

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : INSCOM/CSF  
RECORD NUMBER : 194-10001-10491  
RECORDS SERIES : FOREIGN PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATIONS  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : AB632604W - PAGES 14-66  
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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : JOSEPH C. BALL  
TO :  
TITLE : BUREAU FILE NUMBER 105-176716  
DATE : 04/17/68  
PAGES : 53  
SUBJECTS : ROMERODELGADO, EPIFANIO

EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : ~~SECRET~~  
RESTRICTIONS : 1B, 1C, 3, 4  
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED WITH DELETIONS  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 02/24/98  
OPENING CRITERIA : COMPLETION OF REVIEW BY FBI AND INS FOR RELEASABILITY.  
COMMENTS : COORDINATION WITH FBI HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND  
DETERMINED TO BE RELEASE IN PART, PER MEMO DTD 26 FEB  
98. PAGE 16 REVIEWED BY INS ON 4 SEP 97 AND RELEASE IN  
FULL.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to:

- 1 - U. S. Customs, Miami (RM)
- 1 - Central Intelligence Agency, Miami (RM)
- 1 - Immigration and Naturalization Service, Miami (RM)  
(A13 108 636)

Report of:

JOSEPH C. BALL

Office:

Miami, Florida

Date:

April 17, 1968

Field Office File #:

105-14883

Bureau File #:

105-176716

Title:

EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

ON 2/24/98

☐ RELEASE IN FULL☒ RELEASE IN PART a negotiat☐ TOTAL DENIAL by ARFB

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA;  
REGISTRATION ACT - CUBA

Synopsis:

Subject born 1/21/36, San Cristobal, Cuba, and has resided in U.S. as Cuban refugee since 9/21/62. Subject has no relatives in U.S. and has wife and child, three brothers and one sister residing in Cuba. Subject formerly employed by U. S. Government agency. Subject made a number of "family runs" by boat to Cuba from 1965 to February, 1967, when he was arrested following shooting incident with U.S. Customs off Florida coast. Subject convicted of assault upon federal officer and thereafter served 3 months of 15-month sentence, being released in 9/67. Material in subject's possession in 3/68 indicates he was in contact with Cuban Intelligence prior to term in prison. Informants advise subject has admitted having been recruited by CIS and having been instructed by CIS to arrange trip to Cuba, ostensibly on "family run," at which time he will be furnished documents indicating desire of high Cuban official to defect, which documents he is to turn over to U.S. Government upon return from Cuba. Purpose of plan is to interest U.S. Government in defection of this Cuban official and permit subject to penetrate U.S. Government agency. Subject contacted another U.S. Government agency

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Group

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downgrading and  
declassification

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and furnished partial information re recruitment by CIS and subject referred by this agency to FBI. Upon contact by FBI Agents, subject furnished partial information re recruitment,<sup>(S)</sup> including contact with G-2 official in New York identified as JESUS JIMENEZ, First Secretary, CMUN. (S) Subject advised he was instructed by JIMENEZ to travel to Cuba for conference with RAMIRO VALDES, chief of G-2. (S) Subject volunteered to cooperate fully with FBI in this matter. Informant advised subject paid \$3,900.00, which money was furnished by Cuban contact in New York, for boat to travel to Cuba, construction of boat to be completed on 4/17/68. Description set forth.

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INS  
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DETAILS:

PREDICATION

This investigation is predicated upon receipt of information on November 29, 1967, from MM T-1, another United States Government agency which conducts security-type investigations, to the effect information had been received from a contact of MM T-1 in November, 1967, that EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO had been in contact with the Cuban Intelligence Service (CIS) and was engaged in performing certain tasks for the CIS in the United States. (u)

BACKGROUND

On January 11 and January 15, 1968, Mrs. BARBARA BUCHANAN, clerk, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Miami, Florida, made available INS file A13 108 636 concerning EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO. This file contained the following items:

1. INS Form I-213 (Record of Illegal Alien Apprehended)

This document shows EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO was apprehended on September 21, 1962, by Border Patrol officers at Brownsville, Texas, as he crossed the river from Mexico. He was described as a male Cuban, 5'7", 160 pounds, brown eyes, brown hair, occupation farm laborer, born January 21, 1936, at Candelaria, Cuba, Cuban address San Cristobal, Pinar del Rio Province, Cuba; married to HILDALIZA MARTINEZ ROTTEZ, above Cuban address; father FELIPE ROMERO; and mother SEGUNDA DELGADO. The subject claimed residence at Finca Sabana la Mar, San Cristobal, Cuba, since 1940 and employment by ANTONIO LOPEZ on this farm since 1952. He stated he departed Cuba by boat on August 25, 1962. He claimed he was in jail for 68 days in Cuba on suspicion of being a counterrevolutionary and he advised he had been a member of the Frente Revolucionario (Revolutionary Front) in Cuba. The document showed that the subject was paroled indefinitely by INS as a political refugee on September 21, 1962.

2. INS form showing subject had changed his address to 1700 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida, on October 22, 1962.

3. INS Boat Report showing two 27-foot motorboats named "Cada" and "Flying Saucer" arrived from Cuba at Key West, Florida, on September 21, 1965, with 65 persons aboard. EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO, ALFREDO CARILLO VALDES and ENRIQUE GONZALEZ RODRIGUEZ were in charge of one boat, which they had taken to Cuba from the United States. The other boat had reportedly been encountered en route and contained ARTURO MAYANS (captain), ANDRES ANDRES PELEGRINO, JOSE GARCIA LUIS, UMBERTO GONZALES OBREGON and ORESTES HERNANDEZ LOZANO. According to information revealed by these occupants, the two boats arrived at Pinar del Rio Province, Cuba, on September 14, 1965, and two members of the group, EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO and ANDRES ANDRES PELEGRINO, went to Havana and contacted some of the people they were to rescue.

The Boat Report stated in view of the wide discrepancies in statements taken under oath from ARTURO MAYANS, EPIFANIO ROMERO and ENRIQUE GONZALES, inspection was deferred on them until a later date. The subject was noted to then be residing at 107 Southwest 18th Court, Miami, Florida.

4. An INS Boat Report showing the arrival of a 25-foot motor vessel, "Los Delis," at Marathon, Florida, on August 15, 1966, with five persons aboard, including EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO. Also among those aboard was ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO, born March 7, 1942, in Cuba.
5. FBI Identification Record #177 944 F concerning EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO.
6. Sworn statement taken from the subject on September 22, 1965, by INS Inspector HERBERT C. CARMEN. The subject testified he then resided at 107 Southwest 18th Court, Apartment 4, Miami, and his parents were deceased. His wife and one child resided at San Cristobal, Pinar del Rio, Cuba. He went to Cuba in a boat purchased by EUFALIA SAENZ in order to bring her family to the United States. Although he was unsuccessful in bringing her family or his own, he was able to bring back a number of others from Pinar del Rio Province. He said

he made the trip with ENRIQUE GONZALES and ALFREDO CARILLO.

7. A Xerox copy of an article appearing in the "Miami Herald," local daily newspaper, on February 25, 1967. This article was entitled, "Fracas with Customs Agents Lands Two Exiles in Jail." The article stated two Cuban exiles, JOSE RAMON GONZALEZ ALONSO, 33 years old, and EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO were charged with assaulting a U. S. Customs Agent on Friday, February 23, 1967. GONZALEZ ALONSO was wounded in the encounter. According to the article, U. S. Customs Agents intercepted two boats containing seven Cuban exiles apparently headed on a "family run" to Cuba. While talking to U. S. Customs Agent STANLEY P. SCHACHTER, ROMERO and GONZALEZ allegedly jumped him and escaped in one of the boats, only to be apprehended after a wild chase in which GONZALEZ was shot.
8. An article in the May 6, 1967 issue of the "Miami Herald" showing that EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO was found guilty in U. S. District Court, Miami, Florida, on May 5, 1967, of the offense of "Obstructing a U. S. Customs Officer."
9. Sworn statements of various witnesses to the altercation involving the subject on the night of February 23, 1967, including that of REUBEN ABOY, 2635 Northwest 115th Street, Miami, owner of a paint and body shop at 1277 Southwest 8th Street, Miami.
10. Memorandum showing the subject was convicted of violation of Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 111, in U. S. District Court, Miami, Case #67-117-CR-EC, in that he did wilfully and forcibly assault, resist, oppose, impede and interfere with a U. S. Customs Agent engaged in the performance of his official duties on February 23, 1967.
11. A copy of INS Agency Name Check dated March 26, 1965, showing that subject resided at San Cristobal, Cuba, from birth to 1962, at 1326 Northwest 7th Avenue, Miami, from 1962 to 1963, and at 107 Southwest 18th Court, Miami, from 1963 to date of the form. He was

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employed at the Talisman Sugar Corporation, Pahokee, Florida, from 1962 to 1963 and at the Suave Shoe Corporation, Miami, from 1963 to 1965. He was reportedly a member of the Movimiento Revolucionario de Recuperacion (Revolutionary Recovery Movement) (MRR).

