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REGISTRATION ACT

ANTI-BATISTA ACTIVITIES

ARMS MOVEMENT ABOARD THE "ARB", "CRISTOBAL CARRIER" AND  
"ANCON TRADER"

SANCHEZ, AURELIANO ARANGO

PAULINO, ANSELMO

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED ATSECURITY INFORMATION - [REDACTED]  
NEW YORK

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>MIAMI, FLORIDA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>AUG 21 1953</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/13-17, 20-24, 27-30; 5/4-8, 11-15, 18-22, 25-29; 6/1-30; 7/1-31; 8/1-11/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>GED:FJH GEORGE E. DAVIS, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS- CUBA; REGISTRATION ACT; NEUTRALITY ACT - CUBA.</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

CARLOS PRIO publicly denied having had anything to do with 7/16/53 uprising against BATISTA. Reliable informants reported that PRIO and his associates were completely surprised by uprising and PRIO thought that the whole affair was "crazy." Cuban Consul, Miami, assaulted 7/11/53 Miami during Cuban Day celebrations. On 7/28/53 threats were made to wreck the Cuban Consulate and attack the Consul. At same time plans by several Cubans, claiming to be members of Cubans for Civic Action, NYC to picket Cuban Consulate Miami in protest against present Cuban Government were prohibited by Miami police. Informant reported information reflecting that these picketers were in indirect contact with ANTONIO PRIO, brother of CARLOS. During the period of this investigation informants and newspapers have reported information disclosing that PRIO and some of his associates have made statements which indicate CARLOS PRIO group plans action against BATISTA in near future. In April, 1953, according to one report, a number of PRIO followers were arrested in Mexico and a number of blank Panamanian and Guatemalan passports were seized. CARLOS PRIO and other leading members of Authentic Party had joint meeting with several members of Orthodox Party 6/1/53, Montreal, Canada to unify plans for joint action against BATISTA. PRIO disclosed to one informant that as soon as these two parties dispose of BATISTA, a provisional government will be installed with PRIO as its head, after which elections will be held. Informants reported that 2 ships, "Cristobal Carrier" and "Ancon Trader" in port of Miami are being used by PRIO group. Other informants advise that "The Arb," a converted crash boat, departed Miami 6/5/53 for Cay Sal, B.W.I.,

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SYNOPSIS (Continued) *Cont*

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captained by THOMAS J. MC CRORY, Miami yacht broker with DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA y RESCALVO, Cuban associate of PRIO on board. This vessel returned Miami 6/9/53 and later MC CRORY bragged about transporting arms and ammunitions on behalf PRIO for revolutionary purposes. These 3 vessels cleared customs 7/18/53 to travel in convoy together as far as Panama, C.Z. but did not weigh anchor until 7/24/53 and the "Arb" failed to travel in convoy with the other two. On 7/26/53 the "Arb" arrived Key West where Customs has placed a \$1,000.00 penalty against it. Informants advise that on 7/19/53 Cuban Navy seized cache of arms on Cay Sal, B.W.I.; that these arms bore identification marks reflecting same came from Mexico and from U.S. [AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO, leading PRIO associate, reportedly arrested Kingston, Jamaica, 5/2/53 on charge of illegal importation of arms while traveling on Mexican passport under false name. According to informant, SANCHEZ ARANGO stated he was in charge of the underground movement dedicated to overthrow of BATISTA.] On 7/24/53, CARLOS PRIO was observed to meet in Miami an unidentified man bearing striking resemblance to SANCHEZ ARANGO. Numerous reports received concerning alleged arms purchases on behalf PRIO group for revolutionary purposes. PRIO has admitted to one informant that he has succeeded in smuggling arms into Cuba. (S)

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PRIO has dismissed two employees on suspicion they were secretly employed by BATISTA. Informant reported that on 7/6/53 arrangements were made for CARLOS PRIO to meet General ANSELMO PAULINO of Dominican Republic under clandestine circumstances, but no evidence meeting consummated. Informants have advised that a constant stream of Cubans visit PRIO and his leading associates in Miami.

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I. CUBAN UPRISING JULY 26, 1953

The July 27, 1953, issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "Rebels Fail to Seize Two Garrisons" by GEORGE SOUTHWORTH, Herald Staff Writer, who reported that fifty-three persons were killed and dozens wounded early Sunday (July 26, 1953) when armed rebels disguised as soldiers failed to seize two Cuban Army garrisons in uprisings against the regime of President FULGENCIO BATISTA. This article disclosed that the main uprising occurred at Santiago de Cuba in Oriente Province and that a rural guard post in the city of Bayamo, 150 miles northwest of Santiago was also attacked.

This article stated that BATISTA blamed the attack on the followers of deposed President CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, who was ousted by BATISTA in a bloodless coup d'etat on March 10, 1952. In the same article it was reported that PRIO denied this accusation and said that when and if he should ever direct a revolution against the BATISTA government, "he will be leading it in front and would not be at home in Miami".

Miami Informant T-1, of known reliability, who is well informed concerning CARLOS PRIO, and some of his associates, learned on July 26, 1953, that when CARLOS PRIO received news of the above described uprising he indicated that it came as a complete surprise to him. He expressed curiosity as to the identity of the parties or group behind this disturbance. Subsequently on July 26, 27, and 28, Miami Informant T-1 and Miami Informants T-2 and T-3, also of known reliability, who are well informed concerning PRIO and some of his close associates in Miami, reported that RICARDO ARTIGAS, former Chief of the Cuban Lottery under PRIO, and his wife, MARISOL ALBA, and SEGUNDO CURTI, former Minister of Interior under PRIO, also were surprised over the uprising and made vigorous efforts to ascertain who was behind the uprising.

Miami Informant T-1 reported on July 28 that CARLOS PRIO felt the whole affair of the uprising was "crazy". He gave a statement to the press on the same date to the effect that BATISTA is protecting the Communists internally although

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blaming them externally for the uprising. PRIO described FIDEL CASTRO, leader of the revolt, as a well known enemy of Communism, and said that many of those who were killed by BATISTA's men came from distinguished Cuban families.

PRIO also took this opportunity, according to the informant, to point out that when he, PRIO, became President of Cuba he closed down the Communist newspaper "Hoy", but that it was re-opened by BATISTA, and he claimed the number of Communists in Cuba has increased from 20,000 to 150,000 during BATISTA's present regime. He claimed BATISTA is facing a bad economic depression, and that if he, PRIO, were back in Cuba, he would immediately arrange for free elections so that the people could elect a constitutional President.

An article entitled "Dictator Batista Slaps Martial Law Over Cuba", which appeared in the July 28, 1953 issue of the Miami Herald by the Associated Press with a Havana dateline, reported that BATISTA slapped martial law over Cuba July 26, 1953, after crushing an attack by some 230 armed rebels on two Army posts.

Miami radio broadcasts disclosed on the evening of July 29, 1953 that Cuban planes had strafed two boats, the "Benson" and the "Babe" of Liberian and Honduran registry respectively, although American operated, which resulted in the wounding of two British subjects and one Honduran. Miami Informant T-1 reported on the evening of July 29, that PRIO received news of this incident with disbelief. After the news was confirmed, PRIO remarked that the incident should certainly be of interest to American authorities. RICARDO ARTIGAS, according to T-2, expressed the opinion that the "BATISTA people must be crazy".

On July 27, 1953, Miami Informant T-4 of known reliability advised that LUIS GUSTAVO FERNANDEZ, personal secretary to CARLOS PRIO disclosed that the Cuban uprising was not caused by "our people", but that it arose because of student action.

Miami Informant T-5, of known reliability, reported on July 29, 1953, that information emanating from the Cuban Military Intelligence Service reflects that the uprising was

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caused by members of the Orthodox Party of which FIDEL CASTRO, the revolt leader, is a member, with the assistance of the Communist Party, and that the uprising was not sanctioned by PRIO and members of his Autentico Parti. This informant said that PRIO had planned action with the assistance of the Orthodox Party, this action to take place following the election of JOSE FIGURES, Presidential Candidate in Costa Rica, who had promised PRIO aid and assistance in the event he were elected. Informant pointed out that FIGURES, according to the newspapers, was elected President of Costa Rica on July 28, 1953.

Miami Informants T-1, 2, and 3 learned that a number of Autentico Parti members such as ANTONIO VARONO, LOMBERTO DIAZ, and DIEGO MEJIAS have been released by Cuban authorities following their arrest. These same informants advised that no information came to their attention showing movement of PRIO followers from Miami to Cuba prior to this uprising, and that they had received no other evidence indicating that PRIO was in any way responsible for the uprising.

Miami Informant T-1 learned on July 30 that CARLOS PRIO reported to GUILLERMO ALONSO PUJOL, who was Vice-President of Cuba during the Presidency of PRIO, that most of the participants in this uprising were students led by FIDEL CASTRO, and that most of these were members of the Orthodox Party, and that most of "our friends" were also arrested. Among these he named were ROBERTO AGRAMONTE and EMILIO OCHOA Y OCHOA, both members of the Orthodox Party, and that a complaint had been filed by the Cuban Government against PRIO. PRIO also related the machine-gunning of two people by the Cuban Government. When asked by PUJOL if PRIO were still optimistic after all this, PRIO replied in the affirmative, stating the Cuban people could just not wait. He also disclosed that all this that has occurred in Cuba had not hurt his cause one bit.

T-2 reported on July 30, 1953, that one of PRIO's followers, Commandant ZORILLAS, who has recently arrived in Miami, disclosed he had just had an interview with LUIS ORTEGA of the Cuban newspaper "El Pueblo", who had been beaten

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and whose newspaper had been destroyed following the uprising of July 26. According to this information furnished by ORTEGA, prisoners were being taken throughout Havana, and trucks had been loaded with cadavers and driven to Santiago where the bodies were thrown so as to indicate they had been killed in Santiago. ORTEGA described the situation as being critical and expected a "blow up". ZORILLAS it was learned considered ORTEGA a very strange individual, but did not question his reliability. He said there were 400 dead now in Cuba as a result of this uprising.

The Miami Herald on August 2, 1953, carried an article entitled "Prio Classes Batista with Red Chiefs" wherein it was stated CARLOS PRIO charged that the strafing of two banana boats by Cuban war planes put Batista on the same level with Russia's masters.

This article, in part, quoted PRIO as follows:

"That brutal and inhuman action ordered by the dictator of Cuba is typical of the disregard which dictators feel toward international rights and the unwritten laws which guide the actions of democratic governments and free peoples.

"That action, which is along the same line as the shooting down of unarmed American and British transports by Soviet planes, shows the unity of procedures used by dictatorships - whether it be the system ruling Cuba, or the system which pretends to impose itself on the civilized world from Moscow."

"The American people, he said, received a 'rude reminder of the dictators' disregard of human principles and common decency' this week when an American B-50 bomber was shot down over the Sea of Japan by Russian fighters.

"Prio charged further that reports 'filtering' out of Cuba indicate that Batista has unleashed 'a wave of terror.'"

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Miami Informant T-25, of known reliability, and who is personally acquainted with some leading members of the PRIO group, learned on August 3, 1953, that CARLOS PRIO in discussing this uprising stated, "The case of MONCADA ARMORY, was a tremendously stupid action on the part of a boy mentally unbalanced. He never received any aid from me or anyone taking a part in the central directive movement. I had nothing, absolutely nothing, to do with that uprising. The plans of FIDEL CASTRO were crazy. What did he accomplish by taking of MONCADA's Armory when in one hour's time he would have over his head all of BATISTA's air force? Further, FIDEL CASTRO was so stupid as to have some messages already printed and signed by him as 'President in Arms' of the Republic of Cuba. There is no sense in all this unfortunate episode at Santiago de Cuba, but to give opportunity to BATISTA to make a forced demonstration and fanfare. At the same time only a mentally unbalanced individual could lead 150 young men into a sure massacre. FIDEL never had over 25 or 40 rifles. The rest of his followers went into the fight armed only with machetes and knives although they were promised rifles before reaching the Moncada Armory. These rifles never reached their hands. No one in our organized revolutionary movement against BATISTA had anything to do with FIDEL."

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## II. INCIDENTS INVOLVING CUBANS IN MIAMI

### A. Leaflets Distributed By Cuban Liberty Action:

The May 20, 1953, issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "Anti-Batista Plans Carried to Cubans Here". This article disclosed that leaflets signed by the Cuban Liberty Action (Miami Branch) were distributed in Miami denouncing Cuban President BATISTA on the occasion of a ceremony scheduled in Miami to honor Cuban Patriot JOSE MARTI. Two Cuban officials, Dr. RAFAEL L. DIAZ - BALART, Cuban Under-Secretary of Interior, and Dr. HIPOLITO VALELLA, head of the Cuban Tourist Bureau, came to Miami to present a bust of MARTI to the University of Miami. The leaflets above described claim that these men did not represent the Cuban people, but that "in reality, they represent the anti-Democratic government of Dictator FULGENCIO BATISTA." He was denounced as a "pro-Communist and anti-Democratic dictator, a thief of the public treasury like PERON in Argentina, MALENKOF in Russia, TRUJILLO in Dominican Republic." The leaflets concluded, "Our brothers died in Korea for the liberty of the world. Do not become an accomplice of the friends of these assassins. Join our consignee: freedom for the Cuban people." This article disclosed that VIDAL MORALES of Miami, described as a leader in the distribution of these leaflets, said they were put out by the Miami Branch of the "Cuban Liberty Action", a group recently organized in Cuba to oppose BATISTA. The leaflets were printed in both Spanish and English.

On May 21, 1953, T-5 reported that VIDAL MORALES served in the United States Army during World War II and had been living in Miami on 39th Avenue between First and Second Streets, N. W., with ORLANDO GARCIA, who was arrested about eight months ago by the Miami Police Department in connection with a murder charge in Cuba, but who was subsequently released. T-5 said that he learned that ALVAREZ RUEDA, 228 N. W. 26th Avenue, Miami, was associated with MORALES in the distribution of these leaflets. He describes RUEDA as having served as a Lieutenant in the Radio Technical Department of the Cuban Police Department under President GRAU, and said he has lived in Miami about

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six years. He also reported that RUEDA received a jail sentence for dealing in contraband during the PRIO regime. He said RUEDA has no obvious source of income and yet reportedly possessed money.

Miami Informant T-6, of known reliability, reported on May 21, 1953, that VIDAL MORALES is a member of the Union Insurreccional Revolutionary of Cuba, this being a revolutionary group of gangsters which was abolished by BATISTA.

Both T-5 and T-6 expressed the opinion that the Cuban Liberty Action was planned by VIDAL MORALES, ALVAREZ RUEDA and perhaps others for this specific purpose, and that it was not actually an organization as such. Neither T-5 nor T-6 had ever heard of this organization before.

On June 3, 1953, Mr. ANTONIO PRIO, who called at the Miami Office relative to another matter, was shown one of the above described leaflets. ANTONIO PRIO, who is the brother of CARLOS PRIO stated he did not know VIDAL MORALES, and that MORALES had no connection whatsoever with CARLOS PRIO or members of his party, and that the incident was undoubtedly inspired by Cuban students in Miami who are opposed to BATISTA. ANTONIO PRIO said he possessed no knowledge of the existence of any organization known as the Cuban Liberty Action.

B. Assault of Cuban Army Officer in Miami, July 6, 1953:

On July 13, 1953, Miami Informant T-5 reported that on July 6, 1953, LEON DE DIOT, a Major in the Cuban Army, who was then in Miami en route to Jacksonville, Florida, to engage in a competitive pistol match along with other members of his team, was assaulted at Walgreen's Drug Store, Flagler Street and Southeast Second Avenue, by CESAR VEGA whom the informant described as being a Cuban ruffian who is associated with the PRIO group in Miami. T-5 said that VEGA was wearing brass knucks when he struck Major DIOT.

The informant said that CESAR VEGA is closely associated with RUBEN ACOSTA, a Cuban attorney, VIDAL MORALES, above described, and one BLANCO, all of whom he said are members of the PRIO group.

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The informant said he had also learned that VEGA, ACOSTA, and other Cubans also went to the room of another Cuban at the hotel Belforte, and started to assault this Cuban but were forced to leave hurriedly when help approached.

Miami Informant T-1 learned on July 6, 1953, that CARLOS PRIO arranged to contact one of the Cuban Military Officers in the same group going to Jacksonville, concerning the above described incident. PRIO advised that he was not behind the incident and had nothing against the Cuban Army.

C. Cuban Day Celebration, July 11, 1953:

The July 12, 1953, issue of the Miami Daily News carried an article entitled "Cuban Consul Trades Punches With Heckler". This article reflected that EDUARDO HERNANDEZ, Cuban Consul at Miami and an unidentified heckler engaged in a brief fist fight following Cuban Day celebrations which were held in Bayfront Park, Miami, on July 11, 1953, in honor of JOSE MARTI, Cuban Patriot. This article disclosed the proceedings were interrupted by a heckler who shouted, "Viva Cuba - without Batista. Down with the dictatorship."

Miami Informant T-6 reported on July 15, 1953, that the fisticuffs between Consul HERNANDEZ and his assailant took place in the Minerva Restaurant located about two blocks from Bayfront Park, following the ceremonies in the park. T-6 said that HERNANDEZ' assailant, identified as CESAR VEGA, struck HERNANDEZ after HERNANDEZ pointed out to VEGA that although they had personal differences about politics, they should attempt to observe civil law in Miami. T-6 said that actually forty to fifty punches were exchanged by VEGA and HERNANDEZ.

T-6 expressed the opinion that he felt that this incident along with others mentioned above were part of an "organized deal" to embarrass the BATISTA Government.

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D. Threats to Damage Cuban Consulate:

On July 28, T-6 reported that an unidentified man speaking Spanish telephonically contacted an employee of the Cuban Consulate in Miami, and stated he was going to wreck the Consulate and attack the Consul. T-6 also learned that two or three Cubans had been asking questions of consulate employees the preceding day while they were waiting for an elevator on the ground floor of the Consulate building. At the same time, according to T-6, the Cuban Consul received a report to the effect that several Cubans were overheard talking in the Paula Restaurant at Miami. They made statements to the effect that they planned to attack the Consulate. According to T-6, the Miami Police Department had placed police guards around the consulate.

