104-10506-10021 2022 RELEASE UNDER THE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION RECORDS ACT OF 1992

SECRET

November 1976

SUBJECT: Byron CAMERON (No 201)

U.S. citizen

1. Owner of vessel Cayman Hope.

2. a. UFGA 15233 dated 15 April 1964: (Filed with AMCANOE Op)

Report on a Byron CAMERON who said he represented an unidentified group of persons who had made contact with two Cuban gangsters who were willing to kill Fidel CASTRO. CAMERON reportedly was associated with a Mr. S.W. TYLER (no identifiable traces) of Caribbean Producer, Inc., Miami Springs, Fla., and Herbert F. JENNE (no traces) with the firm F.A. Johnson, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

b. UFGA 15954 dated 11 May 1964: (Filed with AMCANOE op)

CAMERON mentioned contact with unidentified group willing to assassinate selected Cuban leaders: Fidel CASTRO, Raul CASTRO and Che GUEVARA. CAMERON made fairly clear that the Mafia was involved.

c. HJKA-161 dated 1 March 1963 - 103-8-1

Dispatch from Kingston to Hqs. forwarding a report from [redacted] on the M/V Cayman Hope, its crew and owner (CAMERON). Stated that the Embassy had received a report from the Treasury Department which indicated heightened interest in the activities of Mr. Byron R. CAMERON.

d. WAVE 4993 (IN 26174) dated 19 Nov 64 19-6-104-4

CAMERON was sub-source for shipping information provided to Agency by AMWAX-1. Said that cargo vessel "SS New Providence" owned by Norbert Thompson of the Kel Farm Supply Company, was known to load merchandise in Miami, Fla., which was transshipped to Cuba.

1/mc

e. DBA 77673 (FB) dated 15 July 64 (Filed 19-9-9)

Plan of Cuban exile leaders to assassinate selected Cuban Government leaders. Cuban exile approached on 2 Mar 64 by owner of whip which sailed under British flag. Had contacts with underworld through partner who was former police officer from St. Louis with "tie-in" to elements of "Cosa Nostra." Cost was $100,000.00 to kill Fidel CASTRO; $20,000.00 each for Raul CASTRO and "Che" GUEVARA. Persons involved were Byron CAMERON, owner of M.V. "Cayman Hope," Teofilo BABUN Francos, co-owner of Antillean Marine Shipping Corp. and two BABUN employees: Oscar FERNANDEZ Veigo and Eliseo GOMEZ Fernandez, Jose "Pepin" BOSCH, and Julio LOBO Olavarria. Eduardo GARCIA of Garcia Lines, NYCity, also in contact with LOBO and BABUN.

LAD/JFK Task Force

13-00000

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

PRIORITY | PROCESSING

TO: Chief, WH Division (Attn: Chief, Task Force W)

INFO:

FROM: Chief of Station, Kingston

SUBJECT: Transmittal of [RUABBE] Raw Report on M/V Cayman Hope

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

ref: KNOS-0219, HJKA-114, KNOS-0398

1. To avoid delay the attached raw [RUABBE] report concerning the M/V Cayman Hope, its crew and owner is forwarded without further processing as a matter of current interest and timeliness in view of referenced KNOS-0398. The report was provided by [RUABBE] on 28 February 1963 after it had been shown to COS, who expressed interest in receiving it.

2. [RUACID-1] will continue to follow this matter in Montego Bay as will [RUABBE].

3. The Embassy has received a report from the Treasury Department, which indicates heightened interest in the activities of Mr. Byron R. Cameron.

4. RI: please card all names in attached report.

Oliver R. Bynam

OLIVER R. BYNAM

Attachment:
report

Distribution:
4 -- Hqs (w/att)

DATE TYPED	DATE DISPATCHED
1 March 1963	1 March 1963

CROSS REFERENCE TO:

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER: HJKA-161

CS COPY

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

HEADQUARTERS FILE NUMBER: 103-8-1

5/kmc

Date 27 November, 1962.

JAMAICA - MONTEGO BAY

SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AT THE MONTEGO BAY YACHT CLUB

10. Reference in report from book B, pages 2413 to 2414, paragraphs 1 - 4 dated 11 October, 1962, it is further reported that the M/V Carmen Mana arrived at Montego Bay and docked at Kerr & Company Wharf at about 0800 hours 22 November, 1962. It sailed on the return trip to Fort Lauderdale, Miami, at 1500 hours same day.

2. It brought a small cargo as under:-

(a) Tiles and bath for Fairfield Hotel;

(b) Chemicals for Mr. LANGLEY of Pest Control;

(c) A small boat for Mr. Frank LETTLEY.

3. As far as can be ascertained it sailed with no cargo but a small amount of whisky.

4. It is reported that John LARSEN to whom previous reports refer in connection with the supply of foodstuffs on this boat to Cubans, is the local [redacted]. LARSEN met the boat at sea on its arrival. After it was docked and processed, he left in town accompanied by Mr. & Mrs. Bryon R. CAMERON (Americans), owners of the vessel. He returned later in the day and boarded the vessel. He again left and returned with the CAMERONS and left at about 1445 hours after having discussions with the Master of the Vessel to whom he handed a letter.