12. Copy of a Personal Interview Report (PIR) executed and signed by subject on September 22, 1965. This PIR contained the following background and descriptive data.

Subject indicated he was born on January 26, 1936, at Candelaria, Cuba, and was a Cuban citizen. He had used the nicknames "EL GUAJIRO" and "PACHI" in the past. He had been employed as a farm administrator on the farm of ANTONIO VAZQUEZ at San Cristobal, Cuba, from 1959 to 1962. He had six years of schooling; was married to HILDA MARTINEZ ROYETT, who continued to reside at San Cristobal, Cuba. He was in the Cuban Army from 1959 to May, 1960, attaining the rank of captain. In 1961, he was incarcerated during April and May for 35 days for having deserted from the army. He indicated he had been a member of the MRR from 1960 to 1962 and his superior in this organization was JOSE PILOTO MORA. He fled from Cuba on August 25, 1962, and claimed political asylum. He resided at 107 Southwest 18th Court, Apartment 4, Miami, and had no relatives in the United States.

On January 15, 1968, records of the Dade County Department of Public Safety, reviewed by IC CLIFFORD M. WERNER, showed that EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO, white male, born January 21, 1936, in Cuba, 5'7", 160 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes, occupation butcher, residence 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, was arrested on June 29, 1967, and held for the United States Marshal. He was released to the United States Marshal on July 24, 1967.

The above record indicated subject had previously been arrested on February 24, 1967, at which time he was again turned over to the United States Marshal.

Records of the Miami Police Department, Bureau of Criminal Identification Number 94420, showed that

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EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO, white male, born January 21, 1936, in Cuba, residing at Apartment 3, 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, appeared at the Miami Police Department for voluntary criminal registration on September 22, 1967.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE CUBAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE(u)

As set forth above, MM T-1, another United States Government agency, advised that agency had received information in November, 1967, from a contact, designated below as MM T-2, who advised the subject had been in contact with the CIS and was performing certain tasks for CIS in the United States. MM T-1 advised as follows: (u)

MM T-1 advised that on November 20, 1967, MM T-2 was told by the subject that he had recently established contact with "an official Cuban source" in New York City and had offered his services to the Government of Cuba. The Cuban official allegedly told the subject that in return for his cooperation, he would be provided safe passage "on any boat trip he wanted to make to Cuba." The subject told MM T-2 that he would assist him in arranging G-2 approved "family runs" if MM T-2 would perform certain tasks for the subject in the United States. (u)

The subject reportedly said he had been directed by the Cuban Government to establish a group in Miami for the purpose of conducting an infiltration effort. The plan, as explained by the subject, was to interest MM T-1 in mounting an operation which supposedly would involve 1) the infiltration of the subject and his group into Cuba and 2) the exfiltration of "some important government and rebel army dissidents from Cuba." The Cuban Government reportedly would furnish the subject with sufficient information and documents to convince MM T-1 that the group had reliable contact with, and access to, persons in Cuba who wished to defect. (u)

The subject stated that should MM T-1 decide to undertake the venture, Cuban G-2 officials would be forewarned, and hopefully, the personnel and ship or ships involved would be captured. (u)



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In discussing the infiltration group, the subject mentioned two former employees of MM T-1 as possible recruits. These persons are identified as follows:

ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO, also known as "Callego,"  
INS Number A12 878 680.

He was born March 7, 1942, at Rancho Veloz, Las Villas Province, Cuba. He is described as Caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 5'8", 150 pounds, and his address as of December, 1964, was 1046 Northwest Third Street, Miami.

JOSE BENITO CLARK SANCHEZ, also known as  
Orlando Garcia Sanches,  
INS Number A12 480 548.

He was born July 6, 1940, at Havana, Cuba, and is described as Caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 5'9", 169 pounds, and his address as of March, 1964, was 1636 Northwest 7th Court, Miami.

MM T-1 advised that EPIFANIO ROMERO DELCADO was also known as "Pichi" and held INS Number A13 108 636. He was born January 21, 1936, at Candelaria, Pinar del Rio Province, Cuba. He was described as Caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 5'6", 160 pounds. He reportedly received only three years of formal education and while in Cuba worked as a farmer. His address as of June, 1967, was 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, and he was also a former employee of MM T-1.

MM T-1 also stated that MM T-2 was a former employee of this agency and then believed to be out of the United States. MM T-1 stated he was expected to return to the Miami area within a short time.

On January 9, 1968, MM T-2, a Cuban refugee and a resident of Miami, Florida, since 1961, was located and interviewed by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He furnished the following information:

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The source met EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO, also known as "Pichi" Romero, and another Cuban refugee in Miami, in about 1962 or 1963 and has maintained infrequent contact with him since that time. ROMERO is from Candelaria, Pinar del Rio Province, Cuba, and is married to HILDA, lastname unknown, who still resides in Cuba. The source described EPIFANIO as a person of little education who has a strong aversion to any type of work and constantly smokes cigars and "plays the big shot." ROMERO is a white male Cuban, age about 33, 5'8", 160 pounds, thick black hair, dark eyes, and round face. He drives a 1964 Ford Mustang automobile. He resides at the apartment of ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO, 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, another Cuban refugee and close friend of ROMERO. Also residing in this apartment are the mother and sister of BORGES.

EPIFANIO ROMERO is not employed at the present time but was recently employed at a doll factory in Miami. He is on parole, having been recently released after having served three months of a fifteen-month sentence for Assault Upon a Federal Officer. This incident occurred in about February, 1967, when ROMERO was involved with others in a shooting incident with United States Customs off the Florida coast. The incident occurred during the last of a number of unauthorized boat trips to Cuba by ROMERO over the past few years. It is the source's understanding that one of the conditions of ROMERO's parole is that he not again attempt to travel to Cuba by boat.

The source had planned a clandestine boat trip to Cuba in November, 1967, in order to attempt to rescue a friend of his in hiding in Havana. This friend is JOSE LUIS FORNELL-JACINTO, also known as "Piquili," a Cuban refugee who had been intercepted by the Cubans during a clandestine trip to Cuba and who has been in hiding since early 1967. The source was unsuccessful in his attempt to rescue FORNELL.

About the middle of November, 1967, at around 2:00 A.M., ROMERO came to the home of the source and advised that he had recently received a letter from Cuba which was sent by diplomatic pouch to the "Czechoslovakian Embassy<sup>(6)</sup> in New York" (source noted he was probably referring to the Czechoslovakian Mission to the United Nations). (S)

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This letter was in answer to a previous letter from ROMERO to the Cuban Government. ROMERO showed the source a type-written, one-page letter which instructed him to determine and report upon the activities of the following:

1. MANUEL ARTIME and the Nicaraguan problem.
2. RAMON FONT, who has explosives of Comandos L (anti-CASTRO organization in Miami).
3. FELIX PELAEZ, manager of the 7-11 food store at the corner of Northwest 27th Avenue and 17th Street, Miami.

According to the source, the letter also contained an instruction in the last paragraph to call the writer at a certain time, time not recalled by the source. The source said, however, this time was written in military style, for example, 1330, and the source could not recall if a day or date was mentioned. The letter was unsigned, as best the source could recall.

The source stated that EPIFANIO explained that the letter had been sent to him from a Cuban in New York through whom he had made contact with the Cuban Government. He said he had been instructed by this person to form a clandestine group of five persons, composed of himself, the source, ALFREDO BORGES GALINDO, JOSE BENITO CLARK SANCHEZ and JOSE LUIS FORNELL-JACINTO. Although the last named individual is in Cuba, he is to be taken into the group upon his return to Miami.

According to the plan as outlined by ROMERO to the source, ROMERO would make a trip to Cuba, where he would be furnished certain documents from ranking officials in the Cuban Government indicating their dissatisfaction with the Cuban Government and a willingness to cooperate with the United States. With these documents in hand, ROMERO would return to the United States and attempt to interest MM T-1 in this information.

According to the source, ROMERO did not state that he would attempt to interest MM T-1 in conducting an

infiltration effort into Cuba in which the participants would be arrested, but only indicated that he would attempt to interest MM T-1 in the possible defection of some important Cuban Government officials based on the documents furnished to him for this purpose.

According to the source, ROMERO stated he hoped to be paid by both the Cuban and United States Governments at the same time and to thus solve his financial problems.

According to the source, ROMERO stated he had already discussed this plan with JOSE BENITO CLARK SANCHEZ and although he did not mention having talked with ADOLFO BORGES, the source assumed he had also discussed details of the plan with BORGES since they are extremely close friends and reside together.

The source stated that ROMERO requested that he take him, ROMERO, with source to Cuba on his next trip in order that he could obtain these documents and initiate this plan. Although the source agreed to do so, he subsequently left for Cuba within a few days without ROMERO and returned to Miami in mid-December, 1967. During a later contact with ROMERO, the source explained to him that he had not taken him because ROMERO was on parole and the source feared he might get into trouble with the authorities.

