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10 March 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CI/OA

ATTENTION: 

SUBJECT: Derogatory Traces on GIBSONY (201-306052)

1. Richard Gibson, while employed by the Columbia Broadcasting System, and a fellow colleague Robert Taber established the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) in April 1960. Subject was fired from his job with CBS because of his activities with FPCC. The parent organization of FPCC is the Institute for the Improvement of Inter-American Relations. Subject was President of the New York Chapter of the FPCC and became Acting National Executive Secretary of FPCC when Robert Taber went to Cuba in January 1961. Subject in his role as Acting Executive Secretary was in contact with many personalities from such organizations as Socialist Workers Party, CRUSA, Monroe Defense Committee, the Committee to Aid the Monroe Defendants, etc. (see attachment). Subject was also accredited to the United Nations as correspondent covering UN affairs for the Cuban newspapers El Mundo and Revolucion. While a member of the FPCC, he travelled in 1960 and 1961 to Cuba (specific dates unknown) and has met Fidel Castro, Ernesto Guevara and various other Cuban officials.

2. Subject was involved with the Monroe Defense Committee which is made up of Negro nationals and members of the Communist Party. He is well acquainted with Robert Williams, the American Negro from Monroe, North Carolina, who emigrated to Cuba. Subject resigned from the FPCC in the fall of 1962 because his income was inadequate for his services.

3. In late 1962, Subject was recommended by the Algerian Ambassador to the United Nations (name not given) to be on the staff of Revolucion Africaine in Algiers, a paper which was then edited by Jacques Verges a well-known Communist. When Verges was ousted by the Algerians because of a dispute with Ben Bella in May 1963, Subject remained loyal to Verges and set up headquarters in Lausanne for the publication of Africa, Latin America, Asia Revolucion, more commonly known as Revolucion, and served as editor of its English-language version. This publication was characterized as being transparently a vehicle for spreading Chinese Communist opinions on international and world Communist problems. Gibson while in Lausanne worked with Fredy Gilbert Mills Anderson, Swedish citizen, editor-publisher, who printed the Revolucion. Anderson has been known to have numerous contacts in international leftist circles of all shades--including FLN-Algerians, Congolese, Angolense, other African politicians, Spanish emigrees, French "refractars anti-colonialists",

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etc. Despite all these contacts Anderson cannot definitely be labelled as a Communist.

4. Subject on 7 November 1963 spoke to Werkgroep Informatie Cuba and the democratic-socialist student organization POLITEIA in Amsterdam. This speech was reported to be more anti-American rather than pro-Cuba. It was also reported in November 1963 (Source of this information is considered unreliable) that the Soviet Ambassador to the Netherlands Ivan Ivanovich Tugarinov recommended a GIBSON to the Cuban Ambassador Mariatany as one who could help them in their propaganda effort. Tugarinov said that this GIBSON was in Amsterdam at this time.

5. In December 1963 Subject's Swiss residence permit was not renewed and Subject went to Paris where he was still editor of the English-language version of the Revolution. Subject split with Verges in July 1964, because he was accused of misusing his office as former Executive Secretary of FPCC in order to penetrate the rank of the international revolutionary movement. He was accused of being an agent of the FBI and CIA. Gibson unable to find employment in Paris went to England in October 1964.

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Attachment:

FBI Report on Subject  
FBI Interview with Subject

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