The July 28, 1953, issue of the Miami Daily News carried an article entitled, "Tension High Here Over Cuban Revolt" by MILT SOSIN, Miami Daily News Staff Writer. This article reflected that tension mounted in Miami's Cuban colony as some Havana newspapers arrived in Miami showing the evidence of considerable suppression and heavy censorship as an aftermath of an uprising against BATISTA. This article disclosed that the United States Department of State had informed the Miami Police Department about threats received by the Cuban Consul, and that as a result a 24 hour police guard was placed on the Consulate which is located on the fourth floor of the Pan American Bank Building.

E. Attempt to Picket the Cuban Consulate:

Detective Lieutenant C. W. PRICE, Miami Police Department, reported on July 28, 1953, that on the preceding day a group of three men came to the police department and asked for a permit to picket the Cuban Consulate. When asked the purpose of the picketing they replied this was their only method of protesting the present system of Government in Cuba, and to let the American people know their views, and that all Cubans do not approve. At that time they were told no permit was required so long as no disorder resulted in which case police action would be

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immediately taken. These men pledged that nothing but peaceful action was planned.

Mr. PRICE said that later, however, the United States Department of State, according to a newspaper article, contacted Chief of Police WALTER E. HEADLEY at his home, and Chief HEADLEY ordered that no picketing would be permitted in view of the reported threats alleged to have been received by the Cuban Consul.

Detective Lieutenant PRICE said that on the morning of July 28, the same group of three men, accompanied by a woman, came into the police department again, stating they had read the article in the Miami Herald, and desired further information. They appeared cooperative, and sincere. Lt. PRICE informed them that orders had been issued prohibiting the picketing of the Cuban Consul as not being in the best interests of the United States, and that a violation of this order would result in arrests being made. Lt. PRICE said that these people did not appear to be offended or chagrined at the decision, and readily agreed to abide by it. Also, they exhibited no intention to take Court action to determine their entitlement to picket.

One of the picketers, GILBERTO DELGADO, left a sample of the handbill which they had planned to distribute to the public while picketing. This handbill, which is being retained in the files of the Miami Office, reads as follows:

"TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE: Cuba, under Batista's dictatorship, is now living the terror of its full impact. The Dictator is interested only in repressing the efforts the Cuban people are making to restore our Constitution and our rights; and as a regime of force, their methods of necessity include the lash, the machine gun, the black jack, torture and beatings. This bloody rule is disguised as a 'Benevolent Dictatorship'. Many people have been killed, including yesterday's 52, as the result of the fight against Batista's tyranny. Batista is double-crossing the United States by dealing with Communist and keeping them in his cabinet as Undersecretary of Labor.  
ACCION CIVICA CUBANA CUBANS FOR CIVIC ACTION  
134 West 96th Street - New York, N. Y."

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Lt. PRICE said that these people presented papers of identification to him as follows:

GILBERTO DELGADO, temporarily visiting at 2275 N. W. 99th Terrace, Miami, Florida, exhibited Certificate of Naturalization No. 6709831 (photo and signature compared but height given as 6'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ " while DELGADO is actually about 5'8", and eyes as blue while his eyes were actually brown), stated that he is President of an organization known as Cubans for Civic Action, 134 West 96th Street, New York, New York, and that he receives his mail at 40 West 97th Street, New York City, where he usually lives when in that city.

LILLIAN TIRADO DELGADO, wife of above who exhibited a birth certificate from New York in her maiden name of LILLIAN TIRADO (did not observe specifically if the form was certified).

CARLOS ISIDORO MARISTANY, 1890 N. W. 81st Terrace, Miami, Florida, which address was obtained from a temporary driver permit, stated he is employed by McKesson & Robbins in this city, and showed an Immigration & Naturalization Service Alien Registration Card No. 6831933 (Form 1-151).

ANGEL ESCARTIN HIJOS, 2275 N. W. 99th Terrace, Miami, Florida, presented an Immigration & Naturalization Service Card No. A8093025 showing that he was admitted 8/27/51 to the United States as a N quota immigrant under 4C (underlined were in boxes on the card).  
Section

Lt. PRICE said that DELGADO also left a copy of a handbill which he said had been distributed in New York City by the same group in the past. This handbill reads:

"TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE:

"All our efforts and sacrifices to defend DEMOCRACY in Asia and Europe has been scorned at by Dictator Batista, of Cuba.

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"Batista, in practicing barbaric methods of torture on his people and political opponents, is violating Article 5, of the worlds declaration of Human Rights.

"Batista's tactics of gaining political power may be compared to those of Mao, Malenkov, Trujillo, Peron, etc.

"Let us unite ourselves for freedom and political immunity, by contacting the Department of State to ask for a change of policy towards the dictatorship of Batista, so that once again we may live as free man.

"ACCION CIVICA CUBANA  
"CUBANS FOR CIVIC ACTION  
"134 West 96th Street, New York, N.Y."

This handbill is also being retained in the files of the Miami Office.

Miami Informant T-3 learned on July 28, 1953, that ELISEO RIERA GOMEZ, who was alleged to serve as a public relations man for CARLOS PRIO, advised ANTONIO PRIO on that date concerning plans to picket the Cuban Consul. It appeared to T-3 that RIERA was making some of the arrangements. RIERA planned to have six picketers carrying signs condemning the Batista Government as being a pro-Communist dictatorship, to distribute literature and to carry Cuban and American flags. The informant learned that RIERA was also in touch with SEGUNDO CURTI concerning this matter. Miami Informant T-7 learned on July 28, 1953, that when RIERA informed ANTONIO PRIO that it appeared that the police might stop the picketers, but that photographers were present at the Pan American Bank Building where the Consulate is located, ANTONIO PRIO pointed out that the publicity which might be obtained through the photographers was the important thing. This informant also learned on the same date that ANTONIO PRIO supplied these picketers with a Cuban flag to use if they succeeded in getting permission to picket the Consulate.

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III. REPORTS CONCERNING IMMINENCE OF ACTION  
ALLEGEDLY PLANNED BY PRIO

On April 29, 1953, Miami Informant T-8, believed reliable, and who is acquainted with ANTONIO PRIO, brother of CARLOS, reported that ANTONIO had recently confided that a revolution would take place in Cuba within six weeks and that if anyone could get a hold of guns which could be used by the PRIO people, he could make a lot of money. On this occasion ANTONIO described himself as being a group leader in the action planned against BATISTA. T-8 said that ANTONIO PRIO was then in Mexico, presumably for the purpose of organizing certain phases of the action planned by the PRIO group.

The April 30, 1953, issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "Cuban Invasion Force Masses, Paper Reports," bearing an Associated Press, Mexico City date line. This article reported that the newspaper Ultimas Noticias disclosed that three hundred mercenaries were gathered on a remote coast of Mexico for an invasion of Cuba; that this force consisted chiefly of Mexicans, but also included Cubans, Guatemalans and Costa Ricans who had been recruited by the opponents of BATISTA. It was stated that this force planned to use small sailing boats to leave the Cuban coast and to seize a small town for the center of an armed revolt. The report disclosed that friends of CARLOS PRIO financed the movement. The article also stated that there was no confirmation of this report from any quarter there.

The May 1, 1953, issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "PRIO denies any plan of Invasion." In this article PRIO stated that the above-described article was "absolutely lacking in veracity" and attributed it to propaganda paid for by BATISTA. PRIO also remarked, according to the article, that the people of Cuba were fully capable of liberating themselves without necessity of invasion from any direction. This article said that PRIO had arrived the preceeding Monday from Mexico City and planned to return there soon.

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On May 12, 1953, Miami Informants T-10 and T-11 reported that they had a discussion with ELISEO RIERA, an employee of the Miami Daily News, who indicated to them that he was working closely with the PRIO people, disclosed that PRIO was going to try to take back Cuba, and that it would be a "bloody" affair. RIERA said that the PRIO group has as many armed men in Cuba as have the BATISTA people.

On May 12, 1953, T-5 reported having received information emanating from the Cuban Intelligence Service that PRIO was planning an uprising against BATISTA on or about May 19 or 20, 1953.

Miami Informant T-12, of known reliability, being a Federal Agency engaged in investigative work, reported on May 22, 1953, that CARLOS PRIO, AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO, former Minister of Education and State under PRIO, EUFEMIO FERNANDEZ; orthodox delegates who are followers of EMILIO OCHOA, delegates of the Federacion and Estudiantal Universitaria, and others met in Mexico early in April, 1953, to discuss SANCHEZ ARANGO's plans for an armed attack against the forces of BATISTA in Cuba. It was stated that the failure of the plan to bribe certain high officials in the BATISTA Government left no alternative but force. It was stated that large quantities of arms were reportedly already available in Cuba for attacks planned on Campo Columbia, the Cubana Fortress, police stations and naval stations in Havana. The time for this attack was not set according to information received by T-12, but it was agreed by those persons that it would be wise to wait until such time as the economic situation of the country should become more critical or until some unexpected event should occur which would permit an auspicious opportunity for implementation of the plan. (u)

Miami Informant T-13, of known reliability, being an official employed by T-12, reported having just received information from a source considered reliable that an alert had been issued to opposition groups in Havana to be prepared for immediate action and the source was of the opinion that it was entirely possible that some revolutionary movement would be started in the early morning hours of May 28, 1953, and if not then, within the next few days. (u)

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Miami Informant T-14, of known reliability, and who is acquainted with many Cubans in Miami, reported on June 9, 1953; that he had received information from a friend who visited the home of FRANCISCO PRIO, who had disclosed that the PRIO group has everything they need by way of equipment and are now ready to start operations. The exact time was not disclosed.

Miami Informant T-15 reported on May 29, 1953, that former Senator PELAYO CUERVO NAVARRO, apparently a sympathizer with the EMILIO OCHOA faction of the Orthodox Party, which seemed to be implicated in revolt plans with PRIO's Authentic Party, appeared on a "Meet the Press" program televised over Cuban Station CMQ on May 26, 1953. During a question and answer session, PELAYO implied or stated six times that he believed violence would be justified in the event a peaceful solution could not be found for Cuba's political problems. He insisted that there is an "attitude of rebellion" among the people and he said "As soon as there is a propitious situation, I am sure that the Cuban people will fulfil their duty as has always happened." Another theme to which he returned several times was that the army was sensitive to the will of the people and knowing that the "moment is drawing near when the voice of the people is going to rule." T-15 said that PELAYO was arrested by the Cuban Intelligence Service as he left the broadcasting station but was later released although it was reported that criminal charges would be brought against him for defamation.

Miami Informant T-16, who is believed to be reliable, but who represents the BATISTA Government, reported on June 10, 1953, that a meeting of the Orthodox Party of Cuba was held at the Whitehall Hotel, New York City, on the evening of June 8, 1953. Among those present as speakers were MARINO SUAREZ, JESU DE GALINDO, JUAN DIAZ, a Dominican, EMILIO OCHOA and PARDO LLADA. Also present was JOSE ANTONIO VARONA, who is a member of the Authentic Party. Informant said that the theme of all of the talks made by these speakers was that a demand would be made of BATISTA for a free election in Cuba. If this demand were not met the Government of BATISTA would be overthrown by force. OCHOA stated that a final decision was made at Montreal and that the two biggest parties in Cuba,

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being the Orthodox Party and the Authentic Party, had decided to overthrow BATISTA. The informant said that all the speakers urged those in attendance to be ready to shed their blood for Cuba. This statement brought enthusiastic applause from the audience. Among those present was JOSE DUARTE, who sat at the speakers' table and was introduced as a Cuban hero. Informant said that he was convinced that within the next month or six weeks, an attempt would be made by the supporters of CARLOS PRIO to overthrow the BATISTA Regime in Cuba by force.

Miami Informant T-1 reported on June 15, 1953, that GUILLERMO ALONSO PUJOL, former Vice President under PRIO, told PRIO that SERGIO CARBO, publisher of Prensa Libre Havana, with whom PUJOL had apparently had a serious discussion, was on the side of PRIO, but that CARBO felt horror at the thought of what might happen as a result of the warlike situation which Cuba was facing.

Miami Informant T-5 reported on July 13, 1953, that RUBEN GARCIA CHELIN, a close relative and associate of CARLOS PRIO, who is residing in Miami, had warned an acquaintance against going to Cuba at that time, insinuating that a revolution might occur in the very near future.

The July 27, 1953 issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "PRIO Denies any Tie With Cuban Revolt," wherein PRIO was questioned as to whether he had had anything to do with the uprising of July 24, 1953. On that occasion PRIO was quoted as stating, "I know nothing about this revolt, but if it fails, there will be others. There will be revolts as long as BATISTA continues to hold the power in Cuba which the people did not give to him.

"I have said before the people of Cuba will never tolerate a dictatorship. For that reason we may see at any time an uprising of the people and the army itself against BATISTA."

"I don't know anything about the revolt today, but any time I am directing such a movement, I will be on the scene leading that movement."

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On July 31, 1953, Miami Informant T-17, of known reliability, stated that it is being reported around Miami that the wife of FULGENCIO BATISTA, head of the Cuban Government, has just gone to England with a large amount of money. T-17 said that he interpreted this report, if true, as meaning that BATISTA may be making arrangements for flight from Cuba.

Miami Informant T-1 learned on August 3, 1953, that PRIO, when called upon to evaluate a plan of action which was not fully described to the informant, stated that the plan was absolutely impossible, that everything which referred to Cuba at the present time is impossible, that what had been planned is impossible because of circumstances which now exist in Cuba as a result of the uprising of July 24, 1953. PRIO pointed out that two American controlled boats were fired upon, that everybody is stopped, houses searched, that all leaders of the party are prisoners, that airplanes and coast guardsmen are patrolling the island, and that the situation is in a state of panic.

It appeared to the informant that PRIO felt that because of these circumstances, it would be necessary to re-adjust and revise the plan which had been previously agreed upon.

Miami Informant T-25 learned on August 3, 1953, that CARLOS PRIO disclosed that his group is definitely planning to overthrow BATISTA and that "the revolution will constitute a double celebration in the history of Cuba. As I have told you, this revolution will not just be a coup to take BATISTA out of the presidential palace. No, BATISTA is directly responsible for many killings. He is just an assassin and assassins pay for their sins with their lives. BATISTA will pay for his crimes with his own life."

The informant got the impression that perhaps PRIO intended that his plans should take effect on a Cuban holiday within the near future so that on that date the Cuban people could enjoy a double celebration. He pointed out that the next major Cuban holiday is October 10, 1953.

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IV. ALLEGED ACTIVITIES AND ARRESTS OF PRIO  
FOLLOWERS IN MEXICO

Miami Informant T-18, of known reliability, being an employee of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, reported in July, 1953, the receipt of a report emanating from Miami Informant T-19, who is an employee of a Federal Agency, assigned to Mexico City. This report dated June 26, 1953, reflected that the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City had furnished the Mexican Federal District Police with a list of names of persons allegedly conspiring to overthrow the present government of Cuba. On April 29, 1953, according to the report, most of these persons were taken into custody by the Mexican police and held for questioning. With the arrest of these persons, a small quantity of pistols and ammunition, plus tear gas weapons and cartridges and one sub-machine gun were

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seized by the police. The report also disclosed that a number of blank Panamanian passports were seized along with a smaller quantity of blank Guatemalan passports and a "large quantity" of passport size photographs of unnamed individuals. This report stated that other persons arrested at this same time and not appearing on the list were:

"1. Captain RAUL RODRIGUEZ y SANTOS, Cuban and henchman of former president of Cuba, CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS.....

"2. SEGUNDO CURTI, former minister of Gobernacion under PRIO.....

"3. Colonel OSCAR DIAZ, formerly of the Cuban Army. Interrogation of OSCAR DIAZ revealed that he has been instrumental in purchasing arms and training troops, mostly Guatemalan, for the purpose of invading Cuba.....

"4. FERNANDO MANUEL JULIAN LABRADA, 29 years of age, residence 1758 SW 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida. Cuban Passport 14315...last visa issued 3-2-53 by the Mexican Consul, Miami....

"5. JUAN RIOS MONTENEGRO, reported to have been a pilot in the Cuban Air Force. Residence Presa de Tezoyo 127, Colonia Irrigacion, Mexico, D. F. On June 2, 1953, RIOS applied for immigration visa at the American Embassy, Mexico City.

"Pressure from an unknown source is believed to have caused the Mexican Police to abandon their investigation. No written record is available. All persons were detained without process and police officials have refused to comment on the matter.

"At the time of the police investigation, PRIO's followers were using Mexico City as their headquarters. It appears now that they are gradually shifting their meetings to the United States, probably Miami, Florida. On June 15, 1953, JUAN RIOS MONTENEGRO was granted an Immigrant Visa at the American Embassy, Mexico City. It will be noted that he intends to be employed by MARA Corp., Miami, Florida.

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"CRISTOBAL MARTINEZ-ZORILLA and CANDIDO de la TORRE-HERRERA departed Mexico City June 19, 1953, via Aerovias Guest, Flight No. 100 to Miami. De la TORRE is one of the Cubans who was allegedly robbed of \$240,000 in Fort Worth, Texas, in October, 1952 while reportedly attempting to purchase arms for CARLOS PRIO. The following information appears on NIV application executed by de la TORRE: Name: CANDIDO GERARDO de la TORRE-HERRA; Address: Patrocinio No. 22, Havana, Cuba; Destination: Hotel Columbus, Miami, Florida; Cuban Passport: 05748 valid until April 7, 1957; Occupation: Politician; Ever arrested, deported or excluded: No. B-2 Visa was issued to de la TORRE on June 19, 1953.

"DAVID de JESUS CARTAYA-NUNEZ was granted B-2 visa in Mexico on June 11, 1953. It is believed that he is destined to Miami.

"JOSE FULGENCIO CRUZ-BONET, Cuban, was an immigration visa applicant at the American Consulate, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, on about July 23, 1952. He is allegedly engaged in some narcotics smuggling activity between Yucatan and Cuba. He is reported to have taken refuge in the Guatemalan Embassy in Havana following the BATISTA coup d'etat on March 10, 1952; he is reported to have been engaged in mailing literature pertaining to the Moscow Economic Conference held in 1952. CRUZ is described as a gangster-politician."

The Cuban Embassy in Mexico City furnished to the Mexican Federal District Police a list of persons alleged to be conspiring to overthrow the present government of Cuba as follows:

1. CANDIDO DE LA TORRE HERRERA: (Exp. 1900). White, born Havana, son of FELIX and TERESA, 49 years old, married. Ex-Councilman of Havana, height medium, stout, residence: 22 Patrocinio St., Bajos, Vibora. He is accused of conspiring against the present regime.

2. MANUEL FERNANDEZ MADARIAGA: - (Exp. 1900). White, son of MANUEL and BALBINA, native of Baute, 39 years of age, married, business man, eyes brown, hair black, height 1.81 cm (approximately 5'10½") 230 lbs., resident of 14 4th St., Marianao. He is accused of conspiring against the present regime.

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3. ARMANDO CORREA MORALES: - (Exp. 781). White, a native of Havana, age 25, married, ex-Lieutenant of the National Police, tall, thin, dark brown or grey eyes, black wavy hair, prominent cheekbones, thin face, frequents Trocadero #315, having resided at Subirana 365, altos, lived in Trocadero #104. Accused in the trial for the death of ALEJO COSSIO DEL PINO, an act which occurred in Belascoain y San Jose. Manager of the UIR (Insurreccional Revolutionary Union).

4. ORLANDO GARCIA VAZQUEZ: (Exp. 1003) White, native of Havana. Son of PEDRO y FILOMESA, born June 16, 1927, married, student, ex-combatant of the 2nd World War and resident of Calle (street) 10, House number 48, between 5th and 6th, La Sierra, Marianao. He is accused in the death of ALEJO COSSIO DEL PINO, which act took place in Belascoain y San Jose, this city; also, he has participated in several other acts of blood; there is information that he is in Miami, Florida.

5. LUIS FERNANDEZ de la CAMAPA, alias "ojos gachos" (means eyes slanting downward). Exp. #662 White, native of Havana, son of JOSEPH and JOSEPHINE, age 25, single, brown eyes, light hair, resident of 12th St. S/N between 7th and 8th Aves. opposite Park #2, Extension of Almendares, Marianao. Formerly resides Havana St. #506. He has participated in various criminal acts in this city. He is wanted for the robbery of the Continental Bank, Miramar and for others. He is a member of the U.I.R.

6. HUGO FERNANDEZ BARROSO, alias "El Gallego" (The one from Galicia). Exp. 1713. White, native of Sancti Spiritus, son of JOSEPH and CONSUELO, age 22, Ht. 1.68 centimeters, about 170 pounds, black hair, brown eyes. Was a resident of Independence #113 in Sancti Spiritus, where his parents reside. He visits San Rafael #1021 as well as the Institute of Vedado. He is wanted for assault and robbery of the Continental Bank in Miramar. He has participated in various criminal acts in this capital. He is a member of the U.I.R.

7. ANGEL HERNANDEZ PEREZ, alias "PAPI CHIRINO" Exp. 1004. White, native of Havana, son of ANGEL and ROSA, age 22,

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single, resident of San Francisco #14, Guanabacao. He is wanted in the case #568/50 of the Tribunal de Urgencia (equivalent to Superior Court) for the assault and robbery of the grocer PAULINO PEREZ LUACES which crime occurred in Regla.

8. JESUS RODRIGUEZ FLEITAS. Exp. 250. White, native of Santiago de las Vegas, son of JOSEPH and MARY, age 28, Ht. 5'8", Wt. 140 lbs., Complexion pale, hair light and wavy, eyes blue, no definite address. His relatives live in Santiago de las Vegas. He is wanted in the case #1315/949 for gangsterism. He is also wanted for assault and robbery of a jewelry store located in the Radiocenter Building as well as for other crimes.

9. JOSE FAYAT AQUERES alias "El Turquito" (the little turk). Exp. #1538. White, native of Havana, son of Elias and Leonor, age 40, married, chauffeur, Ht. 166 centimeters, Wt. 71 kilos, Brown hair, green eyes, no definite address. Sentenced to 30 years in prison in the case #1195/47 of the Havana Superior Court for his part in the "Orfina" affair in Marianao. (Escaped from the Havana Prison on 11-25-51.)

10. MANUEL SALGADO REBOLLO alias "El Guajiro Salgado" (Country boy) Exp. 1539. White, native of Havana, son of MANUEL and DOLORES, age 36, Mechanic, Ht. 171 centimeters, Wt. 73 kilos, Black hair, Brown eyes, no definite address. Sentenced in case #1195/47 of the Superior Court. Escaped from the Havana Prison on 11-25-51. NOW DECEASED.

11. ORLANDO LEON LEMUS, alias "El Colorado" (Red), Exp. 172, White, native of Havana, son of RENE and PETRONA, age 36, single, Chauffeur for C. DACTILAR #115768, resident of Santos Suarez St., #410, Havana, Cuba. Wanted in case #1643/49 for murder as well as in other cases. He is 5'9", 150 lbs., black eyes, red hair or may be dyed black. He belongs to the M.S.R. and is a close friend of POLICARPO SOLER CRUZ, fugitive from justice in connection with several murders.

12. WILFRED LARA GARCIA, Exp. #242. Race half-breed, son of AURELIO and CONCEPCION, age 27, single, resident of Independencia St. #218, Guanabacao, Ht. 165 centimeters, Wt. 60

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kilos, eyes brown, hair black and curly. Sentenced to 30 years in prison in the case 726/49 for murder. Escaped from Havana prison on 11-25-51 together with POLICARPO SOLER CRUZ and others. He belongs to the M.S.R. A right-hand man of POLICARPO.

13. GERMAN ALVAREZ FUENTES, Exp. 1407, White, native of Havana, son of German and Lidia, age 27, single, resident of Nunez St. #58, Columbia Section. Wanted for breaking into jewelry store located in the Radiocenter Building along with JESUS RODRIGUEZ FLEITAS and ANTONIO ESPINO CARRILLO. Has alias of "the Mexican." NOW DECEASED.

14. RAMON ALFONSO RUBIO CUBILLAS. Exp. 722. White, native of Regla (could be RAGLA), son of CRISTOBAL and ANA MARIA, 23 years of age, single, ex-National Policeman, height 164 cms. (about 5'4½"), weight 74 Kilograms (about 164 lbs.) eyes brown or grey, brown hair, residence unknown. Was sentenced to seven years in prison for assault and robbery; he is a fugitive of La Habana Prison; while in the Hospital of Mazorra, he escaped with others.

15. REINALDO PITA HEVIA. Exp. 1655. White, Native of Havana, son of RAMON and ROSA, 24 years of age, single, resident of 168 Agua Dulce, Havana. He is accused by the Sixth Division Court of Instructions for murder of a foreman of the Cuban Electrical Company, surname DENIS.

16. TOMAS AGAPITO GONZALEZ GARCIA, alias "MARANA". Exp. 313. White, Native of Havana, son of ANTONIO and JOSEFA, 36 years of age, married, ex-Secret National Policeman, chauffeur, Height 168 cms (about 5'6½"), weight 55 kilograms (about 121 lbs.), eyes brown or grey, brown hair, resident of 462 Calle Justicia, Luyano, Havana, member of the "Twine Makers Revolutionary Action." Is in Mexico conspiring against the Cuban Government. Intimate friend of JESUS GONZALEZ CARTAS (El Extranero - The Stranger), also in Mexico.

17. FULGENCIO CRUZ BONET, alias "Nato." Exp. 293. White race, Native of Velazco, East (oriente), son of MIGUEL and LIDIA, 29 years of age, married, resident of 307 Calle

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Lealtad, first floor, Havana. Height 165 cms (about 5'5"), 135 lbs., grey or brown eyes, brown hair. Member of the "Twine Makers Revolutionary Action", he became rich as Secretary of Finance of said organization. At present he is in Mexico conspiring against the Cuban Government. He is an intimate friend of JESUS GONZALEZ CARTAS (El Extranero - The Stranger).

18. JOSE CASTELLANOS VALDEZ, "alias Ventrecha (Belley-Fishes)". Exp. 290. White, native of Havana, son of JUAN and LEOPOLDA, 27 years of age, single, ex-Secret National Policeman, height 5'6", weight (not distinguishable), green eyes, light brown hair, (next few words not distinguishable), resident of 613 Calle Guasabacoa, Lumaco. (next two words not readable), Member of the "Twine Makers Revolutionary Action." At present in Mexico conspiring against the Cuban Government.

19. JESUS GONZALEZ CARTAS, alias "El Extranero" (The foreigner) Exp. #312, White, native of Havana, son of VALENTIN and EMMA, age 30, single, chauffeur with fingerprint cars #117702, Height 5'8", Weight 180 lbs., green clear eyes, curly black hair, no definite address. Secretary General of the illegal organization "Accion Revolucionario Guiteras" (Twine-makers' Revolutionary Organization). He became wealthy through this organization. He is known as a "killer" and one who carries out crimes by himself. In the Government of PRIO and GRAU SAN MARTIN, he enjoyed much political influence and was able to visit the palace whenever he wished. At the present time he is in Mexico conspiring against the Cuban Government.

20. LUFEMIO FERNANDEZ ORTEGA. Exp. #442, White, native of Camaguey, son of JOSEPH and MARY, age 40, married. a Doctor of Medicine, but has never practiced. Ex-police officer, that is former head of the National Secret Police in the Government of Dr. RAMON GRAU SAN MARTIN. He is an intimate friend of Ex-President CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS and important member of the organization "Accion Revolucionari Guiteras" (Twinemakers' Revolutionary Organization), and member of the Legion of the Caribe whose purpose was to overthrow the Dominican Government in the unsuccessful expedition which was planned at Cayo Confite. Months later he was arrested at Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, when along with other

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persons they boarded a plane in order to go on the unsuccessful expedition to Santo Domingo. He is known as a dangerous and unscrupulous man. At the present time he is in Mexico conspiring to overthrow the present Cuban Government.

21. VICENTE LERRO KADRUZ, alias "The Italian". Exp. #396. White, native of Havana, son of RAFAEL and ANA, age 25, single, former employee of Modern Buslines (S.A.), Height 5'8", Weight 160 lbs. Brown eyes, black hair and without a definite address. A dangerous member of the "Accion Revolucionaria Guiteras" (Twinemakers' Revolutionary Organization). Listed as the important figure behind several murders. He is wanted for various reasons at the present time. (Deceased)

This informant also received information to the effect that AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO possesses two passports issued in names other than his own, that is GUILLERMO FUENTES-GONZALEZ and JOSE VICTOR SANCHEZ-VALDEZ.

It was also reported that EUFEMIO FERNANDEZ-ORTEGA, former Chief of Police in Cuba during the PRIO Regime, possesses two passports, one issued in the name EUGENIO FERNANDEZ ORTEGA and the other in the name FRANCISCO RAMIREZ y MARTINEZ.

The informant stated that JUAN de RIOS MONTENEGRO, former Naval Attache to Mexico during the PRIO administration, would probably move to the United States during the latter part of June, 1953, from Mexico City, where he was residing at Presa de Tezoro 127, Colonia Irrigacion. It was stated he drives a 1950 Cadillac bearing 1953 Cuban license plates 155-658.

The informant reported that DAVID de JESUS CARTAYA NUNEZ, alleged to have been personal pilot for SANCHEZ ARANGO, is known to have associated with CRISTOBAL MARTINEZ ZORILLA, described as a known Mexican smuggler and probable gun runner. ZORILLA was born April 23, 1911, at Guadalajara, and is a Mexican National, according to his known immigration visa. He is a civil engineer by profession.

The May 2, 1953, issue of the Miami Daily News carried an article entitled "Cuban Exiles Held in Mexico", bearing an Associated Press, Havana, Cuba, date line, reporting that a Government spokesman announced that the Cuban Government had been

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officially informed that Mexican authorities had arrested a number of Cuban officials and had seized information disclosing an intent to attack the Cuban coast. This announcement was made by ERNESTO de la FE, Cuban Information Minister, who said that those arrested were friends of CARLOS PRIO. Among those named as being in Mexican custody were EUFEMIO FERNANDEZ, former Chief of the Cuban Secret Police; SEGUNDO CURTI, former Minister of Interior; Army Colonel OSCAR DIAZ, and CANDIDO De La TORRE, former Havana City Councilman.

The May 3, 1953 issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "CURTI, free in Miami, Laughs." This article disclosed that SEGUNDO CURTI, former Cuban Minister of Interior, at his home at 60 S. 25th Road, Miami, denied that he had been arrested in Mexico and pointed out that he had last visited Mexoci for five days in February. CURTI pointed out that BATISTA's Minister of Information was very poorly informed.

The May 21, 1953 issue of the Miami Herald carried an article entitled "Cuban Exile Denies Plot", date line Mexico City, by the Associated Press. This article reported Colonel OSCAR DIAZ has denied reports that Cuban exiles in Mexico are preparing an invasion of Cuba in an effort to unseat BATISTA. DIAZ said he had begun legal proceedings against the Mexican magazine "Todo" which published such reports. DIAZ said he had been "invited" to go to the police station early in the month for an investigation of reports that three hundred mercenaries were on the Yucatan Peninsula preparing for an attack on Cuba. He said he was not questioned by police and was released the next day.

On July 13, 1953, Miami Informant T-5 reported having received information to the effect that WILHELM SPARR is now closely associated with members of the PRIO group in Mexico City. The informant said that SPARR reportedly serves as a navigator for this group which consists of GUIDO ADOLFO GONZALEZ de BUSTAMANTE LUQUE, TULIO INOCENCIO PRIETO and RAUL RODRIGUEZ SANTOS, as well as FERNANDO LABRADA. It is to be recalled that WILHELM SPARR, a German alien, was a member of the crew of the BONITA in January, 1953, when this vessel had to be towed to the Port of New Orleans by a Danish vessel

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as it was about to sink in the Gulf of Mexico. Also on this boat at that time were SANCHEZ ARANGO, traveling under a false name, RAUL RODRIGUEZ, a close associate of ARANGO, BUSTAMANTE and PRIETO.

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V. PERSONS ALLEGED BY ONE INFORMANT, CONNECTED WITH CUBAN  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, TO BE ENGAGED IN REVOLUTIONARY  
ACTIVITIES AGAINST BATISTA

Miami Confidential Informant T-20, of unknown reliability, who has described himself as being connected with the Cuban Military Intelligence Service, reported on June 18, 1953 that he has been actively engaged in an investigation of the activities of former president CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS and his group, and as a result, had prepared a list of individuals who he claimed are involved in the attempts being made by this group to overthrow the BATISTA regime. T-20 said that he has proof of the revolutionary activities of most of the individuals on this list.

This list, which has been translated from Spanish to English, is as follows:

"ESTRELIA ECHEVARRIA ACOSTA, wife of AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO (a) (---the following names are perhaps alias of SANCHEZ ARANGO) JOSE VICTOR SANCHEZ VELAVEZ; GUILLERMO FUENTES GONZALEZ; native of Matanzas; daughter of PEDRO y de LUZ, 43 years of age and a resident of 'calle 4ta. #6 ent 13 y 14, Repto Ampliacion de Almendares.' (address translates 4th st. house #6 between 13 and 14 Strs. in the Division, Appliacion de Almendares.) It is said she visits the house located at Linea #260, between J and I, upper, Vedado, Telephone F 2187.

"PELLEYA Y JUSTIZ, JOSE LUIS, resident of #27 16th St. Miramar Division, with offices in the 'La Metrololitana' Building (PELLEYA COMBUSTIBLES, S.A.) (Note the letters S. A. stands for Sociedad Anonima, which means anonymous society, or probably equivalent of corporation) He carries passport #999.

"VICENTE VALCARGE GARCIA, 15th St. no. 150 or 855 Vedado. (he has a boat business between Miami and Cuba and possibly smuggles arms).

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"KUCHILAN SOL, MARIO, Linea del Oeste #66 (Linea of the west #66) between Milagros and Johnson, Vibor. Telephone I 8204; Lucena #310, lower apartment #5, between San Miguel and San Rafael, Telephone U 4628.

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- "GALLARDO, JOAQUIN, Metropolitana Building #508 and 509, Telephone A 8673--
- "LUQUE ALBA, SOLEDAD, 14th St. s/n, between 11 and 12--Division 'Ampliacion de Almendares, telephone B 6230.
- "FERNANDEZ (CASTILLO), BENITO. Residence, San Felipe y Buenavista, Biltmore division, Telephone B 2283; Office-Concordia No. 812, Telephone U 6313.
- "LUGO, DR. JOSE A. (JOSE ANTONIO LUGO Y ABREU) Fifth Avenue, upper; corner of 68th. Miramar y/o 16 No. 956 between 15 and 17, Deivision Nicanor del Campo, Telephones B 8129 (Dolores Alvarez, Third Avenue, #247 lowers between 24 and 26, Miramar) B 4933; B 8129 and B 8103.
- "CARTAYA, DAVID (aviator), Ave 12 corner of 14th St., Division Ampliacion de Almendares. (corner SE).
- "GUTIERREZ, LUIS FELIPE (a) 'PINCHO', A Street, #225; between 14 y 16, Division Almendares, Telephone B-4503, Auto Plate no. 21-015, frequents the home of ISABEL SANTOS often, which is located on #152 8th St., corner of First and La Sierra, Telephone B 4910.
- "RUZ GONZALES, ARMANDO (A) 'CUCO' -- Professor of Physical Culture, buddy of CARLOS PRIO, divorced, resident of Concordia #671, lower, Telephone U 9717.
- "CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ - H No. 613, Apto #6 (2nd Floor) between 25 and Lindero Vedado, Telephone FO-4186.
- "ALVAREZ, DR. ALBERTO INOCENTE -- 11 between 6 and Ramon Mendoza Ave., Alturas de Miramar Division. Telephone B 5168.
- "GARCIA, MANUEL or 'ELIAS MANUEL GARCIA DEL BUSTO'. (He was closely associated with JOSE DUARTE in the affair at 'Mamaroneck'). Address Vista Alegre corner of Felipe Poey, Vibora, Tel. I-3572; Note: The telephone is in the name of LEANDRO ABREU PEREZ.--
- "CARRILLO Y HERNANDEZ, JUSTO ASENCIO. alias 'JUSTICIO'. Former President of the National Bank in the administration of CARLOS PRIOR; address is Paseo #151, corner of Calzada, Vedado.--

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"DE VARONA Y LOREDO, MANUEL ANTONIO, alias TONY-- Address is 7th St. between 74 and 76, Miramar (Querejeta.)

"ZENDEGUI, GUILLERMO C. - (Orthodox member) Address is #505 2nd St., Vedado.

"HERNANDEZ TELLAHECHE, ARTURO, alias 'ARTURITO'; address is #5 21st., Above Miramar.

"PELAEZ Y CANELLADA, JOSE JOAQUIN (President of FEU) Address #504 H St., Vedado.

"DIAZ, LOMBERTO -- Address 17th St., corner of 2nd St. Vedado

"ARREBOLA, MANUEL ---He is a citizen of the United States, and he resides in Miami; however, on coming here (Havana) he gave the address of #158 22nd St., Vedado.

"FUENTE PEREZ, ORLANDO E. -- Address is #60 18th St., Miramar.

"RODRIGUEZ PARTAGAS, JOSE --5A P. del Rio, A. Naranjo 3/37

"PARDO LLADA, JOSE--#50 15th St., Vedado.

"PERTIERRA, INDALECIO--Address is 30th St between 1st and 3rd.

"SUAREZ RIVAS, EDUARDO -- Address is #15 21st St., Vedado- (#10 Central Ave.)

"FIGUEROA Y BONTEMPO, ISIDRO- Address is #14 Picota--.

"VALCARCEL GARCIA, VICENTE. #855 5th St., Vedado.--(#150 15th St.)

"PEREZ GALAN, IGNACIO.-Address is Avenue of the Officials #11.

"RIERA GOMEZ, ELISEO.- Representative of the newspaper 'Informacion' in Miami; although he is a citizen of the United States and resides at Coral Gables, Fla. when he comes to Havana he stays at #316 26th St., Vedado.-

"There follows below the report of the telephone contacts submitted by T-20's source:

"CESAR A. ALVAREZ (B9-3807) (#1004 10th St., first floor, between 11th and 12th, Extension of Almendares.

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"ARTIGAS, ENEIDA.- Tres Rosas s/n between Lane 1 and E (no sidewalk) Phone BO-9127.

"ALVAREZ de CANAS, PABLO Address is #502 19th St. corner of E, Vedado; Tel F-2465.

"DeCARDENAS Y O'FARRIL, DANILO. Upholstery shop; #312 Oquendo, downstairs between St. Michael and Saint Rafael, Tel. UO-0175; it is believed that this person is very feiendly with ANTONIO PRIO and his girlfriend HORTENSIA VILLAR.

"GIL, AMELIA.- #712 DAMAS, upstairs, between Luz and Acosta; Tel. W-8321.

"ALVAREZ, BRISIO, #5 44th St., Apt. 4, between 1st and 3rd, Miramar; tel. B9-3106

"AGUILERA, RENE.-#111 Gomez St. between Zapote and St. EMILIA; Tel. I-4664

"GANS, OSCAR. #454 I St., Apt. 3, corner of 21st. Tel.F-5685

"GUSIDO, EUGENIO.-#359 8th St. between 9th and 11th, LaSierra; Tel. B9-2940.

"PEREZ LOPEZ, VIRGILIO.-#101 1st Ave. corner of 10th, Miramar; Tel. B-6581.

"INCERA, LIBRADA de la.-#363 26th St. upstairs, between 23rd and 25th; Tel. Fl-1751

"PINO, MERCEDES. #404 Zapote upstairs; Tel. I-1085 (She is the daughter of the present wife of LUIS GUSTAVO FERNANDEZ).

"FUENTES RODRIGUEZ, Dr. ANTONIO, alias 'Tino'. -St. Rafael #404 (Mangas Building), Apt. 302, corner of Manrique; Tel. A-2043 (St. Michael 421)

"ALCAREZ, Dr. ALBERTO I.-11 s/n between 6th and Ramon Mendoza Ave., Upper Miramar; Tel. B-5168.

"GONZALES, FRANCISCO. #1455 19th St. between 28 and 30; Tel. Fl-0232.

"GOMEZ, DOLORES.-#65 Jorge (George St. corner of St. Michael Vibora; Tel. I-3495 (Z-Z)

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"This is the end of the report of the telephone contacts received from T-20's source:

"PUIG, VICTOR.-#469-19th corner of E. Vedado. "

VI. EFFORTS TO UNIFY THE AUTHENTIC AND ORTHODOX PARTIES FOR JOINT ACTION AGAINST BATISTA

A. Montreal Conference

The June 2, 1953 issue of the Gazette, Montreal, Canada, carried an article entitled, "Exiled Cuban Leaders Map Joint Fight Against BATISTA," which reflected that exiled Cubans, leaders in the fields of politics, labor, youth, and professions, met June 1, 1953 at Montreal in an attempt to arrive at a common policy in their fight against President FULGENCIO BATISTA.

This article disclosed that the two big parties represented were the Cuban Revolutionary Party (Authentic) and the Cuban Peoples Party (Orthodox). CARLOS HEVIA, who had been scheduled to run as Presidential candidate on the Authentic Party ticket in the June, 1952 elections until the coup d'etat of BATISTA on March 10, 1952 upset his plans, was reported as stating that the meetings in Montreal were to consolidate the opposition immediately and to bring about the return of constitutional government in Cuba.

CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, EMILIO OCHOA y OCHOA, President of the Orthodox Party; and MANUEL A. de VARONA y LAREDO, President of the Authentic Party, issued the following statement at this conference:

"The conference that we have been holding in Montreal with high representatives of both parties looks forward to the establishment of a national unity in an endeavor to do away with the dictatorship in Cuba through the re-establishment of the constitutional institutions of Cuba.

"The Authentic and Orthodox parties hope to arrive, as a result of these meetings, at an understanding, and they are sure this will be the basis of

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"of a patriotic agreement of the opposition, which does not mean an electoral coalition in the future, because the ends that move them now are of a national character, for the defence of the constitution and laws which have been violated.

"We will endeavor to avoid for our country a fratricidal war to which Cuba is being led by the usurper regime."

This article disclosed that this joint meeting was attended by the following members of the Orthodox Party:

Dr. EMILIO OCHOA y OCHOA  
Dr. JOSE M. GUTIERREZ  
JOSE PARDO LLADA  
YSIDERO FIGUEROA  
Dr. RAUL de JUAN, professional representative  
JANIER LEZCANO, labor representative

For the Authentic Party -

Dr. SOCARRAS  
Dr. GUILLERMO ALANSO PUJAL  
Dr. MANUEL A. de VERONA LAREDO  
Dr. EDUARDO PROVOS,  
Dr. JUAN A. RUBIO PADILLO  
CARLOS HEVIA, all party representatives;  
ANTONIO SANTIAGO, youth representative  
Dr. ARACELIO AZCUAY, professional representative  
Dr. LOUIS GUSTAVO FERNANDEZ, personal secretary to  
SOCARRAS  
Col. RAFAEL YSQUIERDO, personal assistant to  
SOCARRAS.

Miami Informant T-21, of known reliability, who is employed by a Federal Agency, reported that a 500-word declaration, in Spanish, was issued to the press by leaders of the above-mentioned parties and that this declaration was summarized as follows by the La Presse:

"-----the Cuban people have repudiated the regime of the usurpers, demanding a return to constitutional and democratic order by a government capable of holding

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"free general elections.

"-----The Cuban crisis cannot be resolved otherwise than by restoration of the Constitution of 1940, which spoke the free will of the people.

"-----the Party of the Cuban people (orthodox) and the Cuban Revolutionary Party (authentic) have decided to bring into being a constructive force of patriotic unity.

"The two parties judge it indispensable to form a provisional government which will re-establish the electoral law of 1943. The signatory parties reject as electoral weapons, attacks on persons, gangsterism and terrorist maneuvers. They promise Cuba for the day of her resurrection, an era of peace and legality."

T-25 learned on August 3, 1953 that CARLOS PRIO in describing the Montreal Conference stated, "What we agreed in Montreal was in reference to a 'master plan' to liquidate BATISTA's regime. We did not agree to any political alliance, as each party will maintain his autonomy and freedom of action in the political field as soon as we dispose of BATISTA's machinery in Cuba. A provisional government will be installed in the Government at the time with me at its head for the balance of the time BATISTA took away from me and presidential elections will be held immediately afterwards with full guarantees to all. We just want to continue the national march of democracy which has been interrupted by BATISTA's gangsterism."

B. Contacts Between CARLOS PRIO and Orthodox Party Leaders in Miami following Montreal Conference

Miami Confidential Informant T-1 reported on June 10, 1953 that EMILIO OCHOA, one of the principal leaders of the Orthodox Party, contacted PRIO on June 10, 1953 en route back to Cuba. This same informant subsequently learned that OCHOA was in Miami during the first half of July, 1953, during which time he was in touch with leading members of PRIO's party in Miami. The exact purpose of these contacts was not known to the informant, who advised, however, that they appeared to be on a very friendly basis.

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# VII. TRAVEL BY CARLOS PRIO

Miami Informant T-22, of known reliability, who is an officer of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations reported on April 30, 1953 that CARLOS PRIO returned to Miami on April 25, 1953 from Mexico City. He was accompanied by his military aide Col. RAFAEL YSQUIERDO, CESAR M. FONSECA SARMIENTO, and ANDRES ESPINOSA de LAS MONTEROS. CESAR M. FONSECA is a close friend and associate of PRIO. The identity of ESPINOSA is unknown.

Miami Informant T-5 reported on May 21, 1953 that PRIO had again arrived in Miami on May 19, 1953 from another trip to Mexico.

T-22 said that when PRIO arrived from Mexico on this trip he was accompanied by Col. YSQUIERDO and DELFINO ARTURO NUNEZ NUNEZ, who possessed an official Cuban Government visa.

T-23, of known reliability, reported on May 30, 1953 that CARLOS PRIO and his wife, accompanied by L. FERNANDEZ and Col. RAFAEL YSQUIERDO, departed Miami May 26 for New York City.

Miami Informant T-24, of known reliability, reported on May 29, 1953 that PRIO and his wife, accompanied by Col. YSQUIERDO and LUIS FERNANDEZ (private secretary to PRIO) departed New York for Montreal, Canada, on May 28, 1953 (to attend the Montreal Conference described above.)

T-24 reported on June 6, 1953 that PRIO and his wife and RAFAEL YSQUIERDO and SANTIAGO PASCUAL returned to New York from Montreal, Canada.

Miami Informant T-1 reported that on June 6, 1953 PRIO, his wife, YSQUIERDO, and LUIS FERNANDEZ returned to Miami.

The writer observed on July 1, 1953 that Dr. and Mrs. PRIO, accompanied by CESAR FONSECA, departed for Mexico City via Guest Airlines.

Miami Informant T-3 reported on July 4, 1953 that Dr. and Mrs. PRIO returned to Miami from Mexico City.

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Miami Informant T-1 learned on July 7, 1953 that PRIO and his wife, accompanied by J. A. RUBIO PADILLA and RICARDO ARTIGAS, departed Miami for Boston, Massachusetts where PRIO had arranged to undergo a thorough medical examination because of a nervous ailment.

RUBIO is a former member of the PRIO cabinet and he attended the Montreal conference.

Miami Informant T-1 learned on July 19, 1953 Doctor PRIO and his wife returned to Miami from New York City where they remained for several days after leaving Boston.

PRIO has remained in Miami constantly since that date, according to Miami Informant T-1.

VIII. CONFERENCE HELD BY PRIO PRIOR TO DEPARTURE  
FOR BOSTON JULY 6, 1953

Miami Informant T-1 learned on July 6, 1953 that EMILIO OCHOA y OCHOA and JOSE MANUEL GUTIERREZ of the Cuban Orthodox Party; and one PELAYO, believed to be identical with CUERVO NAVARRO, ex-Cuban Senator believed sympathetic to the OCHOA y OCHOA faction of the Orthodox Party; one LOMBERTO, believed identical with LOMBERTO DIAZ RODRIGUEZ, Cuban Minister of Interior during part of the PRIO administration; and MANUEL "TONY" VARONA, leader of the Authentic party in Cuba, had just arrived in Miami to see PRIO immediately prior to his scheduled departure for Boston, Massachusetts.

Already in Miami was JUAN ANTONIO RUBIO PADILLO, and DIEGO MEJIAS, who was believed identical to DIEGO SERGIO MEJIAS, who was Minister of Communications during the PRIO regime.

Miami Informant T-5 reported on July 7, 1953 that MEJIAS is a former Senator under the GRAU administration in Cuba, is a close personal friend of PRIO, and constantly is traveling back and forth between Miami and Cuba on matters relating to PRIO's party.

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Miami Informant T-1 advised that it appeared that PRIO had a conference with these men which began on the evening of July 6, 1953, and terminated in the early morning of July 7, 1953.

It is to be recalled that OCHOA and GUTIERREZ attended the Montreal Conference as Orthodox Party representatives and PRIO, VERONA, and RUBIO were the Authentic Party Representatives at that meeting.

The purpose of this conference at PRIO's home was unknown to the informant.

Miami Informant T-2 learned on July 16, 1953 that MANUEL "TONY" VARONA again arrived in Miami from Cuba on the evening of July 16, 1953 en route to New York City, where he intended going for an important conference, of undisclosed nature, with CARLOS PRIO.

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IX. ARMS SHIPMENTS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING THE  
"ARB," THE "CRISTOBAL CARRIER" AND "ANCON  
TRADER."

On May 21, 1953, Miami Informant T-5 reported having received information emanated from the Cuban Military Intelligence Service to the effect that persons representing CARLOS PRIO were believed to have purchased 400 rubber boats from a Miami veterans' surplus store located on Biscayne Boulevard in Miami at 12th Street Northeast; that these boats were in boxes in storage with the Withers Storage Company and were to be delivered, or may already have been delivered, to an address in Mexico. T-5 said that the Cuban Military Intelligence Service received this information from a person in the Cuban Navy who in turn received it from a Cuban who is employed by the surplus store in Miami.

On May 21, Mr. A. KRAVITZ and W. A. WEINTRAUB, owners of Surplus Outlet, Inc., wholesalers and retailers operating the Veterans Surplus Outlet Store, 1215 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, advised that they have sold only two rubber boats within recent months and that in all probability it would be impossible to purchase 400 rubber boats in all of south Florida inasmuch as there is but small demand for boats or rafts of this type and that customarily retailers and wholesalers do not stock up on this item.

Their store manager, AURILO MUZARIETA, who said that he is an American citizen born in Cuba, reported that several weeks previous DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA, whom he described as being former Minister of Education under the PRIO regime and who claimed to own a boat or yacht, came into the Veteran Surplus Store and purchased two automatically inflated rubber rafts at \$95. each. A sample of one of these rafts was pointed out and it is observed that it is of the type formerly used by the U. S. Navy Airforce for emergency landings and is automatically inflated by means of an oxygen cartridge. It appeared to be capable of carrying ten or twelve men. Mr. KRAVITS and Mr. WEINTRAUB said that the few sales they make of this item are usually to yacht owners or operators of public and private swimming pools.

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It was also stated, according to T-26, that PRIO has employed a former United States Army colonel named SKOLOSKI, whose job is to recruit war veterans to form an army to invade Cuba; that SKOLOSKI has disappeared from Miami and is believed in Mexico; that he is offering recruits \$25. a day and expenses and an insurance policy. It was stated that it was not known how many veterans he has recruited, but that a great many veterans had been recently inquiring in Miami for SKOLOSKI.

T-26 said that the Cuban Foreign Minister also advised that two boats 158 feet long called the CRISTOBAL CARRIER and the ANCON TRADER had been acquired from the Panama Cabotage Agency; this purchase having been made by SEGUNDO CURTI, who was PRIO's Minister of the Interior. These boats were described as former Naval vessels, aluminum with black bottom.

According to T-26, it was also stated that interviews between PRIO and his people concerning these matters are held in the Hotel Royal York, 5875 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach.

On June 2, 1953, Mr. E. T. LUCAS, room clerk, Hotel Royal York, reported that there are no Cubans registered at that hotel and that no meetings of Cubans have been held there to the best of his knowledge.

Miami Informant T-27, of known reliability, reported on June 2, 1953, that as of June 2 CARLOS PRIO SOCARROS had a balance of only \$37.03 in his account and that he or one of his representatives last entered the safety deposit box of that bank on March 15, 1953. T-27 possessed no knowledge of \$19,000. having been withdrawn from the North Shore Bank by PRIO.

Miami Informant T-5 reported on June 2, 1953, that he had received no information indicating that Colonel SKOLOSKI has been recruiting in Miami or elsewhere on behalf of the PRIO group. Records of the Miami Veterans Administration, Credit Bureau and Police Department contain no reference to a person who can be identified as Colonel SKOLOSKI.

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On May 21, 1953 Mr. WAYNE WITHERS of the Withers Storage and Transportation Company, advised that his concern possessed no record whatsoever of having either stored or transported any rubber boats or boxes believed to contain rubber boats during the past year or so. Examination of the records in his office failed to disclose the storage or shipment of any items which appeared to correspond with the above during the past two months.

Miami Informant T-5 reported on the same date that DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA is a very close associate of CARLOS PRIO and his brothers and is also a close friend of JOSE LUGO on whose farm in Cuba the Cuban police found a quantity of arms and ammunition. Informant said that LUGO is considered a dangerous ganster type of individual. He said that for a while DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA was with LUGO at the Colonial Hotel in Miami. He also stated that DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA had flown to Bimini on a Chalk Airline when the "Bonito" encountered engine trouble there preparatory to making plans to depart for Mexico. It is to be recalled that AURELINO SANCHEZ ARANGO, former Minister of Education and State under PRIO, along with others, was on the "Bonito" and was traveling under an assumed name when this boat landed at the port of New Orleans during the early part of 1953 after having been towed there by another vessel. T-5 said that DIEGO drives a Cadillac automobile bearing Cuban license 168519.

