

SECRET/RYBAT

WH/COG 67-194

MEMORANDUM FOR: ADDP
C/CI/R & A (Mr. Rocca)

SUBJECT : Garrison and The Kennedy Assassination

REFERENCE : CI/R & A Memorandum Dated 26 April 1967

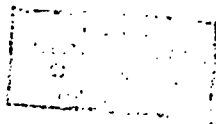
1. In response to reference memorandum, WH/Cuban Operations Group has endeavored to provide all available information on individuals and organizations requested in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of reference. Attachment 1 contains background information and biographic data on individuals obtained from WH/COG and JMWAVE files. Attachment 2 summarizes the background information and Agency association with the organizations listed in paragraph 5 of reference.

2. WH/COG will continue to review all material that may contain information pertinent to this subject and will forward such information to CI/R & A on a priority basis.

Earl J. Williamson
AC/WH/COG

Attachment 1
Bio data on individuals

Attachment 2
Background summary of FRD, DRE, INCA



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Attachment 1

Sergio Vicente ARCACHA Smith (Enclosure 2 of reference memorandum)

DPOB: 22 January 1923, Cuba

1. Traces on ARCACHA do not reflect the date he first arrived in the U.S. However, he became the FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIO DEMOCRATICO (FRD) delegate in New Orleans prior to the Bay of Pigs invasion and continued in that position until the FRD ceased to function. The FRD was the predecessor of the CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, and was organized and supported by the Agency. The organization was used as a front for recruitment of Brigade 2506 for the invasion. During this period ARCACHA reported to the FRD headquarters in Miami through a post office box in Coral Gables, and reportedly maintained extensive relations with the New Orleans FBI and Immigration offices. Two of his regular FBI contacts were a Mr. De Bruce and the deceased Guy Banister.

2. ARCACHA was also one of the promoters of the FRIENDS OF DEMOCRATIC CUBA, INC (FDC) which was incorporated in New Orleans on 6 January 1961. This organization was ostensibly created by several New Orleans business and political figures, including the deceased former FBI agent, Guy Banister, to collect money to aid Cubans in their fight against Communism. According to the articles of incorporation, these donations would also be used to support the FRD and the funds were to be channeled through ARCACHA, less a percentage to be retained by the FDC. An investigation conducted by a reliable Miami Station asset concluded that the FDC was organized strictly for the personal gain of the promoters with the approval and collaboration of ARCACHA. The investigation produced no evidence that any individual donations were ever solicited or received and recommended that the funds of the Stevedores Union and the books of the New Orleans Exporters Company be investigated for evidence of personal gain and possible evidence of federal tax evasion, since both the president of the New Orleans Exporters Company, Gerard F. Tuñague, and the Chief of New Orleans Stevedores Union, Alfred Chittenden, were officials of the FDC. Approximately one month after the FDC was created, strong criticism from some prominent Cubans put the organization out of business.

3. Information in an immigration card reflects that ARCACHA travelled to Caracas, Venezuela at an unspecified date. His address in Venezuela was HOTEL TIUNA, Caracas, and his US address was listed as 4523 Duplesses Street, New Orleans. Passport No. 00433.

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4. Background information on the FDC and ARCACHA's connection with the organization was forwarded to the FBI in CSCI-3/764, 414, dated 30 March 1961. Other sources of the above summary of information on ARCACHA are; DBF-66955, 13 January 1961; DBF-91759, 11 October 1961; DBF-92355, 18 October 1961; CSCI-316/-3737-65; and UFGA-929, 22 February 1961.

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Carlos BRINGUER (Enclosure 6 of reference memorandum)

Carlos BRINGUER is a brother of Juan Felipe BRINGUER Esposito, a former member of Brigade 2506 who was captured during the invasion. The personal history statement in Juan BRINGUER's 201 file states his brother Carlos, a lawyer in Cuba, was 26 years old at the time of Juan's recruitment in 1960.

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Edward S. BUTLER (Paragraph 7 (A) of reference memorandum)

In January 1965 Subject's organization (INCA), sponsored the New Orleans appearance of Juanita CASTRO shortly after her arrival in the US. INCA had a particular interest in Miss CASTRO since they distributed hundreds of tapes containing Miss CASTRO's declarations when she was surfaced in Mexico. (A JMWAVE asset) who is Miss CASTRO's business manager, handled the planning and arrangements for the New Orleans visit with INCA officials. The only subsequent contact between (the JMWAVE asset) and Edward BUTLER occurred when BUTLER was recently in Miami promoting the INCA film on "CASTRO-HITLER in HAVANA". See Attachment 2 for a summary of the INCA organization.

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Albert FOWLER (Paragraph 7(B) of reference memorandum)

DPOB: 15 July 1929, New Orleans, Louisiana

1. Subject is Alberto Casimir FOWLER Perillait, a member of Brigade 2506 who was captured during the invasion and returned to the US in the December 1962 prisoner exchange.