5. Following are members of the crew:-

(a) William D. FRANKS, (Master) 39 Yrs. British;

(b) Joscelyn M. RIVERS, (mate) 36 yrs;

(c) Reginald HARRIS (1st. Engineer) 59 yrs;

(d) Geo. H. HURLSTON (2nd. Engineer) 2- years;

SECRET

(e) Neville [illegible] (Steward) [illegible] years

(f) Spencer [illegible] (Seaman) [illegible] years

(g) Clifton [illegible] (Seaman) [illegible] years

(h) Sterling [illegible] (Seaman) [illegible] years.

6. The vessel is expected to make fortnightly trips to Montego Bay.

13-00000

S E C R E T 182221Z NOV 19 02312 64 IN 76174

DIR INFO RACY MARR LOND CITE WAVE 9993 [illegible] AND CONTINUE [illegible]

20-4 20-1

[INTEL TYPIC

SUPDATA: AMWAX-1 IN REPORT DTD 10 NOV 64, SUBSOURCE IS U.S. CITIZEN BYRON CAMERON, OWNER OF VESSEL CAYMAN HOPE. PLS PROTECT. MHVIPER INTEREST. ADDITIONAL FIELD COMMENTS BASED AMOT EE-1835 AND BARR 1173.

RID: PLS INDEX. FILED 182221Z]

REPORT CLASS SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM CONTROLLED DISSEM

COUNTRY: CUBA/UNITED KINGDOM/UNITED STATES

SUBJ: TRANSSHIPMENT OF CARGO FOR CUBA

DOI: PRIOR TO 10 NOVEMBER 1964

PADA: UNITED STATES, MIAMI (16 NOVEMBER 1964)

UFG-6228

19 NOV 64

SOURCE: A CUBAN EXILE WITH EXCELLENT CONTACTS IN THE ANTILLEAN MARINE

19-6-104/4

13-000

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

FROM:

ACTION: JAN 22 9 08 AM '65

INFO:

PAGE 2 IN 26174

SHIPPING CORPORATION. THE INFORMATION IS FROM THE OWNER OF A VESSEL ENGAGED IN CARIBBEAN SHIPPING;

NY COMMENT.

TDCS

ROUTINE | PRIORITY

BASED ON:

RELEASING OFFICER:

DATE DISTRIBUTED:

LIAISON:

SECRET

13-00

SOURCE

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL

REF

IN 26174

FIELD REPORT NO.

1. AS OF 10 NOVEMBER 1964, CREWMEN OF A CARGO VESSEL OPERATING IN THE MIAMI AREA SAID THAT (THE CARGO VESSEL "SS NEW PROVIDENCE") OWNED BY NORBERT THOMPSON OF THE KEL FARM SUPPLY COMPANY, WAS KNOWN TO LOAD MERCHANDISE IN MIAMI, FLORIDA, WHICH WAS TRANSSHIPPED TO CUBA. THE VESSEL DECLARED AN UNSPECIFIED PORT ON GRAND CAYMAN, A BRITISH POSSESSION SOUTH OF CUBA, AS HER POINT OF DESTINATION. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE PORT, HER CARGO WAS UNLOADED ONTO THREE CARRIERS, THEN SHE SAILED TO A PORT AT THE END OF THE ISLAND AND RELOADED THE MERCHANDISE WHICH WAS THEN SHIPPED TO PORTS IN ORIENTE PROVINCE, CUBA.

2. THE CREWMEN DESCRIBED ONE SHIPMENT CONSISTING OF 3,000 AUTOMO-

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET

STATE/INR DIA ARMY/ACSI NAVY AIR JCS SECDEF NSA NIC AID USIA OCI ONI OCR ORR OO

FORM 1-64 1389 OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS [redacted] RI COPY [redacted] RI COPY [redacted]

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OILE BATTERIES WHICH WAS A CARGO FOR THE "NEW PROVIDENCE" DESTINED FOR GRAND CAYMAN. IT IS KNOWN THAT THERE ARE NOT MORE THAN 300 AUTOMOBILES ON THE ISLAND.

3. FIELD COMMENT: ACCORDING TO LLOYD'S SHIPPING REGISTER, THE "SS NEW PROVIDENCE" HAS BEEN UNDER THE BRITISH REGISTRY OF SHANGRI-LA LTD, NASSAU, SINCE 1964. A CUBAN EXILE GROUP REPORTED THE OWNER OF THE VESSEL AS MAUSCAR RODRIGUEZ HERRERA, A DOMINICAN, PRESIDENT OF INTER ISLAND SHIPPING CORPORATION, AS OF 25 SEPTEMBER 1969. NORBERT THOMPSON COULD NOT BE POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED.

4. FIELD DISSEM: CINCSO, CINCLANT, COMMESTFOR, MIAMI REPS OF STATE, BORDER PATROL, CUSTOMS, COAST GUARD, FBI. (ALSO SENT [LONDON])

15-1

Alleged owner of SS New Providence - cargo ship

Supposedly transporting cargo to Cuba

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET