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TO : Chief, Security Support Division Date: 18 May 1960
ATTN : Mr. Joseph Vidal, CI/Staff
FROM : Interrogation Research Division
SUBJECT: _____ IRD#: 40176

IDENTIFYING DATA

Subject is a thirty-five-year-old married Cuban national who recently fled to the United States and is presently residing in New York City. Subject, prior to his arrival in the U. S., was professionally occupied as a writer and radio and television commentator. He is a well-known personality in Cuba.

Subject was contacted by Mr. Joseph Vidal, CI/Staff, who debriefed Subject and obtained PRQ information. Subject is being considered as a possible PP asset by this Agency.

PROCEDURE

1. A polygraph interview was arranged for Subject at the request of Mr. J. Vidal on 12 May 1960 at a covert site in Washington, D. C. The interview and testing took place from 1430 to 1630 hours. Mr. [Joseph Luna] assisted as interpreter during the interview and testing.

2. Prior to testing, the undersigned reviewed the test questions with J. Vidal and it was determined that the test was to be basically devised to assist in ascertaining whether or not Subject is, or has been, sympathetic to Communism, whether Subject has been a member of any Communist organization, and whether the possibility exists that Subject is presently clandestinely connected with the Castro Government.

3. The following specific test questions were posed during the polygraph examination:

Were you born on 6 July 1924? Yes.

Is your true name _____? Yes.

Are you now using, or known under, another name that you have not told us about? No.

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- Have you deliberately given us any false information concerning your past? No.
- Are you a member of the Cuban National Party? Yes.
- Were you appointed Secretary General of the Party after the death of Eduardo CHIBAS? Yes.
- Were you ever sympathetic to the theory or practice of Soviet Communism? No.
- Are you now sympathetic with the Communist World Movement? No.
- Were you ever a member of any Communist organization? No.
- Were you ever a member of the PSP or any other Communist Party? No.
- Did you ever participate in any Communist activity? No.
- Did you first meet Fidel Castro at the University of Havana? Yes.
- Did you accompany Fidel Castro on his trip to the U. S. in 1959? Yes.
- Have you ever or are you now serving Fidel Castro in any intelligence capacity? No.
- Are you now an agent of Fidel Castro? No.
(This question was posed at Subject's request.)
- Were you ever secretly connected with any intelligence organization? No.
- Are you now connected with any Cuban intelligence service? No.
- Were you ever connected with the G-2 service in Cuba? No.
- Were you ever connected with DIPAR service in Cuba? No.
- Were you ever connected with DIER service in Cuba? No.
- Have you ever had any secret contact or connection with any Soviet or other Communist intelligence service? No.

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Did you go to the Cuban Consulate in New York to obtain a passport for your son? Yes.

Did you go to the Consulate for any other reason? No.

Have you had any secret communication with anyone in Cuba since you have been in the U. S.? No.

Have you met with anyone connected with the Castro Government since you have been in the U. S.? No.

(Subject qualified this question to exclude the visit to the Cuban Consulate in New York.)

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

1. Subject's overall responses to the test questions listed above do not indicate deliberate attempts at deception. It does not appear that Subject is presently connected with the Castro Government in any intelligence capacity nor does it appear that Subject is connected with any Communist organization.

2. Subject's attitude towards the interview and testing in the initial stage was cooperative and friendly although he appeared to be somewhat reserved. He frankly admitted that he had not told all concerning his past simply because he had been waiting for a stronger commitment from our organization. Subject indicated, however, that the information he had given about himself up to the date of the interview was correct to the best of his knowledge.

3. As the actual testing progressed, and specific questions were repeated on two or more occasions, Subject became indignant and openly disturbed by the questioning. He stated that he found most of the questions to be absurd in light of who he was and the public knowledge of his break with Castro. Subject stated that if by some chance we were not satisfied with his performance during the test he would go it alone and continue his anti-Castro activity in any way possible to him.

4. Subject manifested sensitivity to the questions dealing with Communist sympathies and membership in Communist organizations. The responses, however, were inconsistent and did not appear to indicate deliberate deception. Subject's only comment when questioned about his sensitivity was that he found the questions to be "absurd" and if anyone had read his books on this subject, questions of this sort would not be necessary. It appears that Subject, at least on the surface, has a legitimate excuse for his sensitivity in this phase of testing.

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5. Subject also manifested a response to the question pertaining to his visit to the Cuban Consulate in New York. He showed no response to the initial question, "Did you go to the Consulate to obtain a passport for your son?" However, when the follow-up question was asked, "Did you go to the Consulate for any other reason?"; Subject did show some sensitivity. Subject admitted his disturbance because in his mind the question was pointless. He commented that had he had any other reason for visiting the Consulate, it would have been foolish of him to have mentioned his visit to us in the first place. No attempt was made to probe this question any further.

6. At the conclusion of the interview, Subject had calmed down considerably and appeared to be satisfied that he was not being subjected to unreasonable questioning or interrogation techniques. Subject was informed by the undersigned that a final analysis of the test would be made during which time his responses to questions, his comments and qualifications made during the interview would be carefully evaluated. Subject replied by indicating that he was satisfied that he had answered all questions truthfully and could offer no more to prove the veracity of his statements.

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 [John M. Brea]

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