2. FOWLER apparently returned to Cuba with his parents during his early life and returned to the US to attend school in his late teens. He attended the Lenox School, Lenox, Massachusetts, 1948-49; Louisiana State University 1949-51. After his graduation from LSU he returned to Cuba and married Margarita Paulette Van der SCHUEREN, born 13 August 1933, Brussels, Belgium. FOWLER was President of the North American Sugar Company, Havana, from 1951 until he returned to the US in November 1960 and enlisted in Brigade 2506. At the time of his enlistment he gave Mark FOSTER, Cuban Refugee Center White House Representative, and former US Ambassador William D. PAULEY, as references. Following his release from prison FOWLER worked for the BRAHMS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, Palm Beach, Florida, where his father resides, and for BROOKS TRAVEL SERVICES, W. Palm Beach, Florida, until at least late 1964. He apparently lost his US citizenship during his years of residence in Cuba and immigration records indicate he applied for advance parole status in November 1964 while he was still employed in W. Palm Beach. He apparently returned to Louisiana sometime after that date. FOWLER's mother lives in Covington, Louisiana, and he has a sister who is married to Fort PIPES, Jr., member of a prominent New Orleans family.

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Lawrence J. LABORDE, 201-294688

1. On 11 May 1967 the headquarters office of the Domestic Contacts Service telephoned the C/CI/R&A and said that Subject had telephoned the New Orleans office of the DCS that day. Subject said that he was an ex-CIA employee, that he feared that D.A. Jim GARRISON would subpoena him, that he was willing to leave the U.S. to avoid a subpoena, and that he wanted the office to tell him what to do.

2. A review of Subject's file has led to the hypothesis that this visit may have been a provocation, probably engineered by GARRISON in an attempt to trap CIA into advising Subject to leave Louisiana. Had such advice been given, GARRISON would have been able to buttress his charge that CIA is attempting to obstruct the course of justice in New Orleans.

3. The Miami Station requested a provisional covert security approval for Subject on 14 March 1961. The request was granted on 24 March 1961. (A PCSA approves contact for spotting and assessing only.) However, a 31 March 1961 cable from Miami requested permission to increase Subject's salary to \$700 a month and to pay him bonuses.

4. A Headquarters dispatch of 23 March 1962 warned Miami that Subject was indiscreet, drank too much, and had an unsavoury reputation. On 20 April 1962 Miami cancelled the request for an approval, on the grounds that Subject was a poor security risk. Subject had no later relationship with the Agency. Subject was bitter about his CIA contacts when terminated and made reckless threats.

5. An FBI report of 23 May 1962 said Subject had contacted representatives of the Cuban Revolutionary Council (CRC, Agency-created and supported) in New Orleans, his home town; had offered his services; and had said he was running a boat out of Key West, smuggling Cubans and guns with the knowledge of CIA.

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6. A Miami report of June 1962 said that Subject was employed 1947-1949 in Mexico by the U.S. Department of Agriculture but was fired for excessive drinking, discharging unauthorized firearms, and non-support of dependent children.

7. The New Orleans States-Item of 28 July 1962 named Subject as the source of bitterly anti-CIA remarks in a story which praises LABORDE as a "good family man, completely reliable", and quotes a Cuban refugee leader as saying that CIA and FBI agents termed Subject a man of integrity. An anti-CIA article in the Denver Post of 3 June 1962 also appears to be based on statements from LABORDE.

8. FBI reporting of August 1962 stated that LABORDE had duped certain persons into buying a schooner, the Elsie Reichart, by saying that he and a crew would operate it for Cuban operations which the U.S. Government could not openly acknowledge but for which it would pay handsomely.

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Carlos QUIROGA (Paragraph 7(C) of reference memorandum)

Subject is possibly identifiable with Carlos QUIROGA, a former student at Louisiana State University who was a candidate for the Agency Student Recruitment Program. This involved recruitment of Cuban students in the US who would return to Cuba as agents in place. JMWAVE traces reflect an individual of the same name was an electrical engineer, residing at 3134 Derby Place, New Orleans, in December 1964. Subject reportedly had homosexual tendencies, low morals, and until the middle of 1961 was an ardent CASTRO supporter and made anti-US statements. There is no indication that a Carlos QUIROGA was ever employed by the Agency in any capacity.

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([REDACTED])
Julian BUZNEDO (Enclosure 8 of reference memorandum)

DPOB: 16 February 1940, Havana, Cuba

Subject is apparently identifiable with Julian BUZNEDO Castellanos, who arrived in the US on 10 November 1960 and enlisted in Brigade 2506. He was a civilian pilot in Cuba and served on the invasion craft BARBARA J. BUZNEDO was captured and released in the prisoner exchange. (There is no indication he was ever employed by the Agency, other than his participation in the invasion.

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Gordon Duane NOVEL (Enclosure 19 of reference memorandum)

There is no record of Subject in WH/Cuban Operation Group files or JMWAVE files. JMWAVE cited the article on NOVEL which appeared in the MIAMI HERALD on 26 April 1967, which is available in CI/R & A, and is in the process of conducting an exhaustive search for traces on the cover organizations NOVEL claimed to operate for the Agency in New Orleans.

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Miguel Silva TORRES (Enclosure 23 of reference memorandum)
(also traced under Miguel SILVA Torres)

There is no record of Subject under either name in WH/COG
or JMWAVE files.