Miami Informant T-26, of known reliability, being an employee of a Federal agency which has offices in Havana, submitted a report dated May 15, 1953 to the effect that the Cuban Foreign Minister had advised that on May 9, four rubber boats, capacity 25 men each, were transferred to the general cargo warehouse, Miami, these boats having been acquired by DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA, former Cuban Senator, from the Veteran Surplus Outlet, Inc., 1215 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami; and that these boats were paid for by CARLOS PRIO with the intention of sending them to another port, possibly Veracruz or another Mexican port.

According to T-26, it was stated that this operation cost \$19,000., which was taken from the safety deposit box of PRIO at the North Shore Bank, Miami Beach, where PRIO allegedly keeps a large amount of cash.

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On May 25, 1953 Miami Informant T-28, of known reliability, who conducts investigations for a Federal agency, reported that he had received similar information as that attributed above to T-26. T-28 said that pursuant to his duties, he had made inquiry concerning the CRISTOBAL CARRIER and the ANCON TRADER and had interviewed ROD PICKARD, Miami Ships, 2051 N. W. 11th Street, who, along with THOMAS J. MC CRORY, 615 S. W. 2nd Avenue, Miami, were ship brokers handling the sale of these two vessels.

According to T-28, PICKARD reported that both of these vessels were purchased from the Condenser Service and Engineering Company, Inc., Seaboard Trust Building, Hoboken, New Jersey and were paid for by G. PETTERSON of the Estrella Fruit Shipping Corporation, 133 North Front Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. The purchase price was \$18,000. for each vessel. They were purchased for the Panama Cabotage Agency, North Avenue 72, Panama. PICKARD maintained that the Panama Cabotage Agency is a carrier organization working for the Estrella Fruit Company out of Ecuador. He said that the principal of the Estrella Company is FOLK ANDERSON, who is supposed to be a multi-millionaire. The principals of the Panama Cabotage Agency are VIGGO LARSEN, Director and President; PABLO OTHON VALDELAMAR, 43rd Street and 39th, Panama, Director and Treasurer, and F. S. TAPIA C., Secretary, Central Avenue number 98, Panama.

T-28 said that the State Department license number for the export of both vessels was number 263 and that the U. S. Maritime Administration transport number was MA-938. He said that both orders were issued to demilitarized vessels identified as LSI number 664 and 596, both vessels being renamed the CRISTOBAL CARRIER and the ANCON TRADER respectively by the Panama Cabotage Agency. Both of these ships were built for the U. S. Navy at the Brooklyn Naval Yard in 1934.

T-28 said that ROD PICKARD expressed the opinion that the purchase and intended use of these vessels is legitimate. He said that both were being outfitted as

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fruit carriers. He said that HARRY ARTHUR GREENFIELD was the escrow agent in the transaction involving sale of these vessels. PICKARD said that he was applying for a State Department export license, stating that the purpose for which these vessels would be used was banana carriers in Central and South American coastwide service by the Agencia de Cabotage, S. A., Republic, Panama. PICKARD said that professional registration had been issued for these vessels by the Panamanian Consul, Jacksonville, on March 29, 1953.

Miami Informant T-29, of known reliability, who is employed by the Federal agency which conducts investigation reported on May 27, 1953 that the Panamanian Consul in Jacksonville had advised that his records show that both the CRISTOBAL and the ANCON TRADER were transferred on February 3, 1953 from the Condenser Service and Engineering Company to the Agencia de Cabotage and that T. J. MC CRORY handled the sale. The Consul said that he had issued only a temporary license.

T-29 also reported that he has received information to the effect that THOMAS J. MC CRORY, mentioned above, has been seen with SEGUNDO CURTI, former Minister of the Interior under PRIO, who is closely associated in Miami with PRIO.

On June 5, 1953, Miami Informant T-30, of known reliability, who is well acquainted with waterfront activities in the Miami area, reported that on that same date a boat belonging to one TOM MC CRORY had cleared Miami for Cay Sal, Bahama Islands, British West Indies. T-30 described the boat as being a 63 foot crash boat of the type used during World War II which is known as THE ARB, registered in New Orleans, Louisiana, registration number 204653, the owner being the Estrella Fruit and Shipping Company, 113 North Front Street, New Orleans.

T-30 said that in addition to MC CRORY, who acted as captain, there were two other persons on the boat, one of these was HENRY M. WATKINS, background information unknown to the informant. The other was DIEGO T. RESCALVO, a Cuban

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and an attorney by profession, who resides at 1133 Sevilla Avenue, Coral Gables.

T-30 said that MC CRORY claimed that he and his two crew members were going on a fishing trip to Cay Sal, this being a very small and uninhabited island and secluded. T-30 noticed that although the trip was ostensibly for fishing purposes, that the three men carried only a very small amount of food and only enough for one or two meals. The informant also observed that DIEGO T. RESCALVO had a pistol strapped to his side and the informant felt that these three men were not actually going on a fishing trip at all.

On June 11 this same informant advised, relative to the above mentioned ARB, that the three men left Miami about 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. on June 5, and that MC CRORY seemed in a particular big hurry to obtain clearance and leave Miami. The informant also was of the opinion that that was not the customary time of day that fishermen leave Miami on such a trip. Informant said that MC CRORY resides at 3950 N. W. 3rd Street, Miami. The Miami telephone directory reflects that T. J. MC CRORY, ship broker, resides at 3950 N. W. 3rd Street and has offices at 615 S. W. 2nd Avenue.

On June 5, 1953, Miami Informant T-31, of known reliability, who is well informed concerning waterfront activities in the Miami area, advised that MC CRORY had consulted him as to whether it would be necessary to obtain official clearance from Miami in order to go fishing at Cay Sal, Bahama Islands. T-31 described MC CRORY as being a ship broker whose reputation for honesty and fair dealings is not too good. T-31 said that he had heard rumors that MC CRORY might be involved in smuggling and he pointed out that Cay Sal would be an ideal place for that type of operation as it is only forty miles north of Cuba and would be a good place to rendezvous with boats or persons who may be involved in any illegal operation. On June 12, this informant reported that following MC CRORY's return from Cay Sal he had attempted to question him discreetly concerning the purpose of his trip there but

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that MC CRORY was very cagey and would furnish no information as to what he had been doing, except that he had gone crawfishing.

Miami Informant T-32, who is believed to be reliable and who is personally acquainted with THOMAS J. MC CRORY, reported on June 11, 1953, that MC CRORY had recently disclosed to him that he owns or has control of a boat and that he is working for the "PRIO people" in Miami relative to a revolt which PRIO is planning against BATISTA. T-32 said that MC CRORY also mentioned having a fast cruiser which was being outfitted by a boat yard in the Miami River and that he had two other ships which were being worked on. He implied that these boats were to be used in connection with his plans with the PRIO people. He also claimed to have one flying boat which is propelled by two airplane engines with propellers in the rear. T-32 said that MC CRORY "shoots off at the mouth" and likes to create the impression that he is an adventurer who is steeped in intrigue. T-32 said that MC CRORY has bragged that he himself would take part in the invasion of Cuba along with the PRIO forces and that on one occasion he invited the informant to go along with him. MC CRORY also claimed that he has been transporting guns to a point near Key West.

The informant said that MC CRORY frequently associates with a Captain ERICKSON (later identified as Captain BURT T. ERICKSON) a boat skipper and that during the previous year MC CRORY and ERICKSON, sailing a ship under Nova Scotian registry, transported some material from the Bahama Islands into Cuba but that something went wrong and they got into trouble with the Cuban authorities. T-32 believed that ERICKSON was probably involved with MC CRORY in the event MC CRORY was actually working for the PRIO group.

On June 14, 1953, T-32 reported that he had again seen MC CRORY who stated that something was going to "pop" almost any day now and MC CRORY again invited the

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informant to go along with him whenever the invasion of Cuba by the PRIO people took place. The informant said that Captain ERICKSON, driving an automobile bearing Florida license 1-98270, was seen by him with MC CRORY that day. Records of the Dade County Automobile License Bureau reflect that this license is issued to BURT T. ERICKSON, 3614 N. W. 12th Street for a 1948 Chevrolet sedan. Informant said that MC CRORY indicated he was leaving that evening for a trip of approximately three or four days duration. He did not disclose his destination.

Miami Informant T-33, of known reliability who is a representative of a federal agency which conducts investigations, reported on June 17, 1953 that it had come to the attention of his agency that the ARB had returned from Cay Sal on or about June 9, 1953, with four people on board, one of whom was an alien. T-33 said that the ARB, according to THOMAS J. MC CRORY, had escorted another boat THE MORNING STAR into Marathon, Florida because of a bent propeller sustained by THE MORNING STAR. T-33 said that according to information received by his office THE MORNING STAR and a third vessel, NELSON II were at Cay Sal at the same time that the ARB was there. He said that THE MORNING STAR was owned by JACK BROWNE, a native of Michigan and a professional deep sea diver who claimed to have been at Cay Sal for marine exploration. He said that NELSON II was a Cuban boat but apparently had no connection with the other boats. T-33 stated that BROWNE reported that he had observed the ARB at Cay Sal; that BROWNE had 2,000 gallons of gasoline on board THE MORNING STAR which T-33 felt was more than was ordinarily necessary for such a trip. He described THE MORNING STAR as being a converted crash boat with Packard motors. T-33 possessed no evidence that the presence of either THE MORNING STAR or the NELSON II at Cay Sal had anything to do with the ARB.

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Miami Informant T-34, of known reliability who is employed by a federal agency which conducts investigations, reported on June 29, 1953 that he, accompanied by an investigator of another federal agency, had gone to Marathon, Florida on the night of June 5, 1953 to observe the NELSON II which was docked there. This trip was predicated upon information received by T-34 to the effect that cars from Miami were coming to this boat and that a crew man mounted guard on deck with a rifle. T-34 said that following an all-night surveillance at Davie boat dock s at Marathon, during which time no activity was observed aboard the NELSON II, that he and his companion boarded this boat at 8:00 A. M., at which time a Cuban mechanic identified as ANTONIO CASANOVA y GEREZ was the only person on board. The Immigration permit of this man had expired but he claimed he had intended to obtain an extension through a friend, Mrs. YRIS KENNEDY, Camera Department , Walgreen's Drugstore, N. E. 1st Avenue and Flagler, who was trying to get an extension from the Immigration & Naturalization Service for him. T-34 said that it was learned that Mrs. KENNEDY sent an appropriate Immigration form to Immigration & Naturalization Service at Key West and that CASANOVA then went to Key West where he was informed that he did not need an extension.

T-34 said that according to CASANOVA, the NELSON II is owned by JESUS IGLESIS VICENTE, a dock manager in Cuba and the owner of other boats. T-34 said that it was ascertained that the NELSON II had left Miami on May 29, 1953, for Cuba but due to bad weather put in at the port of Marathon on June 1, where it remained until June 9, 1953; however, according to CASANOVA, IGLESIS left the boat at Marathon on June 1 and departed from Miami for Cuba via airlines on that date with the intention of returning June 6, 1953. CASANOVA claimed that the cargo on the NELSON II consisted of typewriters, adding machines and fiber glass. CASANOVA opened one box for exhibition and it was observed that this one contained a typewriter.

T-34 said that he had learned that JACK BROWNE, Skipper of THE MORNING STAR, mentioned above, and TOM MC CRORY both have offices in the same building at 615 S. E. 2nd Street.

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Miami Informant T-35, of known reliability who is employed by a federal agency, made available for examination on July 3, 1953 records of the Marine Desk, Immigration & Naturalization Service, Miami, which reflected that the ARB arrived in Miami June 9, 1953 from Cay Sal, British West Indies. Those listed on board were THOMAS MC CRORY, listed as Master, who shipped out on this boat June 5, 1953; HENRY M. WATKIN, Mate, who shipped out from Miami, June 5, 1953 aboard this vessel; and BERT T. ERICKSON, Seaman, who shipped aboard this vessel June 8, 1953 at Cay Sal. Also on board this vessel was DIEGO T. RESCALVO, Seaman, who shipped out on board this vessel from Miami June 5, 1953. He was described as a Cuban citizen. His status, according to the manifest record at the Marine Desk was changed from Seaman to that of temporary visitor, this being based upon the fact that he possessed a temporary visitor's visa which allowed him to remain in the United States longer than his entry as a former seaman would allow him, according to T-35.

Records of the Marine Desk also reflected that THE MORNING STAR II arrived in Miami from Cay Sal June 11, 1953. On board were JACK BROWNE, Captain and owner, citizen of the United States, born in Wisconsin; and ROY GRISCOM, Engineer, who shipped on board June 1, 1953 at Miami.

Also reflected in the records of the Marine Desk was the fact that the NELSON II sailed from the port of Havana, January 11, 1953. It sailed out of Miami, May 29, 1953, but put in at Marathon, Florida due to bad weather. This record disclosed it was expected to depart Marathon, Florida on June 9, 1953. On board at the time of its departure from Miami were JESUS IGLESIS VICENTE, Master, age 45, Cuban, 5' 7", 190 pounds, and ANTONIO CASANOVA y GEREZ, able-bodied seaman, age 64, Cuban, 5' 6", 140 pounds.

Examination of other records of the Marine Desk, Immigration & Naturalization Service, did not disclose a record of any other voyages by the ARB prior to July 3, 1953. It was recorded, however, that THOMAS J. McCRORY shipped on board the American yacht LARK May 22, 1953 at Miami as a Seaman and arrived at Bimini, May 25, 1953 and returned to Miami, May 25, 1953. The master of this craft was RICHARD H. HUNT, United States Citizen, born in Arkansas, who shipped

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out on the same date. Also aboard was JOE HILLIARD, Seaman, citizen of the United States, born in Florida, who shipped out on the same date.

On July 17, 1953, Miami Informant T-32 ascertained that THOMAS J. MC CRORY claimed to have participated in the transportation of a million dollars worth of guns and ammunition to the island of Cay Sal. T-32 said that according to MC CRORY, JACK BROWNE, owner of THE MORNING STAR II, is working with McCRORY and that JACK BROWNE is also teaching Cubans diving techniques for underwater demolition work. These Cubans, according to MC CRORY, are associated with the PRIO Group. MC CRORY claimed that BROWNE is receiving \$500.00 for these lessons but the informant did not know whether this was on a daily, weekly or lesson basis. Informant said that BROWNE owns a diving exhibition in Marathon, Florida and is head of "Underseas Inc." which engages in underwater explorations. He also presumably owns or has access to an amphibious plane which is maintained on a reef near Marathon, this being on one of the Florida keys between Miami and Key West. T-32 added that BROWNE manufactures underwater diving equipment at a factory somewhere up North; has produced such equipment for the government under contract and is apparently financially well-to-do. The informant described THE MORNING STAR II as being a blue hulled 85 foot rescue boat.

Miami Informant T-36, who is believed to be reliable, reported on July 14, 1953 that THOMAS J. MC CRORY, 615 S. W. 2nd Avenue, is the Miami agent for the Estrella Fruit Company of New Orleans, and on February 25, 1953, two vessels, the CRISTOBAL CARRIER, formerly LSI 664, and the ANCON TRADER, formerly LSI 596, were brought to the Miami Shipbuilding Corporation for repair work and general overhaul. Work on both of these vessels, according to T-36, was completed May 14, 1953. T-36 said that both of these vessels were either owned or operated by the Agencie Cabotage, SA. T-36 said that according to information which he had obtained from MC CRORY, the Estrella Fruit Company intended to use these two boats in connection with its banana business in Ecuador. T-36 said that the work done by the Miami

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Shipbuilding Corporation was the type of repairing and overhauling which was ordinarily done on vessels of that type which had been out of commission for a long time. He said that both the boats were properly equipped to engage in the transportation of bananas but that neither was refrigerated inasmuch as refrigeration equipment was not required in the banana trade. He said that neither vessel possessed any guns or other armament and he had no reason to believe that either vessel was to be used for anything other than banana trade.

This informant said that the Miami Shipbuilding Corporation is also building a metal barge which will be propelled by two airplane engines with airplane propellers in the rear. He explained that some months ago MC CRORY came to the Miami Shipbuilding Corporation with plans drawn up by BOB HOBBS, a Miami boat designer, for the construction of a special barge to be used by the Estrella Fruit Company in connection with the operation of its Ecuadorian business. MC CRORY explained that some of the banana plantations which are located in the interior of Ecuador can not be reached by vessels going upstream because of the shallow swift currents. It had been the practice of the Estrella Fruit Company to fly rubber boats by plane to these plantations so that the bananas could be floated downstream on board these rafts. According to MC CRORY the barge now under construction by the Miami Shipbuilding Corporation will be used to transport these rubber boats upstream to the plantations, the barge being constructed for operation in swift shallow streams. T-36 said he had learned that MC CRORY had originally intended to ship this barge to Ecuador on either the CRISTOBAL CARRIER or the ANCON TRADER but had been unable to obtain an export license because of some legal technicality.

T-36 said that BERT ERICKSON is an old-time ship captain who is frequently employed by MC CRORY to transport yachts and other crafts which he has sold to their purchasers.

T-36 said he possessed no evidence that either MC CRORY or ERICKSON were engaged in any illegal activity.

Miami Informant T-3, of known reliability, learned on June 15, 1953 that an individual believed to be MC CRORY was at the home of SEGUNDO CURTI, 60 S. W. 25th Road, Miami.

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At that time, according to the informant, the individual believed to be MC CRORY indicated that work on the air boat was progressing very nicely and that he was about ready to mount two engines on the rear. It appears that the information received by this informant may have referred to the above described barge being constructed at the Miami Shipbuilding Corporation.

On July 20, 1953, Miami Informant T-37, of known reliability who is an official of a federal agency which conducts investigations, advised that on July 18, 1953 Mr. A. A. ATKINSON, 1405 Pacific Building, Miami, a ship's agent bonded to handle clearance of vessels at the port of Miami, had filed a clearance certificate to the effect that on July 18, 1953 the motor vessel CRISTOBAL CARRIER, a 220 ton vessel of Panamanian registry captained by HENRY M. WATKINS with nine men on board, would clear the port of Miami bound for Esmeraldas, Ecuador without guns and without cargo on boat. The shippers' export declaration attached to this certificate reflected that T. J. MC CRORY, Miami, was the exporter and agent of this vessel, the purchaser of ultimate consignee was named as the Agencia de Cabotage, SA. The State Department export license was No. 263 and the Maritime Administration No. 938. This declaration reflected that boat was destined to Guayaquil, Ecuador. The crew, in addition to HENRY M. WATKINS, Captain, were as follows:

JAMES A. WILKINSON, First Mate, U. S. citizen,  
age 45

JAMES MELADO, Chief Engineer, British, age 25

JOHN EDSID, Second Engineer, British, age 28

W. W. GRANT, Cook, U. S. citizen, age 39

LAURI \_\_\_\_\_ (illegible), U. S. citizen, age 38

MANUEL \_\_\_\_\_ (illegible), Seaman, Ecuadorian,  
age 45

JOSE \_\_\_\_\_ (illegible), Seaman, Ecuadorian, age 48

ALFONSO VASQUEZ, Seaman, Ecuadorian, age 26

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The clearance certificate for the ANCON TRADER was filed by ATKINSON indicating this was motor vessel of Panamanian registry, 220 tons, captained by FRED PARMAN, Finnish citizen, age 43, with nine men on board, bound for Esmeraldas, Ecuador without cargo, guns or passengers. The shippers' export declaration contained the same information as set forth in regard to the CRISTOBAL CARRIER with the exception that the crew was listed as follows:

W. EBANKS, First Mate, Hondurian, age 34

ARUCHAEL \_\_\_\_\_ (illegible) Chief Engineer,  
Hondurian, age 57

MANUEL NEGRON, Oiler, Puerto Rican, age 25

JOHN STANLEY, Cook, U. S. citizen, age 40

ROBERT DURLING, Seaman, Hondurian, age 78

HUMBERT DIAZ, Seaman, Ecuadorian, age 50

VICTOR RITCH, British, age 56

DIESIS RANGE, Assistant Engineer, Hondurian, age 19

A certificate of clearance was also filed by ATKINSON for the ARB described as a motor vessel of American registry, 15 ton, captained by JOHN F. MANNION. This certificate reflected that there had been only two men on board. The boat was equipped with 500 gallons of gasoline for fuel and 20 gallons for oil.

All of the above described vessels were cleared by Customs July 18, 1953.

T-37 said that during the preceeding week ATKINSON presented a declaration to Customs to export a barge and motors but that this declaration was rejected because he possessed no State Department export license.

T-37 said that HENRY M. WATKINS resides at 1036 S. W. 3rd Street and is not known to possess anything but a clear record. T-37 reported, however, that THOMAS J. MC CRORY possesses a "shady" reputation around the Miami waterfront.

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On July 22, 1953, Miami Informant T-37 advised that all three of the above described vessels were still in port and that ATKINSON had advised U. S. Customs that the delay in their departure was due to refrigeration trouble. It is to be noted, however, that Miami Informant T-36 pointed out that neither the ANCON TRADER nor the CRISTOBAL CARRIER are equipped with refrigeration equipment. T-37 said that Customs agents searched the CRISTOBAL CARRIER and the ANCON TRADER, July 20, 1953, with negative results.

Miami Informant T-38, of known reliability, reported at about 4:00 P. M. on July 24, 1953, that the ANCON TRADER and the CRISTOBAL CARRIER had cast anchor and were being towed down the Miami River toward the open sea. He said that the ARB, which had been docked adjacent to the ANCON TRADER, was scheduled to leave Miami at about 6:30 P. M. This informant said he had observed no suspicious activity around any of these boats and that the only material which appeared to have been loaded on any of them seemed to be food supplies.

Miami Informant T-34 reported on July 26, 1953 that the ARB was searched shortly before it cast off on the late afternoon or early evening of July 24, 1953 and that it contained nothing of a suspicious nature on board. He said that the two rear fuel tanks were empty but that the two side tanks were apparently filled. There were only two men on board and one, the captain, was observed proceeding toward a building in which the office of THOMAS J. MC CRORY is located, immediately prior to departure. T-34 said that this skipper, JOHN MANNION and HERBERT MIRANDA, the seaman, on board reported that they would stop at Dinner Key, a harbor at Coconut Grove, Miami, for additional fuel before leaving the Florida coast.

T-34 said that although the CRISTOBAL CARRIER and the ANCON TRADER were observed off the coast near Marathon on the day following their departure from the port of Miami, that the ARB had completely disappeared following its departure from the port of Miami. ATKINSON, the agent for all three of these boats had previously reported to T-37 that the three boats would travel in convoy and that the ARB was going only as far as Cristobal, Panama, its destination.

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T-34 said that MANNION, at the time the boat was searched in Miami, advised that the ARB would tie on to the other two vessels.

Miami Informant T-39, of known reliability who is an official of a federal agency which conducts investigations, reported on July 27, 1953 that the CRISTOBAL CARRIER and the ANCON TRADER had been spotted beyond Key West headed for Panama but that the ARB was not in their company.

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On July 30, 1953, T-34 advised that the "ARB" had arrived at the Port of Key West, Florida on the preceding Sunday, July 26, 1953, with four men on board. T-34 advised it had been ascertained through an Informant that one of these men on board had been addressed as TOM, and answered the general description of THOMAS J. McCrory.

On August 3, 1953, T-39, reported that the "ARB" was still in Key West and that McCrory had been observed to visit this boat for approximately one hour on August 2, 1953.

On August 4, 1953, Miami Informant T-40, of known reliability, being an official of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, reported that the "ARB" was still at Key West, Florida, and that the Master of that boat, JOHN MANNION, had disclosed that he had intended to depart at midnight for Belizes, Honduras.

It is to be noted from the above-described information, that the "ARB" departed from Miami on July 24, 1953, with two men on board, at which time it was destined to Cristobal, Panama Canal Zone, and that it arrived two days later at Key West with four men on board; that as of August 4, 1953, it was prepared to depart for the Port of Belize rather than the Panama Canal Zone. It is also to be noted that this boat did not travel in convoy with the "Cristobal Carrier" and the "Ancon Trader" as was originally planned.

On August 6, 1953, T-40 advised that the U. S. Customs Service had placed a \$1,000.00 penalty against the "ARB" and that this boat cannot depart from the Port of Key West until this sum is paid or until bond is posted. Informant explained that this penalty was based upon the fact that U. S. Customs in Miami had granted clearance to the "ARB" on July 18, 1953, and that this boat did not depart within the forty-eight hour period or obtain an extension as required under the law; and that, further, the "ARB" after arriving at Key West (which was not its announced port of destination) did not report to Customs within a twenty-four hour limit and did not report within the forty-eight hour period.

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T-40 said that an attempt had been made to interview the Master of the "Arb" at Key West, but that this individual was in a drunken condition and could not be interviewed. However, it was ascertained through inquiry that McCrory had recently been seen in Key West in the company of a woman, ascertained not to be his wife.

T-40 said that on August 5, 1953, Mrs. THOMAS J. McCrory, accompanied by ARTHUR ATKINSON, called at the office of the U. S. Customs in Miami relative to the "Arb", and that Mrs. McCrory stated that her husband, who had allegedly departed from the United States, would want to fire JOHN MANNION Master of the "Arb", because of his conduct and because of the difficulties in which this vessel had been placed. T-40 said that Mrs. McCrory apparently did not know that her husband had already been down to Key West with another woman and had visited the "Arb" there.

With regard to DIEGO VINCENTE TEJERA y RESCALVO 1133 Sevailla Avenue, Coral Gables, who was on board the "Arb" when it departed Miami June 5, 1953 for Caysal, and returned on board this same vessel June 9, 1953, records of the Immigration & Naturalization Service, examined on June 29, 1953, reflect that he was born March 3, 1914 at Camaguey, Cuba, and is an Attorney by profession. His Cuban address was given as 960 Calle 21, Havana, and his U. S. address as 1133 Sevilla Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida. This record reflected he was last admitted to the United States June 9, 1953 at Miami, via the yacht the "Arb" and the date of his last previous entry into the United States was given as May 29, 1953. He has been admitted to the United States until December 9, 1953, the purpose being for pleasure. He possesses Cuban Passport Number 22749, valid until October 9, 1957.

These records reflect he is described as being 5'5" tall, with brown hair and eyes, weighing 170 pounds, and a Cuban citizen. His nearest relative in his home country was named as GEORGIANA de TEJERA, 21-960, Vadado, Havana. Immigration records reflect that a woman, apparently his wife, named GEORGIANA CURBELO COCURADO, born September 2, 1922, with the same Cuban address, and residence as 1133 Sevilla Avenue, Coral Gables. She was last admitted to the United States June 22, 1953.

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With reference to THOMAS J. McCRORY, the following background information is submitted: JOSEPH H. CHURCH, Box 1665, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Ship Agent, reported to Special Agent ROBERT W. WISEMAN, on August 30, 1951, that THOMAS J. McCRORY, yacht broker of Miami, according to information received by CHURCH, from one BILL ROGERS, a seaman, had hired ROGERS and NATHANIEL LLOYD, another seaman, to open the Seacocks of the "Mary X", and attempt to sink this vessel on August 24, 1950. However, ROGERS, when interviewed, failed to substantiate this allegation. Coast Guard records reflect that McCRORY enlisted November 3, 1941, and was honorably discharged July 7, 1945. He served under Lieutenant R. N. HUNT, Commander of the Port of Miami in 1942, and was at the Port of Tampa in 1944. McCRORY was tried by a War Maritime proceeding for embezzlement and wrongfully disposing of U. S. property, but was acquitted on all charges January 5, 1945.

Miami Police Department record under #15068, reflects one THOMAS McCRORY, born August 22, 1916, at Chester, Pennsylvania, was arrested December 2, 1937 for petty larceny. The case was nolle prossed December 10, 1937. He possesses FBI Number 1413981.

Miami Informant T-41, of known reliability, who is a Miami businessman, reported on October 1, 1952, that THOMAS J. McCRORY, yacht broker, had claimed to be a Communist for six years in the vicinity of Washington, D.C. and New York City, but now claimed to be Anti-Communist.

With reference to BERT T. ERICKSON, 3614 North West 12th Street, records of the Miami Police Department reflect he was arrested on August 23, 1944 on a charge of investigation, for assault to kill. He was released to Dade County on August 24, 1944, and a final disposition was not shown. He was described as being 51 years of age in 1944, 5' 9" and weighing 155 pounds. Miami Beach Police Department and Dade County Sheriff's Office possessed no record of him nor did the Miami Credit Bureau.

Captain BERTRAM THEODORE ERICKSON, born April 27, 1893, a ship-master, and an American citizen by naturalization, with alias of BERT T. ERICKSON, was indicted in the

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Southern District of Florida on May 18, 1953, for violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2271 and 2273, for conspiring to destroy a motor fishing vessel, the "Elva", which was sailed out into the Atlantic Ocean and beached off Titian on September 24, 1949, becoming a construction loss of approximately \$20,000.00. He was the master of this ship. He was found not guilty February 26, 1952 by the Federal Court in Miami. He possesses FBI Fingerprint Record #1409225. His FBI record reflects that on December 11, 1936, he was arrested by the United States Marshal at Brooklyn, New York, charged with violation of the Liquor Tax Act. On November 30, 1932, he was arrested by the U.S. Customs and U. S. Marshal, New York City, for possessing and smuggling narcotics. He was released on \$1,000.00 bond. On May 4, 1938, he was arrested by the U. S. Marshal at Brooklyn, for smuggling and conspiracy and released on \$7500.00 bond.

The record further reflected ERICKSON was arrested on March 10, 1939 by the Alcohol Tax Unit, charge not given. On October 20, 1939, he was sentenced to 720 days, suspended and placed on two years probation. On August 23, 1944, he was arrested by the Police Department and Sheriff's Office, Miami, charged with Assault With Intent to Kill, and on September 5, 1944, he was released on bond. On September 2, 1950, and on August 30, 1951, he was arrested by the Sheriff's Office at Miami and charged with operating a gambling house.

ERICKSON resides with his son-in-law, MATTHEW DONALD KRIM, also known as Donald Crim, and his daughter, at 3614 North West 12th Street, Miami. KRIM, when interviewed by Special Agent EDWARD L. DuBOIS relative to the beaching of the "Elva", said that he had known ERICKSON since 1946 when he was (ERICKSON) Captain of the "George N. Seger", a liberty ship, at which time KRIM was radio operator on this vessel. KRIM quit this ship in August, 1947, and later met and married ERICKSON's daughter, LILA SHIRLEY ERICKSON on April 11, 1949.

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With further reference to the above-described boats, on July 31, 1953, Mr. GUSTAV PETERSON of the Estrella Fruit Company, New Orleans, advised that the "Cristobal Carrier" and the "Ancon Trader" were purchased from the Condenser Service and Engineering Company by the Agencias De Cabotaje, S. A., a Panamanian Corporation, the Estrella Fruit Shipping Company acting solely as Disbursing Agent in the deal. Estrella is the sole agent in the United States for Compania De Astral, S.A., of Panama, whose foreign representative, FOLKE ANDERSON, instructed PETERSON in this matter.

PETERSON advised the only connection he knows of between ASTRAL and CABOTAJE is that they are routine business friends and he is confident that FOLKE ANDERSON is not directly connected with CABOTAJE. The air rescue boat, the "ARB" has been owned by ESTRELLA since July 30, 1951, and was acquired at the request of ANDERSON, who wanted the use of it for pleasure when in Miami, Florida, and who has used it for that purpose. He advised that the "ARB" has been loaned to ASTRAL.

According to PETERSON, as he understands it, the "ARB" together with the "ANCON TRADER" and the "CRISTOBAL CARRIER," left Miami July 24, 1953, and should reach the Panama Canal July 31, 1953. He understands that CABOTAJE still owns the LCI's. The destination of all three vessels is Esmeraldas, Ecuador, where the LCI's will be used for coastwise hauling of bananas and the "ARB" will serve ASTRAL as a utility vessel.

PETERSON advised he first met THOMAS J. McCORRY in Miami in late August, 1952. ANDERSON had apparently known McCORRY before. PETERSON's first business dealing with McCORRY was in the purchase of the LCI's in February, 1953. Since that time, McCORRY has been the ship Agent for all three vessels with virtually unlimited authority in respect to maintenance, equipping, crewing and arranging their departure.

PETERSON states that McCORRY advised him by telephone, July 28, 1953, that these vessels were off Honduras and "doing all right". He did not indicate the three vessels were traveling together and PETERSON assumed they were.

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On July 3, 1953, McCrory wrote PETERSON as follows: "The Ancon Trader, Cristobal Carrier, and crash boat are ready for clearance to Ecuador as soon as fuel and stores are aboard. They are only partially crewed but the hands are available and will be signed on as soon as you are ready. The enclosed statement is complete up to July 1, with the exception of dockage charges. It was not possible to take the air boat on her trials as scheduled due to changes necessary in the engine cooling design, but she will definitely be ready for the trials on July 6 and I am certain they will be successful. We have continued our efforts to sell the Arb. Early in June we gave a weekend demonstration to Diego Rescalvo, a very wealthy Cuban. Went to Salt Key 100 miles south of here. So far it has only amounted to a shakedown cruise but he may make an offer now that I have told him we are definitely leaving. I have quoted him \$30,000. due to the improvements."

Mr. PETERSON said he had no knowledge of any Cubans other than the individual mentioned by McCrory in above letter as being interested in any of these vessels. He said he did not know the person named by McCrory nor did he know PRIO or any of PRIO's close associates. He advised that HENRY M. WATKINS and BURT ERICKSON were unknown to him.

On August 3, 1953, Mr. PETERSON advised he had received information from the Continental Shipping Corporation of the Panama Canal Zone, that the "Cristobal" Carrier and the "Ancon Trader" had arrived at Cristobal in the Panama Canal Zone at 10:00 P.M., August 1, 1953. He said no mention was made of the "Arb".

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X. SEIZURE OF ARMS CACHE  
AT CAY SAL, BWI, ON  
JULY 19, 1953 BY CUBAN  
AUTHORITIES

Miami Informants T-5 and T-6 reported on July 27, 1953, that on Sunday, July 19, 1953, the Cuban Navy seized at Cay Sal (also known as Salt Key), a cache of arms in an abandoned shack. This seizure was the result of a tip received by the Cuban authorities. T-5 stated that this individual who furnished the tip had been employed to guard these arms.

T-5 and T-6 attributed this arms cache to CARLOS PRIO and his followers and stated that this material was apparently to be used against the Batista Government.

According to T-5 and 6, the weapons seized were as follows:

- 6 45 Calibre Thompson sub-machine guns
- 10,000 rounds of M-1 cartridges
- 10,000 rounds of 45 calibre cartridges
- 10 sawed off automatic 12 gauge shot guns
- 1500 (about) rounds of shot gun shells
- 60 - 70 carbine automatic pistols, and
- 250 (about) hand grenades, as well as one box of grenade pins.

The shotguns bore the following Serial Numbers:

3907474  
390500  
393933  
392827  
388762  
389202  
384962  
346538  
244773

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These Informants said that there were four boxes of 45 calibre ammunition, each bearing a wax seal reading "Secretaria de Guerra y Marina - IGE - Delegacion de Municiones", which T-5 said is a term used by the Secretary of War and Navy of the Mexican Government. He said that inside of these boxes was a slip of paper bearing a rubber stamp seal reflecting that this ammunition had been counted by E. LOYO on behalf of EMILEO LOYO GONZALES, Captain of the Second Infantry, this being written in Spanish.

Inside of each of the four boxes were addresses as follows: Box #1 - Nicanor Fernandez, Aurora Y S, Diaz Miro, Tampico, Mexico; Box #2, Isauro Villarreal, AUDUANA, 117 Norte Tampico, Mexico; Box #3 Jabonera de Tampico SA, 3rd Avenue Y SLETA, Tampico, Mexico; Box #4, Casa Grenior SA, Avenue EJER Cito Nacional 209, Mexico d f.

T-5 was of the opinion that these labels indicated where the boxes of ammunition had been obtained.

T-5 also exhibited two labels, one of these had been removed from a shotgun box of a Browning automatic shot gun, St. Louis, Missouri, which bore Number 384962, on which had been pasted a very small label of Montgomery Ward. Another small label which he exhibited had been removed from another box which indicated that the gun had been handled by the A. J. Anderson Company, Ft. Worth, Texas. He said there were no additional labels on any of the other boxes containing individual shotguns.

T-5 and T-6 also said that inside the shack where the above described ammunitions were found, there were signs or placards which are usually posed on a stake, bearing the names "Salty III", "Marathon" and "Jumbo". They did not know the significance of these names but were of the opinion that they might be the names of yachts or boats which may have had something to do with the presence of the above described munitions.

The July 28, 1953 issue of the Miami Herald carried a photograph of BATISTA and a number of Cuban Naval Officers examining a package containing what appeared to be 45 calibre revolvers. Underneath this photograph it was stated, "Cache of arms being examined by President FULGENCIO BATISTA and

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some of his officers, was found on a small island off the north coast of Cuba July 19, he said Monday in a later broadcast. Many U.S. Army pistols and carbines are included. (U. S. Photo)".

The July 29, 1953 issue of "Informacion", Havana, Cuba, carried a large photograph of the above described munitions. This photograph appeared to be taken in the abandoned shack, it being noted that the name "JUMBO" was painted in large letters on the wall of the shack. It is also noted, according to this photograph, that the hand grenades were in a box on which could be seen the following - "Mexico - Aceitera Y Jabonera Frontizea S.A., Monterrey". Tel 126-90".

T-5 also exhibited a label reading as follows:  
"50 cartridges - ball, calibre 30, M1, Mar 520, Lot LC13204, Black City Arsenal. He said that this label had been taken from one of the boxes of 30 calibre ammunition

A photographic copy of the 30 calibre ammunition box label and one taken from the automatic shot gun box, described above, are being retained in the files of the Miami Office.

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
POSTPONEMENT INFORMATION SHEET (JFK MATERIALS)**

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file.  
One or more of the following statements, where indicated,  
explain this deletion (these deletions).

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the postponement rationale indicated below with no segregable material available for disclosure. All references relate to Section 6 of the "President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992."
- ☐ Subsection 1A (intelligence agent's identity)
- ☐ Subsection 1B (intelligence source or method)
- ☐ Subsection 1C (other matter relating to military defense, intelligence operations or the conduct of foreign relations)
- ☐ Subsection 2 (living person who provided confidential information)
- ☐ Subsection 3 (unwarranted invasion of privacy)
- ☒ Subsection 4 (cooperating individual or foreign government, currently requiring protection)
- ☐ Subsection 5 (security or protective procedure, currently or expected to be utilized)
- ☐ Information pertained to a matter unrelated to the JFK Assassination investigation.
- ☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding this page (these pages):

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XI. ACTIVITIES OF AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO

Miami informant T-42, of known reliability, reported in June 1953 that one GUILLERMO FUENTES GONZALEZ traveling on a Mexican passport issued at Mexico City in February 1953 was expected to arrive in Kingston, Jamaica, by air on May 21, 1953, and was believed to have in his possession arms and marked maps of Cuba, and to be a person connected with anti-Batista activities. According to T-42, this man was located at the Myrtle Bank Hotel in Kingston. It was confidentially ascertained that he had in his possession a Mauser and a Spanish revolver and approximately ninety rounds of ammunition. On the basis of this information, FUENTES was arrested on the morning of May 22, 1953, on a charge of illegal importation of arms into the British Colony of Jamaica. After hearing before a local magistrate in Jamaica, he was remanded in custody and placed in the local jail. After this his remaining effects were examined by the authorities in Jamaica, at which time a large number of papers and a series of maps of the island of Cuba and City of Havana were found.

In addition to these items, a pilot's license issued to AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO was discovered. A statement was taken from this man, at which time he admitted that his true identity was that of SANCHEZ ARANGO and that he was the former Foreign Minister of Cuba in the government of CARLOS PRIO, who was overthrown by BATISTA.

SANCHEZ ARANGO also stated, according to T-42, that he was in charge of the underground movement dedicated to the overthrow of BATISTA, but that he regretted very much his indiscretion in bringing arms to Jamaica. He advised that he had no intent to use the arms or to conspire in revolution in Jamaica, but was enroute to Haiti. He also claimed that he was a close friend of British Foreign Minister ANTHONY EDEN.

T-42 said that no detailed inquiry was made in regard to his intended revolutionary activities.

It was ascertained from SANCHEZ ARANGO, however, that he was enroute to Haiti for the purpose of making a contact in Port-Au-Prince.

T-42 said that this man had in his possession a round trip ticket from Mexico City to Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic. He denied, however, that he was enroute to this City, stating that he had bought this ticket merely to throw off anyone that might be interested in his destination. He also denied that he had ever been to Ciudad Trujillo, but examination of his Mexican passport reflected he had been there in April 1953 or that someone using the identical passport had been there.

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4 T-42 said that SANCHEZ ARANGO was found guilty in the Magistrate Court and was fined 130 pounds or to remain an additional day in jail. He elected to spend the additional day in jail. During the last day of his confinement he called for and was given a water pail and matches for the purpose of burning his maps and papers, which he did in the presence of the jail custodian. (S)

Informant said that SANCHEZ ARANGO departed from Jamaica to return to Panama enroute to Mexico City on Monday, May 25, 1953. (S)

Miami informant T-19, previously described, advised on June 26, 1953, that the Mexican Federal District Police received from the Cuban Embassy in Mexico information to the effect that SANCHEZ ARANGO possesses two passports issued in names other than his own - GUILLERMO FUENTES GONZALEZ and JOSE VICTOR SANCHEZ-VALADEZ. According to this informant it was also reported that SANCHEZ ARANGO, traveling as FUENTES, arrived on May 31, 1953, at the Mexico City Airport from Panama and was met by six persons, one of whom was identical with the photograph of RAUL RODRIGUEZ y SANTOS.

This informant stated that the following persons are known contacts of SANCHEZ ARANGO:

RICARDO ARTIGAS No. 5-5447, Dalido Island, Miami Beach, Florida.

LUIS G. FERNANDEZ, 2320 Tyger (Tyler??) Peck (?), Miami, Florida.

MURIEL LEDERER, 5644 Netherlands Avenue, Riverdale 71, NYC, Kingsbridge 9-9216.

CARLOS BARNET, 5A NE 5th Street, Miami, Florida.

OLGA BARRIET (sic) No. 5-9570, 359 Marien (sic), Miami Beach.

JANET BLAIR, 614 Crawford Avenue, Syracuse, New York.

FIGUERES, Lanza Hotel, Miami, Florida.

On July 24, 1953, Miami informant T-1 ascertained that CARLOS PRIO and SEGUNDO CURTI made arrangements to contact an individual who was not identified to the informant at Casa Marina, an isolated restaurant located adjacent to the Rickenbacker Causeway on Key Biscayne at 10:00 AM

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that same day. T-1 gathered the impression that considerable importance was attached to this rendezvous, it being noted that it is generally customary for a Chief of State to receive callers at his home or office. Special Agent MELVIN A. THOMPSON and the writer ascertained by physical surveillance that this meeting took place at 10:25 AM on July 24, 1953, at the Casa Marina Restaurant. It was observed that PRIO was driven to this rendezvous by SEGUNDO CURTI, former Minister of Interior under PRIO, and that immediately upon arrival in the parking area of this restaurant PRIO, carrying a briefcase, got into another car bearing Florida license 1E 3112, and drove off with the two occupants of this car, followed by CURTI at a discreet distance. At 11:00 AM PRIO and CURTI, in the latter's automobile, left Key Biscayne followed by the other car. It was observed by the writer that one of these men, not the driver, bore a striking resemblance to a photograph of AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO. It was noted, however, that this person was clean shaven, although the latter's photograph possessed by the Miami Office reflects that he has a mustache. It appeared that occupants of the two automobiles were exercising caution to determine if they were under surveillance. Consequently, the surveillance was dropped as both cars left Key Biscayne.

With regard to the car bearing license 1E 3112, Florida, Mrs. MAE DAY of Curry U-Drive-It Company, Miami Beach, reported on July 16, 1953, that this car, owned by the Curry U-Drive-It Company, was rented on June 27, 1953, to JOSE VEGA, Miami address c/o Gateway Hotel, Miami Springs, home address 19 Evergreen Avenue, Lynbrook, New York, and possessor of New York operator's license 561-6765. Mrs. DAY said that VEGA had previously rented this automobile from May 11, 1953, to June 23, 1953.

The writer observed during the above described surveillance, however, that the driver of this car is not identical to the JOSE VEGA who is registered at the Miami Gateway Hotel. The driver on that day appeared to be about forty years of age with black hair, black heavy mustache, dark complexion and of a rather muscular build.

In connection with the above information it is to be noted, as reported under Section 9 above, that the "Arb", "Christoball Carrier", and the "Ancon Trader" cast anchor from the Port of Miami on the late afternoon and early evening of July 24, 1953, after having originally cleared with Customs for July 18, 1953.

It is not known, however, whether the presence of the above described individual, who bore a striking resemblance to SANCHEZ ARANGO, had anything to do with these three boats.

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## XII.

ALLEGED ARMS TRAFFICA. A Proposition to Purchase by Fernandez Castro and Jose Orgaz:

On June 21, 1953, T-14 reported that on June 20, 1953, JOSE ORGAZ, an import-export man living in Miami, and a Cuban named FERNANDEZ CASTRO called on T-14 and wanted to purchase 5,000 submachine guns and 1,000 pistols, as well as ammunition for both types of weapons, to be smuggled by the seller into Cuba.

T-14 explained that he himself has many contacts with Cubans in the Miami area and has in the past dealt in arms sales, but that he wants to avoid violating any Federal laws, including the Neutrality Act which prohibits the smuggling of arms and ammunition from the United States to Cuba. T-14 said that he advised ORGAZ and FERNANDEZ CASTRO that he was not interested in that portion of their proposition to smuggle arms and ammunition into Cuba, but that he was interested in selling the guns that they wanted to buy. He said that he quoted them a price of \$220 apiece for the submachine guns and he received the impression that they considered this a fair price.

T-14 said that he also asked them if these guns were being purchased on behalf of the PRIO group and they replied in the negative, but declined to state who they were representing.

T-14 said that when these two men left him they indicated that they were departing for Havana by plane the following morning at about 9:30 o'clock.

T-14 explained that JESSE A. VICKERS of Miami is trying to find a buyer for a large quantity of arms and ammunition which are presently stored in Italy. T-14 said that VICKERS is the Miami agent for a group of men who own these materials. T-14 said that he has received the impression that the owners are American and Italians and include certain "racket" individuals. T-14 said that CASTRO and ORGAZ were informed about these particular guns.

J. A. VICKERS, born March 25, 1907, in Atlanta, was investigated in 1949 concerning the purchase of a plane reportedly to be used in an attempted invasion of the Dominican Republic, but prosecution against him was declined. In 1946 VICKERS, the Chairman of the Disposal Classification Board Supply Division, Miami Air Depot, was investigated for fraud against the Government and under the Surplus Property Act relative to the unlawful scrapping of material. Prosecution was not authorized. In 1950 information

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was received that VICKERS was involved in a scheme to purchase arms for the Caribbean Legion for use against the Dominican Republic. This scheme did not pass the planning stage. VICKERS, who operates the Federated Sales Company, Miami, was interviewed by the Miami Office May 4, 1953, relative to his possession of ten fake M3 guns. These guns had been shipped from El Paso, Texas, to VICKERS by ED BROWDER, who paid \$300.00 by means of a bad check to an El Paso metal concern to have these weapons made up to his order. BROWDER was subsequently arrested on a bad check charge. VICKERS upon interview by Special Agent MELVIN A. THOMPSON and the writer concerning these guns, claimed that BROWDER had said that he had obtained these M3 guns after they had been disposed of by the U. S. Government as beyond repair and not usable, but that BROWDER felt that they could be put in shape for resale. VICKERS claimed that he agreed to take ten of these guns at \$10 each upon the condition that they could be reconditioned for sale; that he planned to resell these guns to the Cuban Government if they could be reconditioned. He claimed that he made no effort, however, to dispose of these guns after he examined them and found them to be beyond a state of repair. At that time VICKERS told the interviewing agents that he was not then engaged in the sale or exporting of any guns, although he would have attempted to have disposed of the M3 guns, which were then in his possession. He said that BROWDER claimed to be in a position to obtain more of these guns in the event that VICKERS found these could be reconditioned.

T-14 described JOSE ORGAZ as being a small wiry individual who resides in Miami and who apparently was born in Cuba. He said that ORGAZ appeared to be serving as an intermediary for CASTRO.

T-14 described FERNANDEZ CASTRO as follows:

Age	45 to 50
Height	6'
Complexion	Light
Hair	Brown
Weight	180 lbs.
Build	Rugged
Speech	Speaks good English
Occupation	Was, or still may be, a General in the Cuban Army.

On June 22, 1953, examination at Immigration and Naturalization Service of the manifest for Pan American flight 421, which departed from Miami for Havana on that date, reflected that JOSEPH R. ORGAZ and ARTURO PLUTARCO FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO DIAZ were passengers on this flight.

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Examination of Visitor Permit Card T-226804 at INS on June 22, reflected that ARTURO PLUTARCO FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO DIAZ, born June 28, 1905, at Matanzas, Cardenas, Cuba; home address Primelles 320 Cerro, Havana, Cuba; described as an employee by occupation, was admitted to the United States at Miami on June 19, 1953, destined to ANGELA ORGAZ, 5320 S. W. Second Street, Miami, until June 26, 1953. He was in possession of Cuban passport number 25726 scheduled to expire August 17, 1956. This card reflected that FERNANDEZ is six feet tall, had brown hair, brown eyes, is of the Cuban race and that his wife is C. LOPEZ. He departed from Miami on June 21, 1953.

On June 14, 1953, T-43, of known reliability and who is also a personal friend of JOSE ORGAZ, advised that ORGAZ had returned to Cuba over the weekend and had entered a hospital for an operation. He said that on the previous Friday, June 19, 1953, ORGAZ exhibited to T-43 some chest X-rays which he had just had taken in Cuba. T-43 said that he referred these X-rays to a Miami doctor who expressed the opinion that ORGAZ has a lung cancer of a very serious nature. T-43 said that ORGAZ had lost a great amount of weight and appeared to be in a very serious condition, although he, ORGAZ, himself did not know that he had a possible lung cancer.

On June 26, 1953, T-43 said that ORGAZ had returned to Miami to enter the Veterans Administration Hospital for an operation inasmuch as the Havana doctor declined to operate at the last moment. T-43 has advised that ORGAZ served in World War II as a member of the American military service and fought overseas. Several days later the Miami newspapers announced the death of JOSE ORGAZ at the Veterans Administration hospital.

T-43 said that during the previous weekend a Mr. DeCASTRO was in Miami with ORGAZ in order to assist ORGAZ in returning to Miami for the operation. T-43 described DeCASTRO as being a close personal friend of ORGAZ and as having been former head of the Cuban Secret Police who was dismissed from Office when BATISTA staged his coup d' etat. T-43 said that DeCASTRO had served under the PRIO government as well as from previous Cuban governments in that capacity. He said that so far as he knows DeCASTRO is presently unemployed. He also said that he had gathered from conversations with ORGAZ and DeCASTRO that DeCASTRO was one of the few Cuban officials who had left office without making a personal fortune.

Miami informant T-1 reported on June 21, 1953, that a relative of CARLOS PRIO advised PRIO that FERNANDEZ de CASTRO was in town. PRIO advised, according to informant, that although he knew some people with

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such a name, he did not remember any particular one with this name.

B. Reported Sale by C. E. Cresswell, New York City, of 1,000 Rifles to Aircraft Purchase Service, New Jersey, on Behalf Prio Interest:

On June 8, 1953, Miami informant T-5 reported having received information that day from a source believed by him to be reliable in New York City to the effect that on June 7, 1953, or shortly prior thereto, C. E. CRESSWELL, 99 Hudson Street, New York City, had sold 1,000 rifles to the Aircraft Purchase Service of New Jersey, which reportedly had a plane at an airport near Newark, New Jersey, to receive delivery of these rifles on June 9, 1953. Informant said that BETTY CRESSWELL of the C. E. Cresswell Company allegedly had knowledge of these facts and that JOSE DUARTE, a Cuban, who was allegedly involved with the group of Cubans who were victimized at Fort Worth, Texas in connection with the \$240,000 robbery there, was believed implicated in connection with the deal involving the 1,000 rifles described above on behalf of PRIO interest.

On June 9, 1953, Miami informant T-44, of known reliability, who is an officer of a Federal agency which conducts investigations, reported that on May 19, 1953, PAUL B. HICKMAN, 213 Northeast Second Avenue, Miami, Florida, an aircraft parts dealer, was in New York for the purpose of purchasing 5,000 carbines for HARRY S. CANE of the Cane Importing Company of Miami. It was ascertained that HICKMAN did not know whether the carbines were destined for Cuba or other Latin American countries. However, HICKMAN approached Dr. ALBERT W. MORRIS, 54 Buckingham Street, Springfield, Massachusetts, owner of the Morris Engineering Company, who advised HICKMAN that he could provide the desired quantity of carbines. On May 20, 1953, HICKMAN met MORRIS at the Belmont Plaza Hotel, New York City, at which time HICKMAN became convinced that MORRIS could not supply the required amount of carbines and the deal fell through. HICKMAN subsequently returned to Miami.

About the end of May 1953 ERWIN STRAUSS, attorney, New York City, advised ALFRED MANHEIM, New York City, that the Morris Engineering Company of Springfield had from 2,000 to 3,500 carbines stored in New Jersey which were for sale, and he arranged for MANHEIM to meet EVERETT S. DAM, a Vice President of the Morris Engineering Company who was staying at the Hotel Howard, New York City. Informant said that MANHEIM met DAM at New York City on June 3, and that DAM reported that two weeks previously Dr. MORRIS had been approached by two Cubans relative to purchase of 2,000 carbines, which they intended to fly to Cuba. The Cubans also exhibited \$100,000 which they had in a suitcase. Informant said that on June 7, DAM disclosed that the Cubans attempting to purchase the carbines owned a C-46 aircraft which was

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stored at the Newark airport in Newark, New Jersey. DAM disclosed that the Morris Engineering Company did not want to deal with the Cubans directly and wished to use a middle man. DAM disclosed that the Morris Engineering Company had 2,000 carbines stored in New Jersey, and that the Cubans had offered to pay \$70 each for them. According to informant, DAM stated that Dr. MORRIS had already made a commitment to the Cubans, who had been placed in touch with Dr. MORRIS by PAUL B. HICKMAN of Miami. However, MORRIS did not want to deal with HICKMAN as he did not trust him and intended to put him out of the deal. The informant also advised that C. ELIZABETH CRESSWELL, operator of the Aircraft Purchase Service, 99 Hudson Street, New York City, was a business associate of HICKMAN's.

