



## FBI DOCUMENTS:

DATE: 1 OCTOBER 1959  
SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - CUBA  
CLASSIFICATION: NONE  
FILE #: NONE GIVEN

DATE: 1 JUNE 1959  
SUBJECT: RUBEN OSCAR MIRO GUARDIA  
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET  
FILE #: MIAMI 97-261 BUREAU 105-75663

14-00000

AGENCY DOCUMENT CONTAINING FBI INFORMATION  
DATE: 16 JUNE 1959  
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

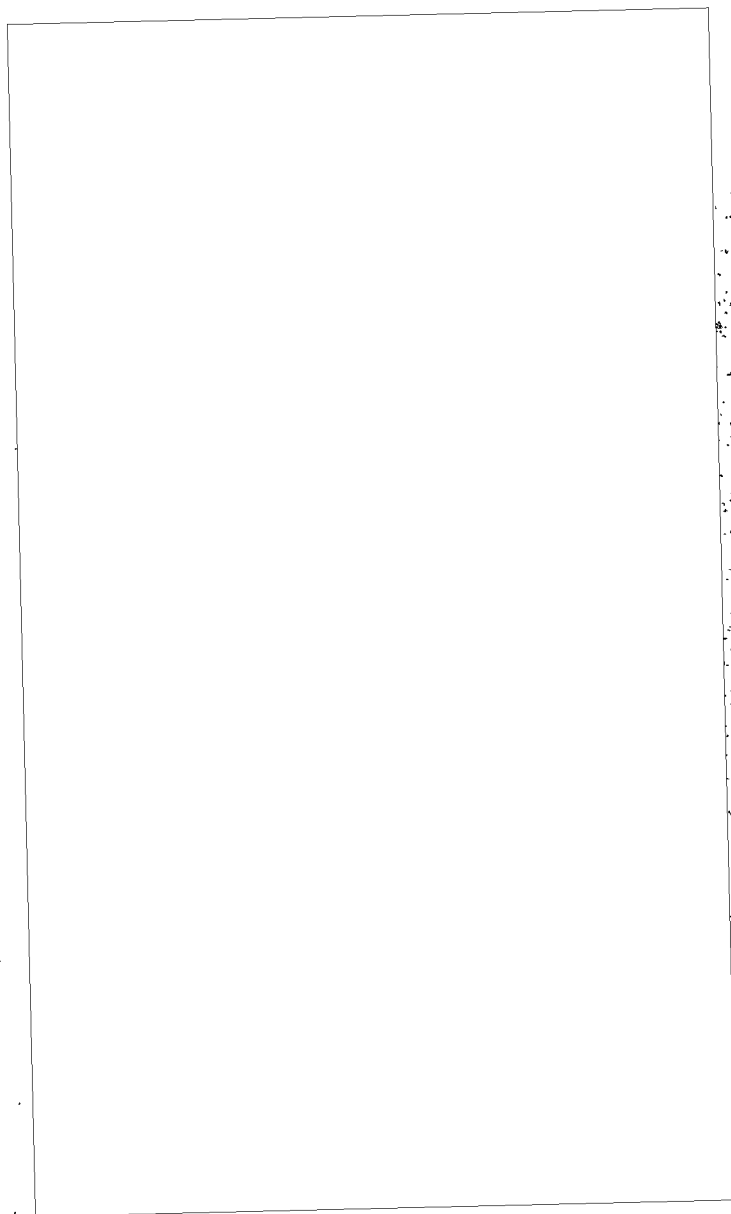
FBI REPORTS:

DATE: 11 MARCH 1959  
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES  
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS-PANAMA  
FBI FILE #: 109-12-223 (BUREAU)

DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 1958  
SUBJECT: JOSEPH MEROLA; B. LEONARD BIRD;  
ROBERT DILLARD: UNKNOWN PILOT  
FBI FILE #: 97-230 (MIAMI)

FBI DOCUMENT  
DATE: 1 JUNE 1959  
SUBJECT: RUBEN OSCAR MIRO GUARDIA  
CLASSIFICATION: NONE  
FILE#: NY 97-261

DEPT OF ARMY DOCUMENT  
DATE: 13 MAY 1959  
SUBJECT: JOSEPH R. MEROLA (SD 7083-A) (C)  
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET  
FILE #: ACSI-CO



14-00000  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OGC 77-2335  
11 April 1977

David M. Curry, Esq.  
First Assistant U.S. Attorney  
Western District of Pennsylvania  
633 U.S. Post Office and Courthouse  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Dear Mr. Curry:

Re: Joseph Raymond Merola

In response to your letter of March 10, 1977 I wish to advise you that the Central Intelligence Agency had one meeting with Joseph Raymond Merola prior to August 1961. In late 1960 Joseph Raymond Merola made several telephone calls to a CIA office offering his assistance in a general way in connection with Cuban matters, which was refused. However, on 6 February 1961 Merola claimed to have information on a Latin American senator who was a "close friend and confidant" of "Che" Guevara. Since Guevara was listed as being the subject of foreign intelligence requirements, the CIA employee agreed to meet with Mr. Merola. The meeting took place on 6 February 1961 and is the only meeting with Merola prior to his incarceration which you stated in your letter began in August 1961.

Mr. Merola was not employed by the Central Intelligence Agency. His contact with the CIA could not be described as an undercover Government informant as alleged in the Writs of Error Coram Nobis by Victor Carlucci and Daniel Hanna. This one contact on 6 February 1961 by Merola with the CIA was voluntary on his part.

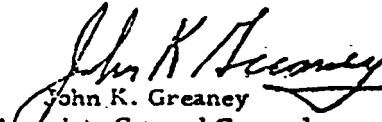
Mathew McVane, an employee of the CIA, did testify in San Diego in November 1975 concerning CIA contacts with Joseph Raymond Merola. The citation we have for that case is U.S. v. Dalton C. Smith, et al. in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, No. 75-2277-GT.



The testimony given in that trial is not inconsistent with the response given above. It is true that after Merola was released from prison he again volunteered information to the CIA. Merola was a voluntary source of foreign intelligence.

I hope this provides sufficient information for you to file your response. If not, please call me at (AC 703) 351-7531.

Sincerely,

  
John K. Greaney  
Associate General Counsel

cc: John Martin, Esq., Dept. of Justice

0001186125



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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Joseph Raymond Merola				
FROM: Maurice A. Sovern O/SA/DO/O 2D0109		EXTENSION 1542	NO. DATE 8 April 1977	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. Mr. Raymond Warren C/LA 3C2019 Hqs.	11 APR	577	/	
2. <i>DC/LA</i>	1 APR	577	/	
3. <i>SA/LA</i>	14		/	
4. <i>File - 201</i>				
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FORM 3-62 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS
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FOR CIA OFFICIALS ONLY

**LITIGATION**

8 April 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John K. Greaney  
Special Assistant to the  
General Counsel

FROM : Maurice A. Sovern  
O/SA/DO/O

SUBJECT : Joseph R. Merola

REFERENCE : Assistant United States Attorney,  
Pennsylvania Letter, 10 March 1977,  
Subject as Above

1. The question in reference is the nature of any involvement of Merola with CIA prior to August 1961.

2. The Directorate's first recorded contact with Joseph Raymond Merola prior to August 1961 occurred on 6 February 1961. It followed a series of telephone calls over a period of several months (late 1960 - early 1961) in which Merola had expressed interest in offering his assistance in connection with Cuban matters. Our officer had declined contact until 6 February when Merola claimed to have information on a Latin American senator who was a "close friend and confidante" of "Che" Guevara. Because Guevara was the proper subject of foreign positive intelligence collection requirement our officer agreed to a meeting.