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DIRECTORIO REVOLUCIONARIO ESTUDIANTIL (DRE)
(STUDENT REVOLUTIONARY DIRECTORATE)

1. The DRE was conceived, created and funded by the Agency in September 1960 and terminated in December 1966. It was an outgrowth of the activist student group in Cuba which fought against BATISTA and later against CASTRO. Many of the leaders came into exile around September 1960 and were subsequently trained and infiltrated into Cuba by the Agency in late 1960 where they operated by obtaining intelligence setting up action teams, etc., up through the Bay of Pigs invasion. While the DRE was initially set up as a psych warfare outfit, the organization was given a large amount of paramilitary aid in funds and material. After the Bay of Pigs, the DRE engaged in independent military actions, which declined at Agency direction and because of a reduction in funds from late 1962 until termination of the group. Members were used through 1966 as political action agents, for publishing propaganda which was sent throughout the Hemisphere, attending international student meetings at Agency direction, and producing radio programs and special propaganda campaigns.

2. After the cutback in military operations, many of the best DRE members relocated in other areas. At present there are delegations in most Latin American countries which have maintained some contact with various Agency stations over the years although the DRE is no longer very active. During the organization's 6 year period of active existence DRE personnel were in contact with several JMWAVE staffers and outside contract agents. However, from January 1965 through December 1966, contact with DRE personnel was limited to two agents, Juan Manuel SALVAT, the current DRE Secretary General who is now operating a bookstore in Miami, Florida, and Fernando GARCIA Chacon who was relocated in El Salvador.

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THE INFORMATION COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS, INC. (INCA)

1. INCA is an anti-Communist propaganda organization with headquarters in New Orleans, that disseminates English and foreign language propaganda tapes and films on a world-wide basis, conducts public forums of an extremist political nature, etc. The organizational impetus and funds apparently come from wealthy New Orleans figures including Dr. Alton OCHSNER, of the OCHSNER CLINIC, and Willard E. ROBERTSON. In recent years funds have been supplied by the SCHICK SAFETY RAZOR COMPANY. An INCA letterhead listing all the officers and officials has been requested from JMWAVE, which has had some casual correspondence with the organization concerning Miss Juanita CASTRO.

2. There is no indication of any Agency relationship with INCA prior to January 1965 when INCA sponsored Miss CASTRO's appearance in New Orleans. At that time an Agency asset who functioned as Miss CASTRO's business manager was involved with INCA officials in planning the New Orleans visit where Miss CASTRO was given an award at a dinner sponsored by INCA. The dinner, which was attended by civic leaders and representatives of all news media, took place shortly after Miss CASTRO's defection and there was considerable interest in her appearance. INCA was particularly interested since it had distributed hundreds of English and Spanish language tapes containing her statements when she was surfaced in Mexico. In October 1966 INCA again requested that Miss CASTRO appear as a guest speaker in major American cities in connection with the release of the INCA motion picture production "HITLER IN HAVANA". Following various reviews of the film, JMWAVE decided the film would probably become controversial and it would be inadvisable to permit Miss CASTRO to accept the invitation. Because of INCA's extremist political orientation, JMWAVE has wanted to avoid any more involvement between Miss CASTRO and INCA and the Station asset, in his capacity as business manager, has managed to prevent this. There has been only one casual contact between our asset and Edward BUTLER, Executive Vice-President of INCA, since Miss CASTRO's 1965 New Orleans trip. This took place recently when BUTLER was in the area promoting the "HITLER IN HAVANA" film.

3. According to JMWAVE, INCA officials have never indicated in any way that they are aware of Agency control and direction of Miss CASTRO or her business agent, and there is no indication that INCA officials have had any official contact with Agency officers.

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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIO DEMOCRATICO (FRD)
(CUBAN DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY FRONT)

1. The FRD was created with Agency assistance, guidance and financial support in May 1960 and consisted of several anti-CASTRO groups. The FRD was formed as a political action, propaganda and military unit. Initial actions consisted of extensive radio and printed propaganda, demonstrations, and trips throughout the Hemisphere to gain support for the fight against CASTRO. The FRD also functioned as the front organization for recruiting the members of the Bay of Pigs invasion force and carried out a massive program of social assistance to Brigade 2506 members in training camps and their families. Although the FRD headquarters were based in Miami, delegates were assigned to other areas which included New Orleans, Louisiana, Tampa, Florida, and Mexico City, to gather intelligence and coordinate Cuban refugee activities.

2. In late 1960 or early 1961 the CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (CRC) was formed to coordinate and direct FRD activities and this group was headed by Agency and White House sponsored Dr. Jose MIRO Cardona, assisted by Manuel ARTIME and Dr. Antonio VARONA. Both the FRD and the CRC continued to function until October 1961 when the FRD was completely absorbed by the CRC in order to avoid the confusion resulting from duplication of personnel, activities and funding. The CRC also had direct access to President Kennedy and top White House aides. Because of the magnitude of the FRD and CRC operations and the Agency participation in the activities and funding of the groups, a large number of JMWAVE and Headquarters were directly involved with both FRD and CRC personnel.

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