The source further advised that in general conversation with one MANUEL CHAMISO, 435 Southwest 4th Street, Miami, supervisor at the doll factory where ROMERO recently worked, he had determined that ROMERO had made two trips to New York City in November and December, 1967. According to CHAMISO, ROMERO had said he was making these trips in an effort to obtain a boat to travel to Cuba.

The source stated he was of the opinion that ROMERO holds no loyalty to the Cuban Government and is not a Communist, but is strictly an opportunist who would do anything for money.

On January 8, 1968, STEPHEN CEUKAS, Enforcement Agent, United States Customs Service, Miami, advised that

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EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO was involved in a shooting incident with the United States Customs near Key Biscayne, Florida, on February 23, 1967, involving two boats with identification numbers FD 3340F and FL 1462AE. According to CSUKAS, ROMERO was subsequently found guilty in United States District Court, Miami, of Assault Upon a Federal Officer and on May 5, 1967, was sentenced to fifteen months in prison. He was subsequently released on parole after having served three months of this sentence.

CSUKAS advised that a source close to ROMERO had stated on January 7, 1968, that ROMERO had been in telephonic contact in December, 1967, with someone at New York City, telephone number 795-6287. CSUKAS stated his source was not aware of the identity of this individual in New York.

On January 26, 1968, WILLIAM R. ENNIS, Security Supervisor, New York Telephone Company, 104 Broad Street, New York, New York, advised SA FRANK J. MEYERS that telephone number 795-6287 is listed to RICARDO LEZZANO, 515 West 171st Street, New York, New York. This telephone was connected on October 15, 1964. He stated that no credit information was available concerning LEZZANO.

On February 8, 1968, MM T-2 was recontacted by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and he advised he had obtained no additional information concerning the subject's contacts with CIS and had had no further contact with the subject since he was last interviewed by FBI Agents. MM T-2 advised at this time that he had never known the subject to use drugs or to deal in drugs.

On February 8, 1968, STEPHEN CSUKAS, above, advised he had received some information indicating the subject was possibly engaged in the importing of narcotics into the United States. Additionally, he stated he had been in contact with a source who was close to the subject who had indicated the subject was definitely under the control of Cuban C-2 but had not been able to secure positive evidence to this effect. CSUKAS stated his source was with the subject on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1967, at which time the

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subject entered a Western Union office in Miami and sent a telegram. His source observed the subject sign the telegram with the name "RENE." This was about 11:30 A.M. After the subject sent this telegram, the source left the area and was not aware if the subject sent additional telegrams. CSUKAS stated he subsequently had contacted Western Union and obtained copies of all telegrams, three in number, sent on December 24, 1967, signed "RENE," and he made these copies available to the FBI.

The first telegram was hand-printed and time stamped at 11:29 A.M., and reads as follows:

"To RENE TORRE, BL-321, Constancia Gardens, Ponce, Puerto Rico. Felicidades y Carinos. Los Recordamos. Besos. /s/ PUCHA, RENE, RENECITO, PUCHITA."

The message is translated as, "Greetings and love. We remember you. Kisses." The sender was shown as "RENE" (last name illegible)(possibly TORRE), 1151 Southwest 24th Avenue. Miami, telephone 444-5026.

The second telegram is handwritten and time stamped 11:39 A.M., and reads as follows:

"To GLORIA TEJEDA, 23 entre D y E 659, Apto. 202, Vedado, Habana, Cuba. Felicidades. Recordandolos. Estamos bien. Besos. /s/ MARIANO, RENE, PAPY, FAMILIA."

This message is translated as, "Greetings. Remembering you. We are well. Kisses." The sender was shown as MARIANO TEJEDA, 1151 Southwest 11th Terrace, Miami, telephone 444-5026.

The third telegram is handwritten and time stamped also at 11:39 A.M., and reads as follows:

"To MELBA TEJEDA, Maceo 167 interior, Holguin, Oriente, Cuba. Felicidades. Recordandolos mucho. Estamos bien. Carinosa todos. Besos. /s/ MARIANO, RENE, PAPY Y FAMILIA."

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This message is translated as, "Greetings. We remember you well. We are well. Love to all. Kisses." The sender was shown as MARIANO TEJEDA, 1151 Southwest 11th Terrace, telephone 444-5026.

CSUKAS could not furnish any information as to the significance of the above messages or if, in fact, any one of them was actually written by the subject.

It is to be noted the sender of all the above messages furnished the same telephone number and house number, but used different names and street addresses.

Bresser's Cross Reference Telephone Directory for Miami shows telephone number 444-5026 is actually listed to one JULIO GUTIERREZ, retired, wife CONNIE, 1867 Southwest 17th Terrace, Miami. A call to this number revealed no one named "RENE" was known there.

On February 23, 1968, MM T-3, who is identical with the above-mentioned source of U. S. Customs Agent CSUKAS, furnished the following information:

MM T-3 has known EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO about two years. ROMERO has lived in the apartment of ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO, 1050 Southwest First Street, Miami, for about one year and reportedly pays \$40 per month rent to BORGES. ROMERO owns a 1965 black Mustang automobile and is currently unemployed. He was previously employed as a butcher at a Cuban grocery store called "Oso Blanco" on West Flagler Street, Miami, for about two weeks prior to his arrest on March 23, 1967, for assaulting a federal officer. The subject was sentenced in early May, 1967, to 15 months in prison and was released on parole in August, 1967, after having served three months. The subject has not been employed since his release from prison.

MM T-3 first began to suspect the subject was in contact with Cuban G-2 while he was still in prison. In about June, 1967, MM T-2 observed a letter sent to the subject from Cuba, which letter had been sent via Costa Rica. The letter, which was unsigned, stated

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"they" were ready to talk to the subject and requested that he let them know where he could meet them in Florida. The author of the letter stated he understood the subject could not leave the state of Florida for more than five days because of his problem and therefore, they were ready to meet him somewhere in Florida. MM T-2 advised the subject received this letter at the Federal Correctional Institution, Eglin Air Force Base, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, where he was incarcerated.

MM T-3 explained that the subject had been free on bail while awaiting trial from March until May, 1967, and had been unable to leave Florida during this period. The source theorized this letter from Cuba was in answer to a letter written by the subject during this period.

On a later occasion, while the subject was still in prison, MM T-3 was visiting the home of JOSE QUINTANA, a butcher at the "Oso Blanco," who is well acquainted with the subject. The telephone rang and was answered by MM T-3. The caller identified himself as "MONTES DE OCA" and asked to speak with EPIFANIO ROMERO. MM T-3 advised the caller ROMERO was not there, after which the caller hung up.

After ROMERO was released from prison in about August, 1967, according to information furnished the source by ADOLFO BORGES, the subject began receiving regular calls late at night from one "MONTESDE OCA" from New York. These calls were received at the home of BORGES. BORGES indicated to the source that he had never overheard subject's conversations since EPIFANIO talked in private.

In about October, 1967, the subject made a trip to New York over a week end. He made a second such trip on about December 22, 1967, and returned on December 23, 1967. In a subsequent conversation with MM T-3, the subject stated he had been in New York City. MM T-3 advised that during early 1968, the subject had refused to accept calls from MONTE DE OCA at the home of BORGES but following receipt of these calls, the subject drove to the Segundo Rancho Luna Restaurant at 22nd Avenue and West Flagler Terrace, where he waited for a call at the public telephone booth behind this restaurant.



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A few days before his trip on December 22, 1967, the subject received \$75 by money order from New York in the mail. According to information provided by ADOLFO BORGES, BORGES' mother was present when the subject opened the letter and she saw the New York postmark, as well as the \$75 money order. This money order was subsequently cashed by the subject at the "Oso Blanco."

MM T-2 advised that the subject was believed to have received another large sum of money, over \$200, on February 2, 1968.

MM T-3 advised the subject was arrested about February 16, 1968, by the Miami police, at which time he was riding with his girl friend, ZETA, who is employed at Burdine's downtown department store, at the cosmetics counter. ROMERO was charged with drunken driving and driving without a license and he reportedly posted \$300 bond in cash. The source believed that ROMERO gave the wrong name to the police, since he later advised JULIA ALVAREZ, 330 Southwest 30th Avenue, mother of another girl friend of the subject, NILA ALVAREZ, of the fact that he had used another name at the time of this arrest.

MM T-3 advised that about six weeks prior to this interview, JOSE LUIS FORNELL wrote his father from Cuba and stated he had been in hiding for over six months and wanted to return to the United States. FORNELL's father contacted the subject and he agreed to try to rescue FORNELL. The subject thereafter met with STEVE CSUKAS, U. S. Customs Agent, and requested his permission to travel to Cuba and attempt to rescue FORNELL. CSUKAS told him he could not authorize such a trip and particularly, could not authorize the departure of the subject while he was on parole.

Regarding this proposed trip, the subject related to MM T-3 that he had hoped to go to Cuba and contact a particular G-2 official with whom he was well acquainted and to "recruit him" to work for MM T-1, the U. S. Government agency. After this, the subject planned to return to the United States and obtain money from MM T-1 for this

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information. According to MM T-3, the subject did not state he had been instructed by the Cubans to do this and did not mention any contact in connection with this plan with MARIO ANDRES ROMERO ARIAS, JOSE BENITO CLARK SANCHEZ or ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO. MM T-3 stated he did not feel the subject would confide in these three individuals because they are violently anti-CASTRO and anti-communist.

MM T-3 further stated that although the subject had not told him he had been instructed by the Cubans to carry out the above-mentioned plan, it was the theory of MM T-3 that the subject had been so instructed.

MM T-3 advised he did not know the subject to be a user of drugs or to be involved in the trafficking of drugs, although he was known to be associated with JESUS ALVAREZ, a well-known narcotics pusher.

On March 1, 1968, STEPHEN CSUKAS, U. S. Customs, Miami, made available a copy of a Western Union money order message received by the subject from New York. CSUKAS stated this message had been obtained by him from a source close to the subject on February 27, 1968. According to his source, ROMERO received a \$200 money order with this message on February 26, 1968. The message is as follows:

"NUMBER NQB 003 10:17 A.M. EST.  
To EPIFANIA ROMERO, 1050 NW 1st  
Street, Apartment 3, Miami, Florida.  
The money order paid you herewith is  
from JULIAN at New York, New York,  
and included the following message:  
'Saludos.'"

On March 1, 1968, PAUL MUIR, Western Union office, Miami, advised that the number "NQB 005" is the designation for a Western Union branch office located at 346 West 34th Street, New York, New York.

Inquiry at the above New York Western Union office determined the original of the above telegram is maintained at Minneapolis, Minnesota. On April 3, 1968,

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records of the Money Order Audit Bureau, Western Union Telegram Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota, were found to contain an original application for a money order dated February 26, 1968, in the amount of \$200, payable to EPIFANIO ROMERO, Apartment 3, 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, Florida. The sender on the application is shown as JULIAN MONTES, 207 West 113th Street, New York, New York, and the only message with the money order was "Saludos."

Western Union records also contain an original draft, number FS 25199, dated February 26, 1968, in the amount of \$200, payable to EPIFANIA ROMERO. The original application and draft are maintained at the Money Order Audit Bureau.

The original application and draft, should they be needed for prosecutive purposes, may be obtained only upon the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum, which should be directed to the manager of the Western Union office in the city where prosecution is had.

MM T-4, a Cuban National who has resided in the United States for a number of years, and who is well acquainted with the subject, furnished the following information on April 4, 1968:

MM T-4 met the subject in 1964 when the subject and informant were together in a training camp of the Junta Revolucionaria Cubana (Cuban Revolutionary Board) (JURE), an anti-CASTRO organization, which camp was located near Tampa, Florida. The subject, in about 1965, began making "family runs" to Cuba and had no difficulty until February, 1967, when he was arrested and sentenced to 15 months following an altercation with U. S. Customs Agency. The subject served three months of this 15-month sentence and was released in about August, 1967, when he returned to live in Miami.

According to MM T-4, the subject approached him in December, 1967, and advised him of his contacts with an individual in New York connected with the Cuban G-2. According to the subject's story, this individual called on numerous occasions, identifying himself first as "JULIAN" and later as "MONTES DE OCA." He persuaded

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the subject to come to New York and sent him money for this trip.

The first such trip to New York by the subject of which MM T-4 was aware occurred about the end of December, 1967. At this time, the subject received \$100 from his New York contact and purchased a ticket to New York in the name of ADOLFO BORGES, believed by the source to be a friend of the subject. Subject on this occasion was driven to the airport by JOSE BENITO CLARK SANCHEZ, a Cuban National and friend of the subject. ROMERO remained in New York over a week end and contacted MM T-4 upon his return to Miami. ROMERO related that he had been met by a Cuban at a designated spot in New York, after which they had entered several taxis and a movie theater in an effort to assure they were not being followed. MM T-4 had no details as to how they met or where they finally talked. According to the subject, the Cuban in New York asked the subject if he wanted to work for Cuban G-2 and the subject gave him a noncommittal reply. ROMERO indicated to MM T-4 the Cuban G-2 official desired information concerning the operations of MM T-1, the U. S. Government agency.

MM T-4 stated the subject's second trip to New York was sometime in February, 1968, exact date unknown to him. On this occasion, ROMERO was driven to the Miami Airport by ADOLFO BORGES and it was the informant's understanding that ROMERO had been sent several hundred dollars by the G-2 official in New York prior to his departure. MM T-4 stated he had no information as to how long the subject remained in New York on this occasion but believed that he returned sometime during early March. According to information provided by the subject to MM T-4, the subject's New York contact identified himself on this occasion as JESUS JIMENEZ, First Secretary of the Cuban Mission to the United Nations (CMUN), and member of the Departamento de Seguridad del Estado (Cuban Department of State Security) (DSE). He reportedly offered to send the subject to Cuba, where he would be placed in contact with DSE officials. The subject reportedly was told he would be contacted by telephone after his return to Miami concerning this matter.

MM T-4 stated that about a week ago, the subject received a call from his New York Cuban contact in which

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he was authorized to make the trip to Cuba. ROMERO now wants to make a "family run" to Cuba in effort to bring out relatives of several Cuban refugees here in the United States, none of whom are aware of his Cuban G-2 contacts. The subject has a number of legitimate contacts in New York who are interested in having their relatives brought to the United States from Cuba and has a number of letters in his possession from these Cubans. He is currently attempting to locate a boat to make this trip. MM T-4 advised that he has no information and has been furnished no information by subject to the effect that he had been instructed by the Cubans to "penetrate" any United States Government agency. (u)

MM T-4 advised he feels ROMERO holds no loyalty for the Cuban Government or for democratic principles of the United States Government but is an opportunist who would work for the one who would pay him the most money. MM T-4 also advised that he is of the opinion subject has confided in no one except himself, MM T-4, concerning his Cuban G-2 contacts (u)

On April 3, 1968, MM T-1 advised that the subject had contacted this agency, exact date of contact not revealed, and had furnished the following information: (u)

ROMERO advised MM T-1 that during November, 1967, he received a long distance telephone call from a man who identified himself only as "MONTE DE ORO." This man asked ROMERO to come to New York and "talk business" with him. He offered to provide ROMERO with funds necessary for the trip from Miami to New York. ROMERO accepted the offer and in late November, he received a \$300 money order and instructions for the trip to New York. He traveled by Eastern Airlines to New York and once in New York, he was instructed to proceed to 116th Street an North River Drive in Manhattan, where he was met by an individual who identified himself as JULIAN HERNANDEZ or GONZALEZ. (S) The individual also identified himself as the originator of the long distance telephone call and as a member of the DSE and CMUN. (S) ROMERO described the individual as a Cuban male, 5'6", 28 to 30 years old, hair cut short but full, eyes brown, weight 140 pounds, complexion light, spoke good English.

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ROMERO advised MM T-1 that during the first meeting, he was asked if he desired to work for the Cuban G-2. He claimed he did not commit himself but asked what was in it for him financially. He did not receive an answer and was told he would be advised at a later date. During the first meeting, ROMERO was questioned about his previous employment in the United States and about several individuals in the Miami area. He claimed to MM T-1 that he denied any previous association with any United States Government agency and denied knowing any of the individuals named. (u)

ROMERO stated he returned to Miami after the initial meeting and did not hear from anyone until early February, 1968, at which time he received another long distance telephone call from the same individual. He was again instructed to travel to New York and meet with the caller. He departed for New York on March 9, 1968. In New York he met the same individual and was taken to a hotel, name and address unknown, where the individual identified himself as JESUS JIMENEZ<sup>(S)</sup> and produced an identification card bearing that name and showing him to be a member of the CMUN. (S)

During this second meeting, according to information provided MM T-1 by ROMERO, he was again questioned about his previous employment in the United States and certain persons in the Miami area. He again claimed to have denied any association with any United States Government agency or acquaintance with any of the persons named. ROMERO said he was asked if he was prepared to take a trip to Cuba and meet with certain members of Cuban G-2, possibly RAMIRO VALDES, head of Cuban G-2. Answering in the affirmative provided the pay was right and proper arrangements were made for the trip, ROMERO was assured he would be contacted in the near future concerning this matter. The meeting was terminated and ROMERO returned to Miami on March 11, 1968. ROMERO indicated he had been provided \$200 for this second trip. (u)

On his first trip to New York, ROMERO stated he traveled under the name of ADOLFO BORGES. On his second trip, he traveled under the name of JOSE ALFREDO GALINDO. He said he used the alias because he is on (u)

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probation and the terms of his probation do not permit his travel out of the state of Florida. ROMERO explained that he got into trouble with the U. S. Coast Guard and U. S. Customs about two years ago and tried to flee from them. In the chase, shots were exchanged and ROMERO was finally caught. He was later convicted and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary but was paroled after having served three months. He stated it was after he was paroled that he received his first telephone call from the Cuban G-2 official in New York. (u)