3. The last recorded contact, except for the litigation outlined below, with Merola was a telephone contact with Merola in late July 1975 when he volunteered additional foreign positive intelligence.

4. At the end of August 1975, Merola contacted a staff officer to ask for testimony in the criminal fraud trial in San Diego, California (U.S. v. Joseph R. Merola, et al, Southern District of California, CR 74-2277-GT) which we subsequently

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14-00000

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provided on 13 November 1975.

5. Subject is characterized as a voluntary occasional source of foreign positive intelligence who was in sporadic contact with us.

6. We greatly appreciate the Assistant United States Attorney's concern for the confidentiality of our information. The information above may be made available to the AUSA and the court as appropriate without further restriction.

/s/  
Maurice A. Sovern

O/SA/DO/O:MASovern:kaw (1542)

Distribution

Orig & 1 - OGC  
1 - C/DCD  
1 - C/LA  
2 - SA/DO/O

FOR CIA OFFICIALS ONLY

SPEED LETTER		REPLY REQUESTED	DATE
		YES	NO
TO :	ISS/PICG	FROM: Crocky Lopez	
ATTN:	Frederic McCann	SA/LA	
SUBJECT: Joseph R. Merola-Litigation			
REFERENCE: ISS/PICG Memo Dtd 17 March 1977			
A review of the files confirms that the DDC was not in any way involved operationally with Joseph R. Merola prior to 1961. However, it should be noted that subsequent to his release from prison in November 1962, Merola was in contact with members of the Frente Revolucionario Democrático, an anti-Castro organization of interest to this Agency.			
REPLY		DATE	
RESPONDER'S FILE			



CONFIDENTIAL

17 March 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: SA/LA/EICO  
DCD

FROM : Frederic McCann  
ISS/PICG


SUBJECT : Litigation: Joseph R. Merola

1. Attached herewith is an unclassified memorandum received from OGC which requests information on the "extent and nature of any involvement of (Joseph R.) Merola with federal agencies prior to August 1961".

2. A review of 201-257804 reveals that Mr. Merola may have been in contact with WH/Miami in 1961 and was in contact with DCD prior to 1961.

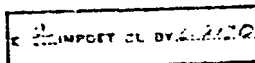
3. Please review your files and provide whatever information is pertinent to paragraph 1., above. No information will be released outside of CIA without your concurrence.

4. 201-257804 is attached to the SA/LA/EICO copy of this memorandum. Please return it with your reply by 1 April 1977.

  
Frederic McCann

Attachments: a/s

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPT OF JUSTICE DOCUMENT  
SUBJECT: JOSEPH RAYMOND MEROLA  
DATE: 10 MARCH 1977  
CLASSIFICATION: NONE  
FILE: NONE

trist, "actively engaged in the service of the government."

Irving Green, attorney for Carlucci and Hanna, said the prosecutors, Herbert I. Teitelbaum and Daniel J. Snyder, knew Merola was a government agent and therefore "perpetrated a fraud upon the trial court."

Teitelbaum and Snyder are now federal judges in Pittsburgh and have not commented about the action filed by Green, which is still pending. But an official familiar with their position said the two judges will, if necessary, swear they did not know Merola was a government agent.

### Cuban Connection

"The answer to this whole thing revolves around Cuba," said this official.

Green, who represents Mannarino's son-in-law, said he didn't think Merola's testimony in Chicago had been particularly "helpful" to the prosecution. A "more logical assumption" is that Merola was freed from prison because of what he could do for the government in Cuba, he said.

"This guy works anywhere he wants to," said Green. "The government has protected him in California, Chicago and everywhere else. He still has to be of value to the government."

One thing is certain: Merola is well known in the Miami Cuban community and among those who have been linked to alleged Castro assassination attempts.

"Joe was an undercover agent, he was closely associated with the government," Frank Sturgis, of Miami, told The Bulletin. "He did have an association with the CIA."

Sturgis, who gained notoriety as one of those convicted in the Watergate burglary, was a top Castro lieutenant during the revolution who served as a double agent for the CIA. He later worked against Castro in the Bay of Pigs operation and has admitted plotting to kill Castro.

"I know Joe was involved with the revolutionaries," said Sturgis. "I know he had an association with the CIA, but because of compartmentalization, you don't know what they're doing."

### Tied to Burglar

A source close to the House Assassina-

tions Committee said Merola was "a good friend" of Eugenio (Rolando) Martinez, another of those convicted of the Watergate burglary. Martinez was associated with the CIA in the Bay of Pigs effort and in other anti-Castro moves.

"Joe's place in Miami Beach was on the water and it was used by anti-Castro groups to smuggle arms to Cuba," this source said. "Martinez was one of them."

"I can't recall," Martinez said, when asked by The Bulletin about using Merola's dock. "Really, I can't tell you anything about it."

"He was connected with helping people here in Miami against the dictatorship of Batista. He might have been in some other branch that I don't know about."

Alfredo Borges, a Miami business consultant and a Bay of Pigs veteran, told a Bulletin reporter inquiring about Merola to "please write me a letter."

"I don't know who you are," Borges said. "I cannot talk over the telephone."

One investigator interested in Merola said the matter is "very sensitive, records are hard to come by."

"He seems to fit everything," this investigator said. "He's a pilot, he speaks Spanish, he knows Cuba and he's connected. But nobody wants to cooperate."

### A Scared Man

Records indeed are hard to come by. Official and unofficial attempts to obtain complete records of Merola's arrests proved fruitless. So did efforts to determine what encounters he might have had with officials responsible for watching the nation's borders.

But despite the belief of some that Merola enjoys the protection of the government while at the same time being welcomed by organized crime, those who know him say that is not the case.

"Joe has got a little money," said one Florida acquaintance. "I don't know where he gets it. But he's an informer and they hate informers. The man is concerned."

"He goes around Dade (County), but he is very, very careful where he goes. Joe is scared."



70-1116-100000

SUBJECT: Court Appearance on 13 November 1975, San Diego, California

1. On 13 November 1975, Matt MacVane appeared as a witness for the defense at the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, 325 West F Street, San Diego, California. The case was the United States of America V. Dalton C. Smith, et al. MacVane was called to testify by E. Mac Amos Jr., attorney for defendant Joe Merola. In honor of the subpoena MacVane appeared at the court. On 13 November 1975 at approximately 15:30 hours San Diego time MacVane was called to the witness stand.

2. Mac Amos, attorney for defendant Joe Merola began questioning after MacVane was sworn in as a witness. Amos asked how long MacVane had been employed by the CIA? He asked if MacVane knew defendant Merola? He asked if MacVane were told by Merola about a shipment of surplus helicopter parts going to the country of El Salvador? He asked MacVane if Merola had volunteered other information to the Agency? He then asked if Merola were ever paid for such information? Amos also tried to establish the value of surplus parts in Latin America compared to the US. This was objected to by attorney Robert Thaller, prosecutor in the case. The judge sustained the objection and MacVane did not have to answer the question. Amos finished his questioning and Thaller began a short cross examination. Thaller asked if MacVane ever heard Merola mention stocks? He also asked if MacVane knew the name of the corporation that Merola represented? He then pointed out that even if some stock fraud were occurring, MacVane would not be witting because MacVane was not an investigator, but rather a collector of foreign information. The cross examination then ended. All questions were answered to the best of MacVane's ability and knowledge.

