Burke said that he was going to appear with Lanza at 11 PM, 5 July, on Harry Gray's radio show for a period of about 2 hours. The chief topic of discussion according to Burke will be the anti-semitism of the Castro government. At the end of the week Lanza expects to return to Miami.

10. Burke stated that he hopes to form an American front committee which Dr. William Braden has agreed to head if the right people can be brought into it. The group would have some such name as "Committee to Rescue Latin America from Communism" and Burke believes that this group will have excellent support from his participation.

11. While we were in Burke's office he received a telephone call from Diana Alexandria about 1:30 PM. She wanted to report that a warrant had just been issued in Cuba for the arrest of her son, Brian James Follett. Brian described Follett as a personal aid to Castro whose real job has been to protect Cuban for Castro and his assistants. Follett has fallen into disfavor as a result of the story of Castro's affair with the Lorenz girl having appeared in Confidential Magazine.

12. At the end of our interview, Burke handed us the attached list of 65 names of persons who had been held by Trujillo. All 65 were in jail 2 weeks ago but according to a telegram which Burke claims was received July, 1954, only 20 of the men, only 20 and in custody now.

13. If there is no interest in the details of Burke's current Cuban contacts, he will be available for questioning.

Interviewer: [Name] Date: [Date]

Witness: [Name]

File in
HH-6214

BUS 741

Conversation with Alexander D. Rorke, 21 Chambers Street,
New York, N. Y.

On the matter of a base from which to operate, Rorke says that he has talked with agents of Nicaragua and they say that the Scouts will furnish one.

4. In comparing Lanz with other figures who are in opposition to Castro, Rorke mentioned Calles, Martini and Varona, none of whom he feels compares favorably with Lanz. Varona, for instance, is too far to the left. According to Rorke, Lanz has met with 2 different groups in the last few days in New York, all of which promised to join Lanz if he can get the right backing. Rorke says that he does not know the names of these groups but can get them if we are interested.

5. Rorke said that he was going to appear with Lanz at 11 PM 5 July 60 on Barry Gray's radio show for a period of about 2 hours. A chief topic of discussion according to Rorke will be the anti-sentiment of the Castro government. At the end of the week Lanz expects to return to Miami.

6. Rorke stated that he hopes to form an American front committee which Spruille Braden has agreed to head if the right people can be brought into it. The group would have some such name as "Committee to Oppose Latin America from Communism" and Rorke believes that this organization will attract considerable support for anti-Communist activities.

7. While we were in Rorke's office, he received a telephone call from Diana Alexander's about 1:30 PM. She wanted to report that a warrant had just been issued in Cuba for the arrest of her boy, Brian James Pelletier. Rorke described Pelletier as a personal aid to Castro whose real job had been to procure women for Castro and his assistants. Pelletier had fallen into disfavor as a result of the story of Castro's affair with the Lorenz girl having appeared in Confidential magazine.

8. At the end of our interview, Rorke handed us the attached list of 67 names of Padraza's men who had been held by Brufello. All 67 were in jail 2 weeks ago but according to a telegram which Rorke claims was received 4 July, from a brother of one of the men, only 20 are in custody now.

9. If there is any interest in the details of Rorke's current Cuban contacts, he will be available for questioning.

P. J. Connelley
Wm. E. I. REEVE

Attachment: as stated above

RE: [redacted]

HM 6274