ROMERO stated that after the second meeting above, he decided he should speak with some United States Government agency concerning his meetings in New York and thus contacted MM T-1. ROMERO indicated willingness to continue the association with Cuban G-2 and to work with the United States Government in this matter. MM T-2 advised ROMERO was told this matter relates to the internal security of the United States and is the responsibility of the FBI. He was told to bring all the information available to him in this matter to the immediate attention of the FBI and further contact with MM T-1 was discouraged. (u)

MM T-1 further advised on April 3, 1968, that on March 22, 1968, ROMERO contacted MM T-1 by telephone and disclosed the following information: (u)

ROMERO advised that on March 20, 1968, he received a long distance telephone call from his Cuban G-2 contact in New York. The caller inquired if ROMERO was ready to make a trip to Cuba and ROMERO advised the caller he did not as yet have a boat for the planned trip and needed financial assistance for the purchase of a boat. ROMERO was advised that he would again be contacted within eight days for further instructions and possible financial assistance. During the course of this conversation, the caller informed ROMERO that the stage was set for him in Cuba and provided a telephone number and name for ROMERO to call upon his arrival in Cuba. (u)

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ROMERO advised MM T-1 that in the absence of any interest or instructions from this agency, he was continuing the contact and would keep MM T-1 informed of any developments. (u)

MATERIAL IN SUBJECT'S POSSESSION

On March 9, 1968, MM T-1 made available certain material which was in possession of the subject on that date. This material consisted of the following items, translated from Spanish where applicable:



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ITEM 1:

"July 31, 1967

"Mr. EPIFANIO ROMERO  
1050 N.W. 1 St., Apt. 3  
Miami, Florida

"Epifanio, we received your letter, asking to discuss something of great importance for both, and on our part, we are ready to listen to the questions which bother you.

"We feel you should set the conditions for the interview, telling us where and how to handle it. We do not know about your possibilities, but we will give you some ideas, and you can see if they are workable. If you have any differences, say so.

"Within the possibilities which we see, is that of going to Cuba or another country clandestinely; this, logically, is something you should decide. Your trip to Cuba would mean a permit to remain 5 days, and then you would have to go back. Before carrying out this or any other plan, you should wait for our approval.

"However we manage to have our talk, first you should write us clearing up certain questions; i.e., what is the concrete problem you want to discuss. Is it a personal problem, a report, what kind, etc.

"You can write us at the address we are giving you, telling us, in a general way, without including anything which might compromise you, the things you want to say.

"You can send the letter to: Santos Montes de Oca  
Calle 54 #5419, e/45 y 47, Marianao. (S)

"Saludos,

"/s/Rene." (S)

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ITEM 2:

"V. B. Garcia  
Generalísimo 50  
Alfaz del Pi (Alicante)

"October 25, 1967

"For Captain Romero  
Miami

"My dear Friend:

"I received your letter of the 15th, although I think it came by chance, because the address you used is not complete. To avoid future problems, I am enclosing an envelope showing the proper address. Losing mail could alter our plans, and that should not be.

"I wrote to RODRIGUEZ' father, and I think it odd that I received no answer; if you know him, or meet him, please ask him to send me a note, for my peace of mind. I wrote him at the address which Manolito gave me, P.O. Box 12057. I suppose my letter was not lost. Now I want to know about the motion they sent to the Judge.

"I received no reply from Bilbao, either. I sent news to his old home on Miami Beach, as he suggested to me. Tell him to write and give me his new address.

"I also want you to telephone the wife of Campbell, Mrs. Florence, 757-75.64; she lives at 250 N.W. 43 St. I think that if our friend is not home yet, he should be arriving soon. What I want is to have news that everybody is in good health.

"I am attaching a list of books which my nephew needs. He is studying advanced math; these are books which are not published in Spain. The bookshop will ship them directly to him; they know more about mailing such things. I think they should cost about \$30.00. If you don't have enough money to pay for them, see if Bilbao can spare the money.

"There has been no answer from New York yet. This doctor, like almost all doctors, was born tired, and you have to keep after him to remind him, which people of our character don't like to do. We like to count on ourselves, first, and above all. If you think it would be useful, tell me only if your present plan is workable or not, or if

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"you need my help or advice in any sense. Possibly it would be better to wait until we are nearer, but finally, you are the one who has to decide about your own movements. Don't forget that the future belongs to us. Don't lose it by acting too hastily.

"I think that during the first two weeks in December, I will be ready to start my return trip to South or Central America; you will know in time. I am resolving all my problems. My steps are firm.

"Don't hesitate in consulting me about your doubts.  
Regards, and an abrazo

"/s/GARCIA." (S)

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ITEM 3:

"V. B. GARCIA  
Generalissimo 50  
Alfaz del Pi (Alicante)

(S)

"December 20, 1967

"For E. Romero  
Miami

"My dear Friend:

"I have been waiting in vain for an answer to my letter of October 25th. I even thought it might have been lost, but since it was not returned to me, I have finally decided that you are being a little lazy about writing.

"We are approaching the season when everybody in the world wants to receive news from any place. I send you my regards, and I hope that you are keeping your spirits up and are ready for anything, as a fighting man should be.

"I was disagreeably surprised to have a letter returned which I wrote to Hector about 3 months ago. I am sending it to you, in case you have a chance to locate him and give it to him.

"Also, in my previous letter, I asked you to get some technical books for a relative of mine. I don't know whether or not it is convenient for you to spend the 28 or 30 dollars we think they will cost, and have the bookshop send them directly to my nephew. Until we hear from you, I don't know what to tell the student. I am interested in helping him; he is a genius, and we must help as much as we can; he has been offered a scholarship in Canada, and he needs these books to help in his studies of nuclear physics. People like you and me are the kind who should help enthusiastic, pure young men. If you need anything, don't hesitate to call on me.

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"I am running into some difficulty about traveling again, but I am sure I can handle it. During the second part of January, I am sure I will have news for you. I already have the map in my hand.

"Tell me how you are getting along, and if you are becoming more patient.

"I hope you have the best possible holiday season, although I can understand that your "Cuban sorrow" will not permit you to be really happy. However, we men have imagination to be used when needed; and we have to make up in dreams what we lack in reality.

"WRITE ME IMMEDIATELY; don't let the thread be broken. Tell me about Campbell, is he there, or about Rodriguez, if you know anything. Regards to Dona Nila, (S) and to you, the greatest affection, with an abrazo from your good friend

"/s/Garcia." (S)

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ITEM 4:

(S)  
"V. B. Garcia  
Generalissimo 50  
Alfaz del Pi (Alicante)

"January 27, 1968

"For Epifanio Romero  
1050 N.W. 1st St., Apt. 3  
Miami, Florida

"My dear Captain and friend:

"I have received your letter of the 17th, which I am answering.

"Actually, in the month of January, many important men were born, men mentioned in history, and men still talked about, as for example, Marti, you and me. Two things distinguish people born under the sign of Capricorn: tenacity and loyalty, and with such qualities, one never knows where he may reach.

"I also received your New Year's card. You said you were going to send the books for my nephew. I wish you would tell me if you already ordered them at the bookstore or not, and if you need any money. It is hard to find "green" here, but I could scrape up 25 or 30, if it is necessary. I am also writing Hector<sup>6</sup> today, asking him to give you a hand in this matter, if you need it.

"I wish you would tell me what happened with RODRIGUEZ; (S) he shouldn't delay in resolving his situation. I received no answer from his father, when I wrote. Don't forget that if the team is formed, which is almost certain, our goals will make the crowds yell!.....

"Because you are a Cuban, audacious and romantic, nobody can hold you back, and you will have to face your future, even though it hurts those SOBs. Those 90 days (and 90 nights) should always be present in your heart, to keep it hard. But I don't have to remind you of anything, because men like us usually speak only once.

"Don't be discouraged by anything; if it is necessary, work, carramba, there will come a day when you have land enough to bury an army (with just one cross per caballeria).

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"Write me again whenever you like; my affairs are delayed a bit because of the papers, but the time is coming, regardless.

"So long, an abrazo from your true friend,

"/s/Garcia"

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It is noted Items 2, 3 and 4, above, were accompanied by three envelopes containing Spanish postage and postmarked Spain. These envelopes were addressed to "EPIFANIO ROMERO-DELGADO, 1050 N.W. First Street, Apartment 3, Miami, Florida, USA," and contained the return address of "V. B. GARCIA, Generalísimo 50, Alfaz del Pi (Alicante), Spain.

ITEM 5:

One-half sheet of paper containing the following typewritten note, as translated:

"NOTE FOR THE BOOKSTORE

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title of Books</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
W. B. Thompson	AN INTRODUCTION TO PLASMA PHYSICS	Pergamon Press
Beno Gutemberg	INTERNAL CONSTITUTION OF THE EARTH	Dover
Edouard Goursat	A COURSE IN MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS (3 volumes)	Dover

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"Send to:

Jaime Barcelo  
Av. Perez Galdos, 116 ap 26.  
Valencia - 8 -

Spain."

It is noted this item was included in the envelope with Item 2, above.