3. There appeared to be little purpose in the appearance of MacVane because it was obvious that MacVane knew nothing of any value concerning the case. MacVane's total time on the witness stand was about 10 minutes. After completion of his testimony MacVane was released.

*Bruce E. Thompson*  
BRUCE E. THOMPSON

MMacVane:ljh

E2 IMPDET CL BY 011668



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

30

GORDON THOMPSON  
GORDON THOMPSON  
DISTRICT JUDGE

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET
<b>OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP</b>			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	<i>Mr. Darnier</i>	<i>6/4/11</i>	<i>SD</i>
2			
3	<i>Mr. Young</i>		<i>Y</i>
4			
5			
6	<i>SD</i>		
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
<b>Remarks:</b> <i>Any results of the meeting.</i>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
<i>See 6/4/11</i>			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET

SECRET

6 November 1975

MEMO FOR RECORD:

RE: MEROLA, Joseph R.  
201-257804  
U.S. Citizen Registered to DEA/MIAMI Dec 74

FYI:

Today, Randy Daugherty, DCD case officer, asked to borrow subject 201 because he wanted to take it to Office of Genl. Counsel for Mr. John Greany.

There is to be a meeting today between Mr. Greany, Bob Starling, DCD COPS, and Matt McVane, DCD man in Miami who is visiting Hqs. McVane has an interest in MEROLA.

Told Randy that MEROLA was DEA source and that matter should be coordinated with NARCOG.

This transpired during lunch hour - Randy was in a hurry and I gave him file. He said he would tell Mr. Greany that Subj. was DEA source.

L.

SECRET

OGC 75-1073

5 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Joseph Raymond Merola

1. On 3 November I talked to Mr. Matt McVane, DCD officer stationed in Miami, and he said that he had received the subpoena from E. Mac Amos, Jr. to appear as a defense witness in the trial in San Diego on 11 November. Mr. McVane agreed to come to Headquarters on 6 November to discuss the information in the files and Mr. Robert Starling of DCD agreed to join in the meeting. Mr. McVane told me that Lt. Colonel Douglas W. Haldane, who had previously been on detail to the DCD Miami Office, had returned to the Army and was currently assigned somewhere in Europe and that his address was Headquarters, USAREUR, APO New York, New York 09403.

2. Since this Office had received a letter from Mr. Amos with a request for the current address of Colonel Haldane, I called Mr. Amos on 4 November and explained to him that Colonel Haldane was no longer with the Central Intelligence Agency and it was our understanding that Colonel Haldane was stationed in Europe. Mr. Amos did not want the current address of Colonel Haldane. He did state, however, that Mr. McVane would not be needed in San Diego until Wednesday morning, 12 November. As things stood now, Mr. Merola was the fifth defendant and it would be that length of time before Mr. McVane's testimony would be needed.

3. Mr. McVane told me that he had been called by Mr. Robert Thaler of the U.S. Attorney's Office in California. I told Mr. McVane that I would contact Mr. Thaler. I called Mr. Thaler who is a member of the Organized Crime Strike Force, Department of Justice, Room 2307, 300 North Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, telephone No. (AC 213) 688-5808. Mr. Thaler was pleased to hear that Mr. McVane

was being made available to testify and explained that he thought Mr. Amos had already prepared a motion to dismiss if Mr. McVane was to be denied as a witness for the defense. I explained to Mr. Thaler that Mr. McVane was coming to Headquarters on Thursday, 6 November, and said that we would call him to discuss the role Mr. McVane played in receiving information from Mr. Merola.

4. If this case runs parallel to many criminal prosecutions, the defense may never put Mr. McVane on the stand when he actually shows up as this may prove detrimental to their defense. However, we should be prepared for his testimony if, in fact, it does take place.

*John K. Greaney*  
John K. Greaney  
Associate General Counsel

cc: Chief, DCD  
Matt McVane

OGC/JKG/eh

Distribution:

Original - OGC SUBJ: LITIGATION CRIMINAL

1 - JKG Signer

1 - Chrono

John T. Holt  
John Skyrstead Rhoades  
Harrison R. Hollywood  
Douglas R. Reynolds  
David W. Ault  
Michael L. Neil  
Dan H. Deuprey  
Thomas H. Ault  
E. Mac Amos, Jr.  
Thomas M. Dymott

# HOLT, RHOADES AND HOLLYWOOD

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1010 SECOND AVENUE, SUITE 1712  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

Area 714  
Telephone 238-1712

October 28, 1975

Office of the General Counsel  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

Our firm represents Mr. Joseph Merola who is presently on trial as a defendant in the Southern District of California in an action entitled United States of America v. Dalton C. Smith, et al. (No. 74-2277-GT). In order to properly defend Mr. Merola, we need to utilize the testimony of Mr. Matt McVane and possibly the testimony of Col. Douglas Haldane. We understand that Mr. McVane is employed by the Central Intelligence Agency and works out of the Miami office. We also understand that Col. Douglas Haldane is employed by the Central Intelligence Agency but we do not have an address for service upon Col. Haldane.

Enclosed you will find copies of Subpoenas issued for Mr. McVane and Col. Haldane. These Subpoenas require the attendance of the individuals in the Southern District of California at San Diego, California on November 11, 1975 at 9:00 a.m. Enclosed you will also find a copy of the Order signed by Judge Gordon Thompson authorizing the issuance of the Subpoena for Mr. McVane. Since we do not have an address for Col. Haldane at this time, the court has not approved the issuance of a Subpoena for him in which the government would be responsible for all of the expenses and costs.

We have been informed by Mr. McVane that it is necessary for him to obtain the approval of your office before he can testify in this matter. Accordingly, we request that he be granted the necessary approval in order to allow him to testify in this matter. In addition, we request that we be provided with an address for Col. Haldane and that he also be allowed to testify in this case. We would appreciate being advised as soon as

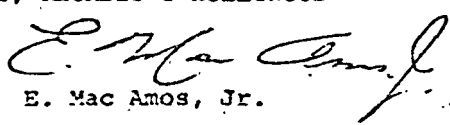
Office of the General Counsel  
October 28, 1975  
Page Two

possible with respect to whether these persons will be available for testimony. If we can provide any additional information with respect to this case, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned. Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

HOLT, RHOADES & HOLLYWOOD

By

  
E. Mac Amos, Jr.

EMA/db  
Enclosures

United States District Court

FOR THE  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DALTON C. SMITH, et al.

No. 74-2277-GT

TRATT MCVANE

You are hereby commanded to appear in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California at 325 West E Street in the city of San Diego on the 11th day of November 1975 at 9:00 o'clock A.M. to testify in the above-entitled case.

This subpoena is issued on application of the defendant.

October 23, 1975  
E. MAC AMOS, JR.  
Attorney for Defendant MEROLA  
1910 Second Ave., Suite 1712  
San Diego, CA 92101

WILLIAM W. LUDDY

Clerk.

SEAL

ROSIE GALLAGHER

Deputy Clerk.

RETURN

Received this subpoena at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ I served it on the \_\_\_\_\_ and on \_\_\_\_\_ within named \_\_\_\_\_ by delivering a copy to \_\_\_\_\_ and tendering to \_\_\_\_\_ the fee for one day's attendance and the mileage allowed by law.

Service Fees

By

Travel \_\_\_\_\_ \$

Services \_\_\_\_\_ \$

Total \_\_\_\_\_ \$

<sup>1</sup> Insert "United States," or "defendant" as the case may be.  
<sup>2</sup> Fees and mileage need not be tendered to the witness upon service of a subpoena issued in behalf of the United States or an officer or agency thereof, 28 USC 1825, or on behalf of a defendant who is financially unable to pay such costs (Rule 17 (b), Federal Rules Criminal Procedure).



United States District Court

FOR THE  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DALTON C. SMITH, et al.

No. 74-2277-GT

To: COL. DOUGLAS HALDANE

You are hereby commanded to appear in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California at 325 West F Street in the city of San Diego on the 11th day of November 1975 at 9:00 o'clock A.M. to testify in the above-entitled case.

This subpoena is issued on application of the defendant.

October 23, 1975

E. MIC AMOS, JR.

Attorney for

Defendant MEROLA

1019 Second Ave., Suite 1712

San Diego, CA 92101

WILLIAM W. LUDDY

Clerk.

SEAL

ROSIE GALLAGHER

Deputy Clerk.

RETURN

Received this subpoena at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
and on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ I served it on the  
within named \_\_\_\_\_  
by delivering a copy to \_\_\_\_\_ and tendering<sup>2</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_ the fee for one day's attendance and the mileage  
allowed by law. \_\_\_\_\_

Service Fees

By \_\_\_\_\_

Travel \_\_\_\_\_ \$

Services \_\_\_\_\_ \$

Total \_\_\_\_\_ \$

<sup>1</sup> Insert "United States," or "defendant" as the case may be.  
<sup>2</sup> Fees and mileage need not be tendered to the witness upon service of a subpoena issued in behalf of the United States or an officer or agency thereof, 28 USC 1825, or on behalf of a defendant who is financially unable to pay such costs (Rule 17 (b), Federal Rules Criminal Procedure).

1 E. MAC AMOS, JR.  
2 HOLT, SPONDES & HOLLYWOOD  
3 1010 Second Avenue, Suite 1712  
4 San Diego, CA 92101  
5 (714) 238-1712

6 Attorneys for Defendant  
7 JOSEPH R. MEROLA

FILED

OCT 22 1975

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
By DEPUTY

8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10  
11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
12 Plaintiff,  
13 v.  
14 JOSEPH R. MEROLA, et al.,  
15 Defendants.

NO. CR 74-2277-GT

ORDER FOR ISSUANCE OF  
SUBPOENAS

16  
17 This court having considered the application of defend  
18 Joseph Merola, and the supporting affidavit of E. Mac Amos, Jr.  
19 for issuance of subpoenas directed to Edward Stanton and Matt  
20 McVane and having found that good cause exists for the issuance  
21 of said subpoenas,

22 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the clerk of this court issue  
23 subpoenas requiring the attendance of Matt McVane and Edward  
24 Stanton on November 11, 1975 at 9:00 a.m. in this court and,  
25 further, that all costs and fees in relation to the attendance of  
26 said witnesses shall be borne by the United States under the  
27 provisions of the Criminal Justice Act.

28 DATED: OCT 22 1975

29  
30 BY: GORDON THOMPSON, JR.  
31 GORDON THOMPSON  
32 DISTRICT JUDGE  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1010 SECOND AVENUE, SUITE 1712  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101  
PHONE 238-1712

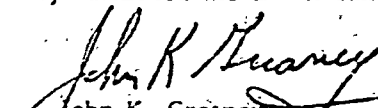
14-00000

24 October 75

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Joseph Raymond Merola

1. On 23 October, Mr. Robert Starling of DCD called to say that Matthew McVane (phonetic), a DCD officer who is stationed in Miami, Florida, had received a telephone call from a San Diego attorney saying that he was mailing a subpoena to him. The attorney, E. Mac Amos, Jr., is a member of the law firm of Holt, Rhodes and Hollywood at 1010 Second Avenue, San Diego, California 92101, telephone No. (AC 714) 238-1712. Mr. Amos advised Mr. McVane that the subpoena was for his appearance on behalf of Mr. Merola who was on trial in San Diego.
2. Mr. Starling indicated that the charges against Merola had something to do with exporting airplane parts without a license. I called Mrs. Clyde Bryant, Office of Munitions Control, Department of State, to determine if this prosecution was related to 22 U.S.C. 1934. Mr. Bryant called back and said that Merola was one of seven defendants being tried on criminal fraud charges for having engaged in a flimflam operation against the Salvadorian government. The scheme was to establish a facility in Salvador to assemble and service helicopters. The group had assembled a collection of Army surplus parts for helicopters and was in the process of shipping them without an export license and they were seized by U.S. Customs officers on 21 February 1974. Mr. Bryant indicated that the Assistant U.S. Attorney in San Diego in charge of the prosecution was a Mr. Robert Thaller, telephone No. (AC 714) 293-5668. Mr. Bryant also indicated that an individual by the name of Henry Maierhoffer was also one of the defendants and it was Mr. Bryant's recollection that Maierhoffer had some previous connection with CIA.
3. I called Mr. Starling and reported this information to him and he said that Mr. Merola was a real operator in the Miami area, always involved in some scheme to buy and sell weapons but that he had volunteered information to the DCD Office, some of which was useful. I asked Mr. Starling to have Mr. McVane call me when he got the subpoena but that he would not have to go unless they furnished the travel funds.

  
John K. Greaney  
Associate General Counsel

cc: Chief/DCD

Distribution - OVER

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET  
(When Filled In)

30 Jan 1975

## 201 File on U.S. Citizen

The 201 file on Marola (surname) (201 number indicated below)  
can be most accurately be categorized as indicated below:

- ☐ should be closed.
- ☐ witting collaborator. OI Code A1.
- ☐ potential witting collaborator; date opened \_\_\_\_\_ OI Code A2.
- ☐ former witting collaborator (relationship terminated). OI Code A3.
- ☐ potential witting collaborator never contacted (security reasons, derogatory information). OI Code A4.
- ☐ counterintelligence case (i.e., involving a foreign intelligence or security service). OI Code A5.
- ☒ all others. OI Code A6. ISR

Signed [Signature] C/LSN/ISR  
(name) (title) (component)

This assignment of category has been entered into STAR.

Signed [Signature] 1975  
(initials) (date)

This document in a permanent part of this file.

201- 257804

CONFIDENTIAL

E2 IMPDET  
CL BY 002216SECRET  
(When Filled In)



☐ UNCLASSIFIED☐ INTERNAL  
USE ONLY☐ CONFIDENTIAL☒ SECRET

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT (Optional)

REGISTRATION REQUEST

FROM

OPS/LSN/INTERAGENCY SOURCE REGISTER BU-5

EXTENSION

1064/  
5045

NO

ISRM

38175

DATE

10 DEC 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S  
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. IP/AIS  
HT-3

12/11

mnb

Hit!

2.

3. IP/EIB  
DW-7

17

JL

4.

5. IP/RMS  
DW-6

6.

7. IP/LDI  
GT-6

M

8.

