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Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10197-10465

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 159-757-50

Released under the John F.
Kennedy Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC
2107 Note). Case#:NW 53932
Date: 08-21-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : SAC, SJ
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 06/08/1962
PAGES : 9

SUBJECTS :

FCH, ARRESTED, VIOLATION OF INCOME TAX LAW

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 05/29/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS : INC LHM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (159-757)

DATE: 6/8/62

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (159-17) (P)

SUBJECT: UNSUBS; Local 901, Teamsters Union,
San Juan, Puerto Rico
IMRDA - IM

Re: San Juan report of SA (A) JOSEPH F. CUNNINGHAM,
dated and captioned as above.

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of a letterhead memorandum dated and captioned as above at San Juan for dissemination by the Bureau. Local dissemination of the letterhead memorandum has been made to the United States Attorney, San Juan.

Also enclosed for the Chicago, Miami, Los Angeles, and Washington Field Offices are appropriate number of copies of the letterhead memorandum for use by those offices.

INFORMANTS:

The first confidential source mentioned in the attached letterhead memorandum is Mrs. CARMEN SARA UMPIERRE, Chief, Records and Control Division, Income Tax Bureau, Department of Treasury, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, who furnished information to SA A. A. ARMSTRONG, JR. on 3/21/62, whose identity should be concealed.

The second confidential source is Mr. J. E. BARRIOS, Investigative Aide, US Postal Inspector's Office, San Juan, Puerto Rico, who furnished information to SA JOSEPH F. CUNNINGHAM, JR. on the dates indicated.

The third confidential source is Lt. RAFAEL ALVAREZ (NA), Police of Puerto Rico, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, who furnished information on the dates indicated to SAS RICHARD S. BEIER and JOSEPH F. CUNNINGHAM, JR.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
- 1 - Miami (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Chicago (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 2)
- 2 - WFO (Enc. 2)
- 2 - San Juan

JFC:zc

(10)

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

- ☐ RELEASE IN FULL
- ☐ RELEASE IN PART
- ☐ TOTAL DENIAL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Post Office Box 4312
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico
June 8, 1962

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Local 901,
TEAMSTERS UNION, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO
LABOR MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE ACT -
INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

On March 21, 1962 a confidential source advised that although FRANK CHAVEZ, the head of Teamsters Local 901, San Juan, Puerto Rico, had filed an Income Tax Return with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which was then under close scrutiny, CHAVEZ had failed to file an Income Tax Return with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the calendar year of 1960. In addition, as of that date source advised that CHAVEZ had failed to file his Income Tax Return for the year 1961, noting, however, that the final deadline for the filing of same was not until April 16, 1962.

It is noted that the March 26, 1962 edition of "El Imparcial", a San Juan daily Spanish language newspaper, carried an article on page 3, relating that FRANK CHAVEZ, head of the Teamsters in Puerto Rico, was arrested that date and accused of violation of the Income Tax Law. This article stated in part, "FRANK CHAVEZ....was accused by Superior Court Judge GERARDO CARREIRA MAS with the violation of Section 145 of the Income Tax Law of Puerto Rico and further that the Judge fixed bond in the amount of \$3,000 for his release on bond.

"In the arrest order that was presented to the Judge against CHAVEZ, it is alleged that during the year 1960 CHAVEZ received salary and wages in the amount of \$14,202.75 but in spite of this failed to file an Income Tax Return for this period."

The article further indicated that the investigation in this case was being conducted by Assistant District Attorney MANUEL LOPEZ CARRILLO and JOSE H. LUCIANO, who submitted the evidence before the Superior Court.

159-757-50

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; LOCAL 901, TEAMSTERS UNION

in the offices of Local 610 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, Santurce, Puerto Rico, during the early morning hours of February 8, 1962 and important union records allegedly were destroyed.

The above confidential source on February 14, 1962 advised the San Juan Office that he had received information that the fire at the office of Local 610, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, was caused by the Teamsters Union, Local 901, with the purpose of establishing the precedent of fires in union offices and in this manner the Teamsters headed by FRANK CHAVEZ, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 901, planned to burn their own offices located at 800 Figueroa Street, Santurce, Puerto Rico, to prevent the Teamsters records from being inspected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The same confidential source advised on April 10, 1962 that the reason the books and records of Local 901 never arrived by mail at the headquarters of the IBT, Washington, D.C., was due to the fact that they were burned by LUIS E. PAGAN, bookkeeper, Local 901, and LEOPOLDO RAMOS DUCOS, Local 901, organizer. This information was learned in conversation with LUIS E. PAGAN and when PAGAN was jokingly told that he had been photographed in the act of burning the union's records, PAGAN stated that this was impossible as pictures cannot be taken at night.

The source stated at this time that he would attempt to determine additional details as to the place and exact date the records of Local 901 were burned, in addition to the identity of any other individual who might have knowledge of the burning of the above records. Source further stated that the records were burned at the instructions of FRANK CHAVEZ and apparently after the Federal Grand Jury, San Juan, had issued a subpoena for same.

The same source was recontacted periodically thereafter and on May 29, 1962 advised that he had been unable to develop any information as to the date or exact place where the records of Local 901 were burned or the identities of other individuals who might have first hand knowledge of same.

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