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ITEM 6:

A carbon copy of Item 5, containing the printed word "copia" (copy) at the bottom. This item was included in the envelope with Item 3, above.

ITEM 7:

Airmail envelope postmarked November 7, 1967 PM, New York, New York, and containing the hand printed address "EPIFANIO ROMERO, 1417 W. Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33126," with no return address shown.

ITEM 8:

Envelope postmarked November 30, 1967 PM, New York, New York, containing hand printed address "EPIFANIO ROMERO, 1050 N.W. First Street, Apartment 3, Miami, Florida," with return address of "ELIZA MARTIN, 42 W. 120th Street, New York, New York." This envelope was sent by regular mail from the Church Street Station in New York.

ITEM 9:

Airmail envelope postmarked January 27, 1968 PM, Flushing, New York, containing hand printed address "EPIFANIO ROMERO, 1058 N.W. First Street (Apartment 3), Miami, Florida 33128," and containing no return address. A notation on the envelope, apparently made by postal authorities, showed the above number should have been 1050.

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ITEM 10:

A white slip of paper containing the following hand printed names in English:

"CHASE MANHATTAN BANK  
FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK  
TRUST MORTGAGE GUARANTEE  
HANNOVER TRUST COMPANY  
BARCLAY'S BANK  
CHEMICAL BANK"

ITEM 11:

White slip of paper containing the following handwritten notation:

"530 N.W. 26th Street  
Sr. Cubas"

ITEM 12:

White slip of paper containing the following notations:

- 1) "374-8752
- 2) "374-8856"

Nila Nila

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ITEM 13:

White slip of paper containing notation  
"FR 7-4963.

ITEM 14:

White slip of paper containing following  
notations:

"Verrilo  
FR 4-8084  
8082  
633-4099  
(possibly 633-4049)

ITEM 15:

Employee's copy of 1967 W-2 form issued by  
Watson Triangle Company, 7445 Northwest 12th Street,  
Miami, Florida 33126, to "EPIFANIO RAMERO, 1050 North-  
west First Street, Apartment 3, Miami, Florida. Employee's  
Social Security Number was shown as 463-74-2051.

ITEM 16:

Employee's copy of 1967 W-2 form issued by  
International Carpet Service, 4109 East 10th Lane,  
Hialeah, Florida, to ADOLFO GALINDEZ, 1050 Northwest  
First Street, Apartment 3, Miami, Florida.

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ITEM 17:

Statement from El Cromo Jewelry, Inc., 1124 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida, to EPIFANIO ROMERO, 1050 Northwest First Street. This statement was dated February 7, 1968, and showed ROMERO had a balance outstanding of \$2.46.

Concerning Item 2 above, it is noted the Polk's 1968 City Directory for Miami, Florida, shows telephone number 757-7564 is listed to JAMES PETERS, retired, 238 Northwest 43rd Street, Miami. Occupant of 250 Northwest 43rd Street, Miami, which address has no telephone, is shown as HAROLD CAMPBELL, seaman, wife FLORENCE.

TRAVEL TO NEW YORK

On March 9, 1968, Agent STEPHEN CSUKAS, U. S. Customs, Miami, advised that EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO and ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO, in whose apartment ROMERO is residing, met with Agents HERBERT FEINSTEIN and CSUKAS of U. S. Customs on March 8, 1968. The meeting was arranged with Customs Agents at the request of ROMERO and the meeting concerned ROMERO's efforts to travel by boat to Cuba. ROMERO reportedly requested U. S. Customs' permission to travel to Cuba to rescue a friend, JOSE LUIS FORNELL, who is reportedly hiding in Havana. CSUKAS stated ROMERO's request was denied. CSUKAS also stated he felt ROMERO's true purpose in this proposed travel to Cuba may concern efforts to bring back the narcotic cocaine for sale in the United States. CSUKAS said the subject made no mention at this time of his plan to travel to New York on the following date.

On March 9, 1968, MM T-3 advised the subject planned to travel to New York on that date, using a ticket issued in the name of JOSE A. GALINDO. The source stated the subject would meet in New York with one JULIAN (last name unknown) and although the exact purpose of his trip to New York was unknown, it was believed to relate to the subject's Cuban intelligence activities. The source (u)

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advised the subject received a second money order from JULIAN in New York on February 26, 1968, and may have received additional money, approximately \$1,000 having been observed in subject's possession on March 9, 1968. (u)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date March 11, 1968

On March 9, 1968, at 3:35 P.M., EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO was observed to approach Gate 75, Concourse 5, Miami International Airport, Miami, Florida, and give a ticket to the attendant, thereafter entering Eastern Airlines Flight 24, scheduled to depart from Miami for New York at 3:45 P.M. ROMERO remained on the airplane until it departed as scheduled.

Examination of the above ticket determined it was airlines ticket #1-007:222-932669-1, purchased at Columbus Hotel Eastern Airlines Office, Miami, from Clerk #103, in the name of J. A. GALINDO. It was a round-trip ticket to New York, with return reservations open. The cost of the ticket was \$142 plus \$7.10 tax, for a total of \$149.10.

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On 3/9/68 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 105-14883

by JOSEPH C. BALL:sll Date dictated 3/11/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to  
NW 64954 contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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On March 9, 1968, EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO was observed by Special Agents of the FBI, New York, New York, to arrive at Kennedy International Airport, New York City, at approximately 7:00 P.M. on that date on Eastern Airlines Flight 24. He was observed to depart the airport in a Pontiac Tempest, New York license 7504XA, driven by an unknown male, accompanied by an unknown female. They proceeded to 515 or 517 West 171st Street, New York City, where they entered.

On March 11, 1968, records of the New York Motor Vehicle Bureau, 80 Centre Street, New York City, showed the above vehicle is registered to ESTER A. LEZCANO.

On March 14, 1968, the above records showed that ESTER A. LEZCANO's date of birth is June 6, 1922, her height is 5'4", and her eyes are brown. Her address is listed as 517 West 171st Street, New York City.

On March 10, 1968, subject was observed by FBI Agents to depart from 515 West 171st Street and to speak with two unknown males who were working on a Pontiac Tempest, New York license 4067YK. One of these individuals closely resembled the description of the unknown male who met the subject at the airport. They were using tools secured from a 1964 green panel truck, New York license 4066YK, parked directly behind the Tempest. After this discussion, the subject re-entered 515 West 171st Street.

On March 11, 1968, New York Motor Vehicle Bureau records revealed New York license 4067YK is registered to ROSARIO LEZCANO, 517 West 171st Street, New York City, and New York license 4066YK is registered to ROSARIO LEZCANO, 515 West 171st Street, New York City.

On March 10, 1968, the subject and an unknown female were observed to leave 515 West 171st Street and proceed to 104 West 71st Street, where they remained for 52 minutes. They then returned to Apartment 44 of 515 West 171st Street. It was noted the name on the door of this apartment was MARIA ALVAREZ.

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On March 11, 1968, ROSA GONZALEZ, superintendent, 104 West 71st Street, New York City, advised there are 19 apartments at this address. She said she is Cuban and there are five other tenants who are Cuban, indicated as such below. She furnished the names of the tenants as follows:

<u>Apartment</u>	<u>Name</u>
1A	HAROLD ORTIZ and JORGE BRIONES
1B	E. MACHADO (Cuban - residing here six years)
1C	DELIA JANER
2A	TOM OLES
2B	MC GEE and WINDSOR, first names unknown
2C	ROSA GONZALEZ, superintendent, residing here seven years (Cuban)
2D	CARLOS PEREZ
3A	V. S. OLIVIER
3B	CULLEN (first name unknown)
3C	S. R. BAGGS
3D	T. GIAKOUMIS and THOMAS KOUMIS
4A	THOMAS MICIELI
4B	P. CORPION (Cuban - residing here five years)
4C	PARELLO and GARCIA, first names unknown
4D	C. RONDA (Cuban - residing here nine months)
5A	JOHN TRUJILLO (Cuban - residing here five months)
5B	MIGUEL PEREZ (Cuban - residing here four years)



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<u>Apartment</u>	<u>Name</u>
5C	A. SALINAS
5D	MARIA MARRER

CONZALEZ advised that none of the above individuals are pro-CASTRO in their sentiments, to the best of her knowledge.

On March 11, 1968, the subject departed 515 West 171st Street with the same unknown male who met him upon his arrival in New York and they traveled to the Kennedy International Airport in the above Tempest, New York license 4067YK. The subject was observed to depart at 11:00 A.M. on Eastern Airlines Flight 15, scheduled to arrive in Miami at 1:20 P.M.

It is noted the Manhattan telephone directory reflects that RICHARD LEZCANO, telephone number 795-6287, resides at 515 West 171st Street, New York City.

INTERVIEW WITH SUBJECT

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 12, 1968

On April 2, 1968, an individual who spoke in the Spanish language and identified himself as EPIFANIO ROMERO and stated he resided at Apartment 3, 1050 North-west First Street, Miami, Florida, contacted the Miami Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation by telephone and talked with Special Agent JOSEPH C. BALL.