9. LSN/LSR  
BU-5

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

FILE NO. 201-

0257804

DOCUMENT DATE

ABSTRACT

X

FORM  
3-61

610

USE PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS☒

SECRET

☐

CONFIDENTIAL

☐INTERNAL  
USE ONLY☐

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET (When Filled In)			
<i>NAC's Conducted</i> <i>July 1972 - FBI/P</i> <i>Oct 1972 - State/P</i> <i>CSCL-N</i> <i>DCDCI-N</i>  17 DEC 1974	ISR LOG	NAT. FILE NO.	DATE
	18 DEC 1974	NEW	RE-REGISTRATION
		UTILIZATION	RE-CHECK
		DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS SPACE	
		TO: <i>DCP</i>	TO: SECURITY
	TO:	TO:	
	ISRM NO.	201 NO.	
NAME			
FORM 1797 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS		SECRET 11 DEC 1974 (4-38)	

SECRET (When Filled In)			
<p>No Objection to Registration. DCS reserves the right to object in accordance with its policy in NSCID 2, DCID 2/3 and 2/3.1, and by mutual agreement if this intended use so requires.</p> <p>INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION DIVISION  Support Branch/Operational Support Section  Room 900, K-1 Building - ext. 2208</p>	ISR LOG	NAT. FILE NO.	DATE
	18 DEC 1974	NEW	RE-REGISTRATION
		UTILIZATION	RE-CHECK
		DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS SPACE	
		TO: <i>DCP</i>	TO: SECURITY
	TO:	TO:	
	ISRM NO.	201 NO.	
NAME			
FORM 1797 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS		SECRET (4-38)	

FORM 10-1 (Rev. 7-73)

SECRET

(When Filled In)

OPS/ISR 61-703  
2-1 3308 10015 79-5

REQUEST FOR REGISTRATION IN THE INTERAGENCY SOURCE REGISTER

REQUESTER: Daryl <del>XXXX</del> Geisler		LA/CARI	DATE SUBMITTED 9 Dec 1974
DEA	201-	257804	DATE RECEIVED IN ISR 9 Dec 74
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEW	<input type="checkbox"/> RE-REGISTRATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RE-CHECKED COPY OPERATIONS STAFF/DOO	UTILIZATION
NAME (Last, First, Middle) MEROLA, Joseph Raymond			
ALIASES AND/OR SPELLING VARIATIONS			SEX M
DATE OF BIRTH 9 Oct 1925	PLACE OF BIRTH NEW JERSEY	CITIZENSHIP U.S.	
RESIDENCE 135 Dupont Plaza, Miami, Fla			
PRESENT EMPLOYER		OCCUPATION Pilot	
ADDITIONAL IDENTIFYING DATA (including references) Based on LA/Miami 22730 IN 432300, 3 Dec 74 (attached) Traces sent DIRECTOR 630872, 6 Dec 74 (attached) Send cards to UFP 872 HVC HLB HTP			
IP/AIS TRACE RESULTS  FNIS LISTED REF me lat			
IP/EIB REMARKS (OUTGOING CABLE) NAI TO THAT KNOWN TO THE REQUESTER (630872)  16 DEC 1974 BT			
ISR REPLY TO REQUESTER:		DATE 18 Dec 74	ISRM NUMBER 39,170
<p>1. Nothing in addition to that <del>mk</del> known by the requester. <del>XXXX</del> For possible further information you are referred to the FBI and the Department of State.</p> <p>2. The ISR has no record of a current operational interest in <del>Subject</del> Subject who is hereby registered in the ISR to DEA Miami.</p> <p>EVB</p>			
SS:		<p>Classified by 002216 Exempt from general declassification schedule of E.O. 11652, exemption category: 2B(1), (2), (3) or 4 (circle one or more). Automatically declassified on _____ (unless impossible, insert date or event)</p>	
WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED			

FORM 1797 (Rev. 7-73)

SECRET



CABLE DEC DISSEM 8/14

PER Sep 10-3

TOTAL COPIES

15-1

FOR BY

SECRET

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ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

PERSON UNIT NOTIFIED

AGENCY COPY ISSUED & QTTD

8/14

BY A. A. 1133

STAFF

PRIORITY

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DDP, C/ICAN, C/OPS/NAR2, C/OPS

C/LSA/MI

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PAGE 01

IN 432300

TOR1032226Z DEC 74

LMIX 22730

SECRET 032214Z DEC 74 STAFF

CITE LA/MIAMI 22730

TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR,

RYBAT CUMHABYSS PBRAMPART

REF: UFPS-1727, 25 OCT 74

1. PLEASE PROVIDE PRIORITY TRACES ON THE FOLLOWING  
DEA NARCOTICS SOURCE AND REGISTER IN THE INTER-AGENCY  
SOURCE REGISTER (ISR):

JOSEPH RAYMOND M E R O L A

(201-257804)

DPOB: 9 OCT 25 IN NEW JERSEY

U.S. CITIZEN

OCCI PILOT

ADD: 135 DUPONT PLAZA, MIAMI, FL.

LOCATION OF USE: COLOMBIA AND HAITI

2. PER REF, ATT. NO. 2 PLS PROVIDE PRIORITY  
TRACES ON DEA NARCOTICS SOURCE

AND ADVISE IF REGISTERED IN

ISR.

3. FILE: 220-11-111 200-11-11/17. E2. IMPDET

1P 4/3  
Sec  
220 220

SECRET

Ruth  
Duch  
Daryl  
(Action)

S E C R E T

## DO DOCUMENT EXTRACT

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SUBJECT OF THIS 201  
DOSSIER HAS BEEN EXTRACTED FROM ANOTHER OFFICIAL DO FILE.  
PERSONS PERFORMING NAME TRACES ARE CAUTIONED THAT THE DOCU-  
MENT FROM WHICH THIS EXTRACT WAS PREPARED CONTAINS ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE SUBJECT AND SHOULD BE REQUESTED  
FROM LP/FILES.

MEROLA, JOSEPH RAYMOND

201-0257804

200-011-011/19

SEX M DOB 09 OCT 25

LHM-22730

POB USA, NJ

03 DEC 74

CIT USA

OCC PILOT

RES USA, FLA, MIAMI, 135 DUPONT PLAZA. TRACES  
DFA NARCS

DATE 05 MAR 75 CORR CARD

09231716

201-0257804

S E C R E T

E2 IMPDET CL BY 054979

14-00000

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

12 JUN 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Lucien E. Conein  
Acting Chief, Special Operations and  
Field Support Staff  
Office of Intelligence  
Drug Enforcement Administration

VIA: Mr. John Warner  
Chief, International Intelligence Division

SUBJECT: Name Trace

REFERENCE: Memorandum, Same Subject, SEC-IGI-74-0037,  
dated June 5, 1974

1. The matter of Joseph R. Merola (Reference) has been discussed between Mr. Richard Kobakoff of your office and Mr. Stanley Archenhold of this office. Mr. Merola has never worked for this Agency, although we are aware he has made such claims on a number of previous instances.

2. It is suggested that you contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation for information concerning Merola.

Seymour R. Bolten  
Seymour R. Bolten  
Special Assistant for  
Narcotics Control Operations

DONC 74-052

THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED ABROAD OR  
OUTSIDE THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE RECEIVING AGENCY  
WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE ORIGINATOR

EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF  
E. O. 11652, EXEMPTION CATEGORY: 5 B (2)  
DECLASSIFICATION DATE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE  
CLASSIFIED BY 003604

201-257804

SECRET

SECRET

DONC 74-052

DDO/OPS/NARCOG:S.Archenhold:el

COORDINATION: 5/ (622)  
WH/NARC

12 2 1974

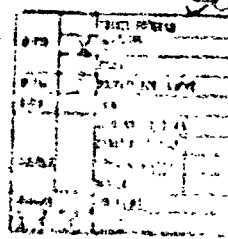
DATE

## Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Addressee  
1 - WH/NARC  
1 - 201-257804  
1 - DDO/NARCOG DONC File

SECRET

DEPT OF JUSTICE DOCUMENT  
DATE: 5 JUNE 1974  
SUBJECT: NAME TRACE  
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET  
FILE #: NONE GIVEN

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING ACTION		
		SECRET			
TO	Chief of Station, [redacted]	MARKED FOR INDEXING			
INFO		NO INDEXING REQUIRED			
FROM	Chief, Western Hemisphere Division	ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING			
[redacted]		MICROFILM			
ACTION REQUIRED REFERENCES					
<p>Headquarters requested LNERGO traces on Larry A. Carr, because of his business association with Joseph R. Merola. Trace results were negative.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MAD Marilyn A. DAKOSKI</p>					
<p>DISTRIBUTION: Orig. &amp; 1 - COS, [redacted]</p> <p>E2 IMPDET CL BY 031685</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RECORD COPY</p>					
CROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE			
	HSSH-3154	typed 1 April 1974			
	CLASSIFICATION	HQS FILE NUMBER			
	SECRET	✓ 201-257804			
<p>1 - Chrono 1 - IP/AN</p> <p><i>SL</i></p> 		ORIGINATING			
		OFFICE	OFFICE	TYPE	EXT
		WM/2/GS	Patti Burke	mll	1454
		COORDINATING		OFFICE'S NAME	
C/WM/2/GS		George Colman			
AC/WM/2		James M. Lawler			

DISPATCH

14-00000  
ATTN : Chief, WH/2  
David L. Smock

1-4-2849  
033-539-74  
22 March 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division

Joseph E. Harola

REF : Your Memorandum of 11 March 1974

1. For your information, subject has been a volunteer source since 1961. DCD is aware of his unsavory record, but he has from time-to-time produced information of interest.

2. DCD wishes to advise you, however, that we have broken off contact with Harola. Should he contact DCD again, we are obligated to listen politely, take down his information for transmittal to the appropriate area desk, and make absolutely no promises for future contact.

3. Please direct further inquiries to Mr. Evan B. Ames, DCD/Support Branch/Operational Support Section, Room 910, Key Building, extension 2263.

JACKSON R. BORTON

EVAN B. AMES/b  
cc: Services Branch (Control)

FILE: BH-25826

500

SECRET

EX-2 EXEMPT CL BY 010650

DEPT OF STATE DOCUMENT  
DATE: 19 MARCH 1974  
SUBJECT:

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL  
NO FILE # GIVEN

~~SECRET~~  
MEROLA



SECRET

11 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Domestic Collection Division  
ATTENTION: Mr. Shaun P. Ryan  
SUBJECT: Joseph R. MEROLA  
REFERENCE: HH 25826, 8 January 1974

1. On 10 January 1974 the WH/2/GS desk received the referenced memorandum from the Domestic Collection Division indicating the Miami field office had been in contact with one Joseph R. MEROLA. MEROLA had just returned from a business trip to El Salvador; and he reported that a friend of his had identified a Mr. Gremillion in the Political Section of the American Embassy in San Salvador as a suspect CIA representative. Headquarters traces on Joseph R. MEROLA indicated that on several occasions in the past MEROLA had claimed that he was a CIA agent. The Chief of Station, the Mr. Gremillion referred to above, was recently questioned regarding any Embassy contact with MEROLA while the latter was in San Salvador. The COS stated that both within the Embassy community and at social functions MEROLA had frequently referred to his contact with the CIA, past and present. He also volunteered this information to a former Station contact.

2. In light of the above, it would appear that MEROLA had taken advantage of his agency contacts in an inappropriate manner to the potential embarrassment of the San Salvador Station. We would, accordingly, appreciate that this be given due consideration in your assessment of the advantage of your continued contact with him.

David L. Smock  
C/WH/2

E2 IMPDET  
CL BY 509407

SECRET

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		
TO: <i>W H 2 GS-Patti</i>		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:  <i>Reply from State</i>		
FROM: <i>OPS / LSN</i>		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241  
1 FEB 53REPLACES FORM 34-8  
WHICH MAY BE USED

(47)

SPEED LETTER		REPLY REQUESTED	DATE
		<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	6 February 1974
TO : OPS/LIAISON		LETTER NO.	
ATTN:		FROM: WH/2/GS	
Patti Burke			WH/2/GS
SIGNATURE			
REPLY			DATE
			SIGNATURE

RETURN TO ORIGINATOR

DEPT OF STATE DOCUMENT (PASSPORT DIVISION)  
DATE: 20 FEBRUARY 1974  
SUBJECT:   
CLASSIFICATION: NONE  
FILE #: NONE

STATE DEPT DOCUMENTS:

DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 1974

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

NO FILE # GIVEN (DOC #: SAN SALV. 0568)

DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1974

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

NO FILE # GIVEN (DOC #: SAN SAL. 0048)

DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1974

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

NO FILE # GIVEN

DOCUMENT #: SAN SALVADOR 0448

ratti,

We have sent a private channel letter to the CCS on this matter, ~~noting that~~ asking at the end for comments as to whether MCROLA is "embarrassing" the Station of CIA generally by talking so much about his CIA connections. If his re-ly is in the affirmative, it will probably be best for you to draft a note to ~~DCD~~ DCD suggesting that he somehow be silenced, perhaps by their withdrawing from contact with them since it is obviously something that he brags about and otherwise tries to take advantage of

etc.

Matt MacVane, DCD officer in Miami, met with Joseph R. MEROLA on 15 January 1974; at which time MEROLA identified the friend in San Salvador who had identified Mr. Gremillion in the American Embassy in San Salvador as a CIA representative. ~~REDACTED~~ MEROLA also provided

Above is a note dated 24 January 1974 from Matti Burke, WH/2/GS/IA, based on information received orally from DCD.

SECRET

SPEED LETTER		REPLY REQUESTED		DATE
		YES	NO	23 January 1974
TO : Chief, WH/2/GS (3 B 4402 Hqs.)		FROM: DCD/SB/OSS SPRyan/ds		LETTER NO. OSS-172-74
ATTN: Patty Burke				
SUBJECT: Case 61401 - Joseph Merola				
<div></div>				
E-2 IMPDET CL 8 010650		SHAUN P. RYAN <i>Shaun P. Ryan</i> SIGNATURE		
REPLY		DATE		
<div></div>				
SECRET				
RETURN TO ORIGINATOR				



STATE DEPT DOCUMENT  
DATE: 22 JANUARY 1974  
SUBJECT:   
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL  
DOCUMENT #: SAN SALV 0256

☐ UNCLASSIFIED

☐ INTERNAL  
USE ONLY

☐ CONFIDENTIAL

☐ SECRET

### ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Case 61401 - CIA Operative

FROM DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION

EXTENSION

NO

Support Branch/Operational Support Section

Room 900, Key Building - ext. 2268

DATE

Mr. Shaun P. Ryan

18 January 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S  
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. WH/2/GS  
Attn. Patty Burke  
3 B 4402 ilqs.

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

The attached is for your  
information and possible  
interest.