The caller advised he had been told to contact the FBI by JOSE BENITO CLARK, a mechanic who works at a Miami service station, telephone 371-9143. The caller was told the FBI would be happy to talk with him if he had any information to furnish and he replied that he had no information to furnish "at this time." When asked again why he had called the FBI, he stated he had been instructed to do so by JOSE BENITO CLARK, who is "with" another United States Government agency. The caller said he could not come to the Miami FBI Office since he had no car or transportation but could be contacted at the above address if the FBI desired to talk with him.

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On 4/2/68 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 105-14883

by SA JOSEPH C. BALL:sll Date dictated 4/8/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 12, 1968

EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO was contacted at Apartment 3, 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, Florida, and interviewed in the Spanish language. ROMERO was advised of his rights by Special Agent JONES and was furnished a warning and waiver form in the Spanish language, which he read and signed. He thereafter furnished the following information:

ROMERO resides at the above apartment with ADOLFO BORGES GALINDO. Also residing in the apartment are ZIEDA GALINDO, mother of ADOLFO, and BLANCA BORGES DE CASTELLANOS, sister of BORGES. BORGES' sister is married but her husband is in prison in Cuba. The telephone number at this apartment is 374-1106.

ROMERO is currently unemployed. He occasionally works as a carpet layer at different companies and has worked in the past as a butcher in the meat department at "Oso Blanco," a Cuban grocery store located at West Flagler Street and 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida.

ROMERO was born on January 21, 1936, at San Cristobal, Pinar del Rio Province, Cuba, and is a Cuban citizen. He is not a permanent resident alien but is a refugee from Cuba. He first entered the United States from Mexico on September 21, 1962, at Brownsville, Texas. This was an illegal entry but he was permitted to remain in the United States as a refugee. Since this entry, he has lived in Miami, with the exception of short trips to Cuba.

In February, 1967, ROMERO was engaged in an altercation with U. S. Customs Agents off the coast of Florida and thereafter received a prison sentence of 15 months in the Federal Penitentiary. He served in the Federal Penitentiary near Pensacola, Florida, the name of which sounded something like "English Fort Bas," from June 29, 1967, until September 21, 1967, when he was released on parole. Following his release, he returned

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On 4/4/68 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 105-14883

by SAs JOSEPH C. BALL  
and SAMUEL W. JONES JCB:sll Date dictated 4/8/68

to Miami to reside in the apartment with BORGES.

In November, 1967, several long distance telephone calls were received at the apartment in which the caller asked for ROMERO and ROMERO was out of the apartment on these occasions. On one occasion, he was in the apartment at the time one of these calls came and the caller identified himself to ROMERO as "MONTES DE OCA," stated he was in New York and would like to "talk business" with ROMERO. He asked ROMERO to come to New York for this purpose and ROMERO inquired as to how he obtained ROMERO's name and telephone number. The caller told ROMERO not to worry about that, that the important thing is that he come to New York and talk with the caller. ROMERO told him he did not have any money and the caller stated he would send ROMERO money for the trip and instructed ROMERO to meet him at 116th Street and North River Drive, New York City.

ROMERO subsequently received a money order in an envelope postmarked November 30, 1967, New York, New York. This envelope contained the hand printed address "HPIFANIO ROMERO, 1050 N.W. First Street, Miami, Florida," and contained a return address of "ELIZA MARTIN, 42 W. 120th Street, New York, New York." ROMERO produced this envelope and furnished it to the interviewing Agents.

ROMERO stated the money order he received in the above envelope was in the amount of \$200. The money order was cashed by him at the "Oso Blanco."

ROMERO departed for New York on a Sunday, about the first of December, 1967, exact date not recalled, on Eastern Airlines. He was taken to the Miami Airport by JOSE BENITO CLARK, a friend. He used the name ADOLFO BORGES in purchasing the ticket for this trip.

Upon his arrival in New York, he stayed at the home of RICARDO LEZCANO, 515 West 171st Street, New York, a Cuban friend whom he originally met in Mexico in about 1962. LEZCANO previously lived with ROMERO in Miami until about the first of 1963, when he moved to New York.

LEZCANO is married but has no children, is a painter by occupation, and is described as white male, 33 years old, 6' tall, 190 pounds, brown hair. LEZCANO is not aware of ROMERO's contacts with Cuban Government officials. (u)

The morning following his arrival in New York, ROMERO went by taxi to the corner of 116th Street and North River Drive, where he followed instructions previously given him by the individual who called from New York. He had been instructed to stand next to a bust of a female at this location, which ROMERO believed to be a bust honoring motherhood. He wore a coat, white shirt with no tie, and carried an unlit cigar, as instructed. He was approached by a white male Cuban, 29 to 30 years old, 5'6" tall, about 185 pounds, brown hair and dark brown eyes. This individual called ROMERO by name and instructed that ROMERO accompany him. They entered a taxi and thereafter, changed taxis on at least two occasions. They entered a movie theater, name and address unknown to ROMERO, where they remained approximately 20 minutes, and thereafter left and entered another taxi. After about one and one-half hours of this type of activity, they finally entered a large hotel, name and location unknown to ROMERO, where his companion approached the desk and rented a room. His companion spoke excellent English and all of the instructions to the taxi drivers and desk clerk were in English. (u)

After they were secure in the hotel room, this individual identified himself as JULIAN GONZALEZ or HERNANDEZ, ROMERO not being certain of the last name. He produced an identification card approximately 2 x 3½ inches, which had a black border. This card contained his photograph and the Spanish words, "Departamento de Seguridad del Estado" (Department of State Security). The man advised ROMERO that he was an agent of the Cuban Government and he was aware that ROMERO was formerly a member of the Cuban revolution. He thereafter spoke in glowing terms of the glorious Cuban revolution. He spoke of ROMERO's recent jail tenure and told him the only offense of which he was guilty was that of trying to return to his fatherland, stating the Cuban Government (u)

would never treat a citizen in this manner. He inquired as to the identity of the individual who had transported him to the Miami Airport and was told by ROMERO this person was JOSE BENITO CLARK. The Cuban then told ROMERO the license number of CLARK's car in which they had traveled to the airport. ROMERO inquired if the Cuban Government wanted him to return to Cuba and he was told his job was here in the United States. During the remainder of the conversation, ROMERO was asked if he knew anything about the intelligence network of MM T-1 in Cuba, to which ROMERO replied in the negative. The Cuban official also asked if JULIAN VINAS, GUSTAVO BORDA and ENRIQUE BOUZA still worked for an agency of the United States Government and ROMERO allegedly stated he did not know. (u)

The Cuban official asked ROMERO if he would work for the Cuban Government in the United States and ROMERO gave him no definite reply, asking what he would have to do. The Cuban official stated the Cubans wanted to find out about anti-CASTRO groups, operations of MM T-1, names of operatives of MM T-1, and trips to Cuba by Cuban exiles. ROMERO thereafter agreed to work for the Department of State Security and the Cuban official inquired if he would be willing to make a trip to Cuba. ROMERO replied in the affirmative and the official stated he would advise ROMERO further concerning this at a later date. (u)

Following this conversation, ROMERO and the Cuban official departed the hotel in different taxis and ROMERO returned to the airport and departed immediately for Miami. (u)

ROMERO next received a telephone call from this same individual, who identified himself on the telephone as "MONTES DE OCA," on about the first day of February, 1968. The caller furnished ROMERO an address in Brooklyn and instructed him to stand next to the monkey cage in the Brooklyn Zoo on February 28, 1968, at which time the official would again meet ROMERO. However, the money for this trip did not arrive from New York in time and ROMERO did not go. (u)

ROMERO received another telephone call from the Cuban official about March 3, 1968, at which time he explained the reason for his not showing up at the designated point in Brooklyn, and the official instructed ROMERO to meet him on March 10, 1968, at 9:00 P.M. at the corner of 8th Avenue and 14th Street in New York City. (u)

On February 28, 1968, prior to the above call, ROMERO received a money order by mail in the amount of \$300. However, the money order arrived too late for him to depart for New York and meet the Cuban official at the designated time. (u)

On March 9, 1968, ROMERO departed on Eastern Airlines for New York, using the name JOSE ALFREDO GALINDO. Upon his arrival in New York, he telephoned RICARDO LEZCANO and LEZCANO came to the airport to pick him up. LEZCANO was alone at the time. They departed the airport in LEZCANO's car, a compact Oldsmobile or Buick, blue in color, about a 1962 or 1963 model. They drove directly to LEZCANO's residence at 515 West 171st Street, New York City. (u)

On the following date, March 10, 1968, ROMERO was taken by LEZCANO on a tour of New York. They drove to the homes of various friends of LEZCANO and to other places where LEZCANO collected for his painting work. ROMERO stated he could not recall any of these addresses. Later they returned to the apartment. (u)

At about 8:30 P.M., ROMERO departed the apartment alone and traveled by subway to 14th Street and 8th Avenue, where he stood on the corner as instructed. At about 9:00 P.M., he was approached by the same Cuban official he had previously met and they walked about four blocks to a restaurant, where they had dinner. ROMERO could not recall the name of the restaurant or its location. Thereafter they entered a taxi and went to a small hotel, name and location unknown, where arrangements were made with the desk clerk by the Cuban official for a room. (u)