(OSS-142-74)

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 00,022

FORM  
3-62

610

USE PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS

☐ SECRET

☐ CONFIDENTIAL

☐ INTERNAL  
USE ONLY

☐ UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET/SENSITIVE

OSS-142-74  
18 January 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Case 61401 - CIA Operative in El Salvador

REFS : A.) MIM-006-74, 4 January 1974  
B.) TWX DCD/Washington 98860, 16 January 1974  
C.) Ryan/MacVane telecon 16 January 1974  
D.) Ryan/MacVane telecon 17 January 1974  
E.) Ryan/Mainwaring telecon 17 January 1974  
F.) TWX DCD/Miami 12475, 17 January 1974  
G.) TWX DCD/Miami 12476, 17 January 1974

1. One of our sources in Miami, Joseph Merola, revealed the name and position of an individual reported to be an Agency official in El Salvador to Matt MacVane during the course of an interview on 21 December 1973. This was reported in MIM-006-74 4 January 1974. This report was forwarded to the El Salvador Desk on 8 January 1974. On 16 January 1974 the Desk requested that DCD obtain the name of the individual mentioned in this memorandum who said he knew a CIA officer in the Embassy. This request was passed by telecon and TWX to MacVane by Ryan on 16 January 1974. The El Salvador Desk also questioned the reliability of our source, Joseph Merola, at this time and requested we query Miami as to his reliability.

2. On 17 January 1974 at the request of MacVane, Ryan visited the El Salvador Desk to ascertain their objections to our source, known to us as a convicted felon. Desk objections stemmed from a 1964 report which indicated that Merola had informed persons that he was a "CIA agent". Further conversation elicited the fact that Merola had again made this statement in 1973 at an Embassy function. We advised the Desk that DCD was well aware of Merola's criminal background but that he had provided DCD with reliable reports in the past unrelated to his own "pursuits".

3. The El Salvador desk confirmed the fact that the individual mentioned by Merola's informant as being a CIA officer was in fact such. Ryan advised MacVane of this per telecon on 17 January 1974. MacVane and Mainwaring told Ryan they were sending two cables relating to this case. The first would provide the name of the person who reportedly knew the CIA official. The second provided the names of two women employed in the Embassy who were reportedly involved in

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

SECRET/SENSITIVE

**SECRET/SENSITIVE**

compromising situations with both Americans and local nationals. This latter cable was requested after the El Salvador desk officer advised that all avenues and possible leads were to be pursued to determine who leaked the information relating to the CIA official. These two names (phonetically spelled) were provided in the second cable by Miami. All of the information received in these cables was passed via secure phone to the El Salvador desk by Ryan upon receipt.

4. MacVane advised Ryan via telecon that he anticipated meeting with Joseph Merola at 1300 on 17 January to address further matters concerned with this case. MacVane advised Ryan that he would forward such information as soon as possible.

**SEAN P. RYAN**

cc: Miami Field Office  
cc: WH/2/CS  
cc: Sensitive Control Officer

**SECRET/SENSITIVE**

**SECRET**

**S E C R E T 171845Z JAN 74 STAFF**

**CITE DCD/MIAMI 12476**

**DCD/WASHINGTON**

**AITH: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (S.RYAN)**

**SUBJ: CASE 61481**

**REF : OOA(S) 322/82566-74**

**THE IDENTITIES OF THE TWO GIRLS WHO WERE THE SUBJECT OF  
OUR TELECON ARE:**

**NANCY SHALLOT**

**DELIA OBESA**

**BOTH SPELLINGS ARE PHONETIC, BUT SHOULD BE IDENTIFIABLE.**

**ONE IS SUPPOSEDLY SECRETARY TO MR. TAYLOR. E2 IMPDET CL BY 210658**

**S E C R E T**

**JAN 17 1 51 PM '74**

14-00000

**SECRET**

**S E C R E T 171845Z JAN 74 STAFF**

**CITE DCD/MIAMI 12476**

**DCD/WASHINGTON**

**ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/CSS (S.RYAN)**

**SUBJ: CASE 61421**

**REF : OOA(S) 322/02566-74**

**THE IDENTITIES OF THE TWO GIRLS WHO WERE THE SUBJECT OF  
OUR TELECON ARE:**

**NANCY SHALLOT**

**DELIA OBESA**

**BOTH SPELLINGS ARE PHONETIC, BUT SHOULD BE IDENTIFIABLE.**

**ONE IS SUPPOSEDLY SECRETARY TO MR. TAYLOR. E2 IMPDET CL BY 812652**

**S E C R E T**

JAN 17 1 51 PM '74

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SECRET

## STAFF

CONF: WNS

**SAVER-TIME GROUP**

1723068

**DIRECTOR**

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07/21/2011

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TO: PRIORITY  INFO WH/MIAMI.

REFS: A. [REDACTED] 20685 IN 134684\*

B. WH/MIAMI 20664 [IN 135313-8]

C. WH/MIAMI 20685 [IN 137730\*\*\*]

1. FOLLOWING INFO IN ADDITION TRACES REF B: JOSEPH RAYMOND

M E R O L A (201-257804). PER DBA 62712, 13 APR 64, SUBJ CLAIMED HE  
CIA AGENT AND ALLEGED CIA OBTAINED PRESIDENTIAL PARDON FIVE YEAR  
PRISON SENTENCE FOR RUNNING GUNS CUBA. IN ADDITION CLAIMED CIA  
ISSUED PASSPORT IN NAME MICHAEL JOSEPH M E R O L A FOR TRAVEL  
CENTRAL AMERICA.

2. PER HQS RECORDS, MEROLA NOT CIA AGENT, BUT HAS BEEN DCD CONTACT SINCE EARLY SIXTIES.

3. 21 DEC 73 MEROLA CONTACTED DCB MIAMI TO ADVISE HE RECENTLY SPOKE WITH FRIEND IN SAN SALVADOR WHO WORKS FOR ANSESAL. FRIEND ADVISED MEROLA NOT GO US EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR TO SEE A MAN NAMED GREMILLION BECAUSE GREMILLION, WHO US EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION OFFICER UNDER SURVEILLANCE ON SUSPICION OF BEING CIA REP SAN SALVADOR. MEROLA TOLD FRIEND HE NEITHER KNEW NOR WOULD HAVE CAUSE TO

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CL BY: 031685

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PAGE 82 OF 2

CLASSIFICATION  
**SECRET**

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

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502254

SEE SUCH A MAN. FRIEND TOLD MEROLA HE ONLY TELLING HIM FOR HIS OWN GOOD BECAUSE IF MEROLA SAW GREMILLION, MEROLA WOULD BECOME A SUSPECT CIA AGENT AS WELL.

4. DCD MIAMI RECONTACTED MEROLA 15 JANUARY DETERMINE ABOUT IDENTITY "FRIEND" IN SAN SALVADOR. FRIEND IDENTIFIED AS GUILLERMO R O BFE D E R, PRESIDENT INSATI, MARRIED TO SECRETARY AT US EMBASSY, CURRENTLY ON MATERNITY LEAVE.