Upon their arrival in the room, ROMERO inquired of the Cuban official how he was to be certain the official (u)



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was not an agent of the United States Government. The official then produced an identification card which identified him as JESUS JIMENEZ, First Secretary of the Cuban Mission to the United Nations. The identification card was printed in English. (S)

During the ensuing conversation, the official asked if ROMERO was still in favor of the Cuban revolution and still wanted to work for the Cuban Government. ROMERO replied in the affirmative and stated he would gladly cooperate with them. He was again asked the same questions concerning his previous employment by a U. S. Government agency and other individuals so employed. ROMERO claimed he did not furnish any information of value to the Cuban official. (U)

During the above conversation, the Cuban official told ROMERO he would have to make a trip to Cuba, to which he agreed, and the Cuban official stated when he arrived in Cuba, he would talk with RAMIRO VALDES, Cuban Minister of the Interior and chief of Cuban G-2. (S) ROMERO was instructed to advise the Cuban official when and where he would arrive in Cuba when he learned these details in order that the Cuban Coast Guard could be alerted and he would be permitted to enter. The Cuban official also instructed ROMERO upon his arrival in Havana to call telephone number 35-861 and ask for JAIME RODRIGUEZ. (S)

ROMERO on this occasion asked the Cuban official for money and was told that it would be sent to him. (U)

ROMERO denied that he was given any instructions to contact MM T-1 or any other U. S. Government agency, to obtain intelligence information for Cuban G-2, or any other type of specific instruction. He stated he was given no code training and was only told it would be necessary for him to make a trip to Cuba. (U)

Following the above conversation, ROMERO departed the hotel alone and traveled by subway to LEZCANO's apartment, where he remained overnight. He thereafter departed (U)

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for Miami on March 11, 1968, at about 9:00 A.M., arriving in Miami about noon. He was driven to the airport at New York by RICARDO LEZCANO. (u)

About one week after his return to Miami, ROMERO received a second money order by Western Union telegram. He does not recall the name used by the Cuban official in sending this telegram. After receiving the money, he received another telephone call from the Cuban official in New York, who identified himself on this occasion as "JULIAN." The exact date of this telephone call was not recalled by ROMERO. The caller asked how ROMERO was getting along and advised that he would call ROMERO later to find out where he was going to land in Cuba. (u)

ROMERO specifically denied ever having received any correspondence from anyone connected with the Cuban Government or having had any other type of contact with Cuban Government officials prior to November, 1967. He emphatically stated his first contact with the Cubans was in November, 1967. He could furnish no motive for a contact with him by the Cubans except that following his arrest in February, 1967, he had "raved in the streets" against the Americans and the injustice of his arrest and speculated that someone had possibly overheard him. He stated that he positively never initiated any contact or correspondence with the Government of Cuba by mail, telephone or any other means. (u)

ROMERO has no real plan at this time regarding the obtaining of a boat but is attempting to obtain one for the proposed trip to Cuba.

Concerning his proposed departure from the state in violation of his parole, ROMERO stated this was the reason for his contact with MM T-1, that is, to obtain U. S. Government permission for such travel. He denied that he had discussed this proposed trip with any other U. S. Government agency and specifically denied having contacted U. S. Customs in this regard. (u)

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ROMERO stated the reason he had not discussed this matter with U. S. Government officials prior to this time is that he thought he should get "well established" with the Cubans first and then report to the proper U. S. authorities. He stated if he were a Communist, he would be back in Cuba. He emphasized that he planned all along to report to the U. S. authorities and he believes this is an excellent opportunity for the U. S. Government to penetrate the Cuban Intelligence Service. He said he is willing and anxious to cooperate with U. S. authorities in this matter. (u)

ROMERO furnished the following description of himself:

Name	EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO
Alias	"PACHI" ROMERO
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	January 21, 1936
Place of birth	San Cristobal, Cuba
Citizenship	Cuban
Height	5'7"
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Marital status	Married to HILDA MARTINEZ, residing at San Cristobal, Cuba; six-year-old son; separated and claimed he had not heard from his wife in more than a year.
Relatives	
Father	FELIPE ROMERO, deceased
Mother	SEGUNDA DELGADO, deceased
Brother	JOSE MANUEL ROMERO DELGADO, age 50, farmer, Finca Corojal, Pinar del Rio Province, Cuba
Brother	SANTIAGO ROMERO DELGADO, age 46, farmer, San Cristobal, Cuba

Sister	SAVINA ROMERO DELGADO, age 40, divorced, residing at San Cristobal, Cuba. No relatives connected with Cuban Government.
Employment	Unemployed
Residence	Apartment 3, 1050 Northwest First Street, Miami, Florida, telephone 374-1106

ROMERO furnished the following signed statement,  
translated from Spanish as follows:

"Miami, Florida  
April 4, 1968

"I, EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO, have read a  
declaration of my rights and know my rights.  
My rights were explained to me by a Special  
Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
who has identified himself to me as SAMUEL W.  
JONES. He explained them to me in the Spanish  
language. He was accompanied by JOSEPH C. BALL,  
who also has identified himself as a Special  
Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
I signed a waiver of rights after they had been  
explained to me and I had read them.

"I was born on January 21, 1936, at San  
Cristobal, Cuba. I reside at Apartment 3,  
1050 N.W. First Street, Miami, Florida, and  
I am unemployed.

"The first time I had contact with a  
representative of the Intelligence Service  
of Cuba was about the middle of November,  
1967. At this time I received a long distance  
call from an individual who identified himself  
as MONTES DE OCA. I made two trips to New York  
under instructions of MONTES DE OCA after the  
call of November, 1967, using funds sent to me  
from New York. (U)

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"The first trip to New York was during the first days of December, 1967, by airplane. By means of a signal given me by MONTES DE OCA, I met with a Cuban who identified himself as JULIAN HERNANDEZ or GONZALEZ, member of the Department of State Security of Cuba. He asked me to cooperate and work for the Intelligence Service of Cuba. I told him I would.

"My next trip was by airplane to New York on March 9, 1968. During this trip, on March 10, 1968, I met with the same individual and he showed me an identification card which identified him as JESUS JIMENEZ, First Secretary of the Cuban Mission to the United Nations. (S) He instructed me to make plans for a clandestine boat trip to Cuba, where I would see RAMIRO VALDEZ, chief of Cuban G-2. (S)

"I received money by money order from New York, as follows: 1) \$200 on about the first of December, 1967; 2) \$300 on February 28, 1968; and 3) \$200 by Western Union in March, 1968.

"I have never initiated contact with the Government of Cuba and prior to November, 1967, I had not been contacted by this government or its representatives. (U)

"I have read this statement of this and two more pages and it is correct.

"/s/ Epifanio Romero

"Witnesses: Samuel W. Jones, SA, F.B.I., 4-4-68  
Miami, Fla.  
Joseph C. Ball, FBI, Miami, Florida,  
4/4/68"

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In connection with the above reference to an individual named JESUS JIMENEZ,<sup>(S)</sup> it is noted that as of April 1, 1968, JESUS JIMENEZ ESCOBAR, 401 East 88th Street, Apartment 8D, New York City, was First Secretary of the GWTU in New York. (S)

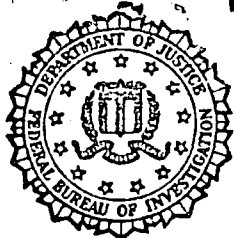
On April 15, 1968, MM T-3 advised that during the previous week, EPIFANIO ROMERO apparently received a large sum of money from his Cuban Government contact in New York City inasmuch as he paid RAMON DONESTEEVEZ, boat builder in Hialeah, Florida, the sum of \$3,900 to build a boat capable of transporting him to Cuba. The boat is a white "Piranha" 23-foot inboard motor launch, equipped with an auxiliary gas tank. The boat is scheduled to be completed on April 17, 1968. (U)

According to the informant, ROMERO has obtained the services of a captain and a navigator, both Cubans, whose identities are unknown to the source, and plans to travel to Cuba with them and ADOLFO BORGES. The subject has a letter for personal delivery to RAMIRO VALDES from (S) RAMON DONESTEEVEZ, who is aware of the purpose of the subject's trip.

The informant stated that in preparation for the trip, the subject received three long distance calls from "JULIAN" in New York on Thursday, April 11, 1968, and three additional calls from him on Saturday, April 13, 1968. The informant was not aware of the substance of their conversations. (U)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Miami, Florida

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. 105-14883

APR 17 1968

Title

EPIFANIO ROMERO DELGADO

Character

INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA;  
REGISTRATION ACT - CUBA

Reference

Report of Special Agent  
JOSEPH C. BALL dated and  
captioned as above at  
Miami, Florida

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

Contact with MM T-2, MM T-3 and MM T-4 has been insufficient to determine their reliability but they are Cubans who are close associates of subject in Miami.

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