5. MEROLA TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO AT MTG WITH DCD MIAMI 17 JAN 74. WILL ADVISE.

6. FILE: 201-257804. E2 IMPDET.H

WH COMMENT: \*REQUESTED HQS TRACES JOSEPH MEROLA, WHO CLAIMED TO BE AERONAUTICAL CONSULTANT WITH PATTERSON AIRCRAFT COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA

\*\*WH/MIAMI TRACE REPLY

\*\*\*NEGATIVE SLIGO BTRACES

DATE: 17 JAN 74  
 ORIG: PATTI BURKE  
 UNIT: WH/2/GS  
 EXT: 1868

EDCD (DRAFT)  
 WH/PERMS W. LAYBOURNE (DRAFT)  
 C/WH/COG O. BATHE (DRAFT)

*James E. Hamner*  
 C/WH/2

*David H. Smith*  
 C/WH/2

**SECRET**

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PAGE 01-21

IM 137730

TOR1151451Z JAN 74

WMIM 28685

S E C R E T 142112Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE WH/MIAMI 28685

TO:                    INFO DIRECTOR.REF: A.                   

28685 (W 134284)

B. WH/MIAMI 28684

(W 135313)

1. NO ADDITIONAL SLIGO TRACES ON JOSEPH M E R O L A.

2. FILE: 288-11-11/3. E-2, IMPDET.

S E C R E T

Hufy C

11/21

CL	_____
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STATE DEPT DOCUMENT  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HELICOPTER/AIRCRAFT PLANT  
DATE: 17 JANUARY 1974  
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL  
DOCUMENT #: SAN SALVADOR CC193  
NO FILE # GIVEN.

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PAGE 21

135313

TOR:112119Z JAN 74

WMIM 28664

S E C R E T 112059Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE WH/MIAMI 20664

TO: [REDACTED] INFO DIRECTOR.

REF: [REDACTED] 20664 (ZWN 134684)

1. JOSEPH R. M E R O L A, DPOB 9 OCT 1925,  
TURTLE CREEK, PA, STATION CARDS FROM PERIOD 1959-1963  
INDICATE HE EX-CONVICT, NOTORIOUS SMUGGLER, GUNRUNNER AND  
GENERAL TROUBLE-MAKER. CARDS TO LNERGO REPORTS INDICATE HE  
WAS INVOLVED IN PANAMA INVASION PLAN IN 1959, AND IN  
HAITIAN INVASION PLANS IN 1958 AND 1963. IN 1959,  
HE WAS UNDER INDICTMENT IN PA, FOR INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION  
OF STOLEN ARMS. IN 1960, HE WAS PRINCIPAL IN  
PROPOSED CUBAN COUNTERFEIT PESO DEAL. LNERGO WAS CONTACTED  
IN 1961, AND INDICATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE  
HAD LONG RECORD, HE UNDOUBTEDLY COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY  
ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. ALSO IN 1961, HE WAS INTERESTED  
IN PROVIDING CONTRABAND WHISKY TO A CHILIAN  
SENATOR, AND ATTEMPTED HAVE LIFTED "TRAVEL RESTRICTION"  
WHICH PLACED ON HIM AFTER CONVICTION FOR ENTERING CLADESTINELY  
BRINGING IN TO U.S. THE SON OF AN AMERICAN LIAISON

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		TUR 112119Z JAN 74		WHIN 20664	

FULGENCIO BATISTA, OR FOR CHARGE THAT HE INVOLVED IN THEFT OF GUNS FROM NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY.

2. SUBJECT NOT LISTED 1973 MIAMI TELEPHONE BOOK. LATEST ADDRESS IN CARDS IS: 2218 NORTH BAY RD, MIAMI BEACH, FLA. HE WAS VISITED AT THIS ADDRESS IN 1961 BY MBR OF SLIGO ORGANIZATION, WHO DESCRIBED HOME AS "PALATIAL".

3. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO RECENT INFO ON SUBJECT, SUGGEST THAT HIS PLANS ESTABLISH HELICOPTER PLANT IN SAN SALVADOR MAY HAVE SHADY SIDE, POSSIBLY SMUGGLING ARMS OR LUCRATIVE NARCOTICS TRAFFIC.

4. SINCE SUBJ IS U.S. CIT, REQUEST AGOVE INFO NOT BE PASED. LIAISON OR OTHER U.S. GOVT AGENCIES WITHOUT HQS APPROVAL.

5. WILL FORWARD PERTINENT SLIGO TRACES.

6. FILE: 280-11-11/3, E-2, IMPDET.

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PAGE 01-01

IN 134684

TOR:111322Z JAN 74

S E C R E T 102325Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE SAN SALVADOR 20685

TO: DIRECTOR INFO WH/MIAMI.

1. REQUEST TRACES ON MR. JOSEPH R. MEROLA, AGE 48,

*K* BORN PENNSYLVANIA, RESIDENCE QS MIAMI SHORES, FLORIDA.  
MEROLA CLAIMS BE AERONAUTICAL CONSULTANT WITH PATTERSON  
AIRCRAFT COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA. HE SUPPOSEDLY TRYING  
NEGOTIATE DEAL TO ESTABLISH HELICOPTER PLANT EL SALVADOR.  
DURING TALKS AT SOCIAL PARTIES WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL HE  
INDICATED PREVIOUS WORK WITH BKHERALD.

2. FILE: DEFER. E2 IMPDET

*\* Svc'd*

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201-357,814  
11 JAN 74

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

CIA Operative in [redacted]  
FROM: DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION  
Support Branch, Operational Support Section  
Room 900, Key Building - ext. 2263  
Mr. Shaun P. Ryan

EXTENSION

NO

HH-25826

DATE

8 January 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. C/WH/2/GS  
Attn. Kathy Kaurer  
3 B 4402 Hqs.

10 JAN 1974

11/20

CH 11/20

The attached Memorandum HHM-006-74, is for your interest and retention. Please advise us at your earliest convenience of any additional interest or requirements in this matter. Thank you.

cc: CI/OP/WH

2.

3.

DC/WH/2

11 JAN 1974

4.

5.

C/WH/2

11 JAN 1974

11 Jan.

6.

C/WH/2/GS

7.

WH/2/GS/Patti

8.

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12.

13.

14.

15.

- action -  
(a) pls call DCD to find out who Metolayer - job, etc.  
ask them to find out who the secret service man is  
(c) then send message file to FYI to Station.

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 007623

3:50G Suggest in change the matter.

FORM 610 (USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS) ☐ SECRET ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY ☐ UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT . CONFIDENTIAL

# Memorandum

MEM-006-74

TO : Chief, Domestic Collection Division  
ATTN : Support Branch/OSS (JGross)  
FROM : Chief, Miami Field Office

DATE: 4 January 1974

SUBJECT: CIA Operative in El Salvador

*MURAWSKI??*

*okayed  
by VEB  
Granville  
pol action*

1. Joe Merola contacted the Miami Office on 21 December 1973 to explain that he recently had spoken with a friend of his in San Salvador, El Salvador. The friend, who allegedly works for the El Salvadoran Secret Service, told Merola that when he (Merola) comes to El Salvador not to go to the US Embassy to see a man named Vermillion. The friend told Merola that Vermillion is the Commercial Attache at the embassy and is under surveillance because he is suspected of being the CIA man in San Salvador. Merola told his friend that he did not know a man named Vermillion, nor would he ever have cause to see such a man. The friend then told Merola that he was only telling him for his own good, and that if he (Merola) were to see this Vermillion that Merola would become a suspected CIA agent as well.

2. Merola said that he was passing this information to us in case we did indeed have a man in San Salvador by the name of Vermillion. Merola has been a contact of the Miami Field Office for some ten years, and during that period he has passed to this office some very reliable information.

*Bruce E. Mainwaring*  
BRUCE E. MAINWARING

*MM*  
NCMacVane:pav

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650



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