Miami Informant T-45, who is believed to be reliable, reported on June 9, 1953, that he thought the sale of the 1,000 rifles mentioned above by T-5 was still in a negotiating stage pending the ability of the Cubans to ship them out of the country. He was of the opinion that BETTY CRESSWELL was involved in that transaction in that she had sold a C-46 aircraft to the Cuban group, which this informant believed to be stored at the Teterboro Airport in New Jersey.

Miami informant T-46, of unknown reliability, reported that when PAUL B. HICKMAN of Miami met Dr. MORRIS on May 20, 1953, HICKMAN was accompanied by the following persons:

GEORGE HOGAN of the American Enterprises, 1697 Broadway, New York City.

PHIL CASANI of the Trager Trading Company, Miami, Florida.

TOM W. OLSON, an associate of HICKMAN, who owns a small boat concern in Miami, Florida.

MIKE SUSSMAN, whose true name he believed to be FISHMAN.

A man named PINALI (phonetic).

A man known as the "SENATOR."

This informant said that HOGAN had sold this group a truck, description unknown, which was stored in the New York area.

He also said that HICKMAN and C. E. CRESSWELL of the Aircraft Purchase Service, 99 Hudson Street, New York City, had arranged for this group to rent a C-46 at Miami, Florida. He said that the plane was flown

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to the Newark Airport and was stored there during the period these transactions were taking place on or about May 20, 1953. This information was furnished to informant by Dr. MORRIS, who stated that his plan was that after obtaining an export license he would call CRESSWELL, with whom he was negotiating, and that within forty-eight hours he would pick up 2,000 carbines in the truck and deliver them to a nearby airport where they would be flown to Cuba.

On June 16, 1953, Mr. H. C. STUART, Ramp Manager, Dade County Port Authority, stated that between May 16 and May 21, 1953, only two C-46 planes registered out of Miami destined for Newark, New Jersey. One of these planes, bearing registration No. N-1685 M owned by the Continental Charters, departed 12:10 AM on May 17, and the other, owned by Flying Tigers, Registration No. N-67981, departed May 16, 1953, at 12:15 AM.

On the same date, Mr. LARRY JOSEPH, Operations Manager, Continental Charters, advised that the C-46 plane, bearing Registration No. N-1685M which departed Miami on May 17 carrying fifty regulation passengers to Newark via Raleigh and Philadelphia, returned after spending two hours in Newark.

It was ascertained that the Flying Tigers has no agent in Miami.

Miami informant T-47, of known reliability, who is employed by a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, reported on June 16, 1953, that PAUL B. HICKMAN of Miami, Florida, had furnished information to his Agency for a period of several months, during which time HICKMAN was found to be an erratic individual.

T-47 exhibited a letter dated May 25 from a representative of his organization in New York City enclosing a letter by HICKMAN concerning a Mr. CANE who wanted to buy 5,000 rifles from HICKMAN. At that time HICKMAN was residing at the Belmont Plaza Hotel, New York City.

On May 19, 1953, according to the New York Office T-47, HICKMAN reappeared and advised that on or about May 1, 1953, Dr. STUART KELLY, who appeared to be associated with HICKMAN, was approached by HARRY S. CANE, a Turk who claimed to be a scrap iron dealer residing at 2317 Southwest 25th Street, Miami, Florida. CANE was associated with THOMAS W. OLSON'S small boat concern operating at Miami. HICKMAN reported to T-47's Agency that CANE had phoned him when HICKMAN was staying at the Hilton Hotel, Fort Worth, Texas, and asked if he could get 5,000 carbines for CANE for approximately \$70 each. Upon his return to New York City, HICKMAN contacted

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GEORGE HOGAN of American Enterprises, 1697 Broadway, New York City, who placed him in touch with a Dr. MORRIS of Springfield, Massachusetts, who was supposed to supply the carbines.

On May 20, 1953, according to T-47's New York Office, HICKMAN advised that a PHIL CASANI of the Trager Trading Company of Miami, and a MIKE SUSSMAN, presumably owner of a pawn shop in Miami, TOM OLSON, and a man named NIGRO, the last two being associates of HICKMAN, arrived in New York City to consummate the deal, which called for delivery of 1,000 carbines every three days at some point in New York state. Later in the day HICKMAN again contacted T-47's agency and advised that Dr. MORRIS had backed out on learning the deal was illegal inasmuch as licenses had to be obtained. Later, HICKMAN advised T-47's New York Agency that MORRIS had consented and that the guns were to be delivered in New Jersey. However, on May 21, HICKMAN advised that the number of carbines had been reduced to 250 for delivery each day instead of 1,000 every three days, and that they were to be loaded aboard a C-46 plane at an unidentified airport about one hour's drive from New York City.

On May 25, 1953, HICKMAN again advised that the deal had fallen through as no one could furnish the carbines, and he stated that OLSON and CASANI had returned to Miami and that SUSSMAN and NIGRO had left New York for an unknown destination.

T-47 reported that Dr. STUART KELLY, a retired medical doctor, is the head of Stuart Kelly Associates, and that KELLY had been financing HICKMAN, but had advised that he would withdraw his support if HICKMAN engaged in any illegal transactions.

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C. March, 1953 Proposition By a Captain WILLIAM ERICKSON  
(believed identical to Captain BERT ERICKSON) in New  
York City:

On March 11, 1953, WALLACE G. ROUSE, of Wallace G. Rouse Consultant Engineer, 67 West 45th Street, New York City, advised the New York Office that ARTHUR KENNEDY, who uses an air freight office at 11 Broadway, New York City, as his headquarters, advised him that a Captain ERICKSON wanted to go over with him a confidential matter of mutual interest. ROUSE described KENNEDY as being an inventor, an independent operator, whom he had known for a number of years and who in the past had unsuccessfully attempted to borrow money from him.

Mr. ROUSE said that on the day following KENNEDY's contact, he received a call from Miami, Florida, from a Captain ERICKSON, who stated he was interested in "making a deal" to get at least ten bazookas, side arms, as many hand grenades as possible, submachine guns and .50 caliber machine guns, as well as ammunition for these weapons.

Mr. ROUSE said on March 6, 1953, Captain ERICKSON visited him at his office, 67 West 45th Street. ERICKSON explained that he had just come in from Halifax, where he had purchased a boat, and that he now wanted to pick up the guns and ammunition and place them aboard the boat. ERICKSON told ROUSE he would be amply paid with cash on delivery. Mr. ROUSE, who at the outset believed that ERICKSON had mistaken him for someone else but went along with him to see what the deal was, said that he continued to stall ERICKSON. On March 11, 1953, ROUSE received a call from ERICKSON at Miami, at which time ERICKSON said he wanted ROUSE to come to Miami and show ERICKSON "what he had." ERICKSON again told ROUSE he would be paid in cash.

When interviewed by Special Agent WILLIAM T. CONLEY, New York City, on March 13th, Mr. ROUSE said that ERICKSON had, in his absence, called ROUSE's office and asked if ROUSE would be in Miami on March 13th. He said that during his conversation with ERICKSON he had gained the impression that ERICKSON intended to illegally export the arms, which he desired to purchase, to Cuba.

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On June 30, 1953, upon being recontacted by Special Agent CONLEY, ROUSE said he had had no contact with ERICKSON or KENNEDY, other than that already reported; that he had been away from his office on vacation for the past three months, and in his absence KENNEDY and ERICKSON had called his office a few times.

Miami Informant T-46, who has a wide acquaintance with arms dealers, and who has previously furnished information of value to the New York Office in this case, stated he met WILLIAM ERICKSON five or six years ago, at which time ERICKSON was an officer of the Western Arms Company, which was engaged in importing low-priced automatic pistols into the United States.

ROUSE furnished the following description of Captain WILLIAM ERICKSON:

Age	About 60
Height	5'8"
Weight	190 lbs.
Hair	Graying, partially bald
Build	Stocky
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Light
Characteristics	Spoke with Swedish accent and his right wrist was in a sling
Dress	Neat business suit
Address	3614 N. W. 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida
Telephone	64-0226

It is to be noted that 3614 N. W. 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida, is the address of Captain BERT T. ERICKSON, who resides there with his daughter and son-in-law, MATHEW DONALD KRIM, both of whom have been described under Section IX, above. It is to be noted that Captain BERT T. ERICKSON, who is a ship's captain and who has been observed by the writer, bears the same physical description as the Captain WILLIAM ERICKSON, described by Mr. ROUSE.

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D. Proposition Made to Miami Informant T-14 at El Toledo Restaurant, Miami, Florida:

On May 28, 1953, Miami Informant T-14 reported that in about November or December, 1952, a Cuban, whose identity was never disclosed to the Informant, asked the Informant to come to the El Toledo Restaurant, Biscayne Boulevard at Northeast 2nd Street, which is operated by JOE and FRANK MIGUEL, who at that time were employed to guard PRIO's residence. While there, this Cuban propositioned T-14 about taking out of the United States a shipment of arms for CARLOS PRIO. It was implied that these arms were located somewhere in the West or Southwest. Informant said that he turned down this offer, explaining he did not want to violate the Neutrality Act. Informant said he then exhibited to this Cuban a list of arms located in Europe which he knows to be for sale. Subsequently, the Informant was placed in touch with another individual who was represented as being one of PRIO's men, but this party told Informant that PRIO was not interested in those arms. Informant said that these Cubans were very "cozy" and their names were not disclosed to the Informant. However, the Informant said he got the impression, during his discussions with both of these Cubans, that CARLOS PRIO is wary of confidence schemes, and, although willing to utilize the services of T-14 in transporting out of the United States arms already possessed by PRIO, that PRIO is unwilling to take any risks in purchasing arms. Informant said that it is rumored around Miami among persons who have in the past dealt in arms that PRIO is acquiring arms and munitions from the Mexican Government. T-14 claims he has been frequently approached by representatives of various Latin countries, who are interested in buying arms and other equipment for their respective countries.

E. Efforts of MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Miami, to Purchase Arms Allegedly for PRIO Group:

On July 17, 1953, Miami Informant T-48, who is believed to be reliable, furnished the following information:

T-48 explained that on the same morning he had visited his personal friend, MIKE SILVERSTEIN, a former school-mate who operates Sussman's Luggage Shop at 238 North Miami Avenue, telephone 2-3296. During the course of their conversation, SILVERSTEIN asked T-48 how he would like to make some

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extra money while working on his job with the United States Time Corporation in Texas. SILVERSTEIN explained that he is in the market for 1,000 M-1 rifles, and, in view of the fact that Texas laws concerning the sale of firearms are very lax, he felt that the Informant would be in a good position while traveling around Texas to contact various gunsmiths and other arms dealers in order to locate a supply of M-1's. After any batch of guns is located, T-48 should then telephonically contact SILVERSTEIN collect, and SILVERSTEIN would then fly to Texas, where he would handle further negotiations.

SILVERSTEIN told T-48 that he was trying to purchase these guns on behalf of the PRIO group (CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, former president of Cuba now living in Miami after being overthrown by BATISTA March 10, 1952). SILVERSTEIN described his Cuban contact as being one of the victims in the \$240,000.00 robbery which took place at Fort Worth, Texas. SILVERSTEIN added that T-48 could offer up to \$70.00 apiece for each of these weapons and that he, himself, expected to get \$100.00 apiece for them.

SILVERSTEIN claimed that this was a "hot" proposition and that immediate action must be taken, because they might not be needed after a thirty-day period. SILVERSTEIN also indicated he was interested in obtaining grenades or anything else in heavy guns. SILVERSTEIN indicated that T-48 should be able to make \$2,000.00 or \$3,000.00 as his share in arranging such a deal.

SILVERSTEIN also related to T-48 that on a previous occasion he had flown to Canada, near Buffalo, New York, relative to a shipment of guns which were to be shipped from Canada to the United States, where they were to be repacked for a customer in this country. He explained that all he had to do on that occasion was to sign some sort of an export license near the border. He also related that on another occasion he had gone to New York and from there to Connecticut, where he had participated in a meeting, along with ten or eleven other people, concerning a gun deal, and the guns in this instance were supposed to be located in Canada and were to be reshipped to Connecticut for purchase for the "old man," but that this deal fell through because someone in the group offered to sell similar guns at \$48.00 apiece. On this occasion, according to SILVERSTEIN, the Cuban customer had paid \$7,000.00 to have a plane and several trucks available for use at a warehouse in the New York area.

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T-48 said that he left the door open, but made no commitment following this first discussion with SILVERSTEIN.

On July 17, 1953, T-48 telephonically advised that he had revisited SILVERSTEIN at Sussman's Luggage Shop. When he entered the store, SILVERSTEIN was talking long distance with a party in New York City. SILVERSTEIN later explained to T-48 that about thirty minutes previously (at about 2:00 PM), he had just been talking to a Cuban who had flown up from Havana and who was again immediately departing for Havana following a proposition made by this Cuban to SILVERSTEIN to purchase five sub-machine guns of .45 caliber. SILVERSTEIN said that he told the Cuban that he should return to Miami with the necessary money on the following Monday (July 20), and that he, SILVERSTEIN, would have the guns ready for delivery by the following Wednesday. SILVERSTEIN explained that he had just called New York City in an effort to locate five machine guns, and that he hoped to have these guns in Miami before next Wednesday, but that it might be necessary for him to fly to New York in order to obtain them. He did not disclose the identity of this Cuban to T-48, but indicated that this Cuban was connected with the PRIO group.

SILVERSTEIN also told T-48 that he has in his possession a letter from one of PRIO's aides requesting SILVERSTEIN to come see CARLOS PRIO at his Miami home. SILVERSTEIN said that after receiving this letter he went to PRIO's home in company with this Cuban aide, but they were told that PRIO had left about an hour previously for Boston, Massachusetts, for medical treatment. The aide then suggested that they call on PRIO's brother, but SILVERSTEIN declined, stating that he wanted to see only PRIO.

When T-48 questioned SILVERSTEIN concerning the Texas gun proposition, SILVERSTEIN said that the guns would be shipped to Mexico until they were needed by the PRIO people, and that this matter had the sanction of the Mexican government. SILVERSTEIN also told T-48 that the United States Government did not care for the BATISTA regime and would not make an issue of anything so long as the guns go to an anti-BATISTA crowd.

T-48 furnished the following description of SILVERSTEIN:

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Name	MIKE SILVERSTEIN
Age	40
Height	5'6"
Weight	165 lbs.
Build	Chunky
Hair	Grey and dark brown
Peculiarities	Heavy eyebrows, protruding eyes
Marital Status	Married
Religion	Jewish

It is believed that MIKE SILVERSTEIN is also known as MIKE SUSSMAN, and that he is identical to the MIKE SUSSMAN previously mentioned in this section.

F. Anonymous Report Concerning Rifle Shipment to Cuba:

On June 5, 1953, Miami Informant T-49, of known reliability, being an employee of a Federal Agency which conducts investigations, reported that he had received a letter reading as follows:

"To:  
U.S. Border Patrol  
Ft. Myers, Fla.

"In the near future, watch out for the possible trans-shipment of 5000 rifles to Cuba via local shrimp boat. Watch for middle age man with Polish accent possibly owner or operator."

/s/ "AMERICAN CITIZEN"

T-49 said that it was his opinion that this is a result of the rumors that PRIO is going to return to Cuba and take over.

G. Comment by CARLOS PRIO Relative to Arms Smuggling in August, 1953:

Miami Informant T-25 reported that CARLOS PRIO has made the following comment concerning the smuggling of arms into Cuba by his group.

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PRIO reported, "Yes, we have succeeded in smuggling armament into Cuba. Our movement, when the cry for freedom and democracy is given, will constitute the strongest and best organized attack on tyranny ever registered in the history of the Western Hemisphere. We have to clean Cuba, not just of BATISTA and his gangsters, but we will have to go deeper into the very roots of each tyrannical plant. I do not claim my administration is absolutely clean and honest, because that is physically impossible in a democracy, but at least those sinners in my administration are politicians and not henchmen or gangsters. Our revolution will clearly reflect the word. It will not be just a coup to gain power, but a complete cleaning up job throughout our country.

"Because of the attitude of the United States Department of State, I have at all times been most careful in handling my revolutionary business. Up to date no one can put their finger on me. Yes, I have been in full command of many armament purchases right here in the United States, but no one can ever prove that. I have always dealt through four or five persons and never directly with just one."

#### XIII. FINANCES OF PRIO

Miami Informant T-4 reported on April 23, 1953, that as of that date CARLOS PRIO had a balance of only \$500.00 at the North Shore Bank, Miami Beach. The following checks, of possible interest, were drawn by PRIO:

Check for \$500.00, dated March 23, 1953, payable to RICARDO ARTEGAS.

Check for \$461.61, dated March 31, 1953, payable to MARIO PEREZ.

Check for \$4,200.00, dated April 14, 1953, payable to RAFAEL GENER, who came into the North Shore Bank with Cuban Passport #5088, to cash this check.

Check for \$269.80, dated April 15, 1953, payable to Sulka and Company, New York City, with offices at 5th Avenue Branch of the Bankers Trust Company.

T-4 said that PRIO had closed out his safety deposit box.

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On May 22, 1953, T-4 reported that as of May 12, 1953, there was a balance of \$933.66 in PRIO's account, a deposit of \$10,002.27 having been made during the month. During this period he drew check #1021 on April 29, 1953, in the amount of \$1,600.00, payable to Cash. This check was endorsed by JOSEPH MIGUEL. On April 30th, he drew check #1022 in the amount of \$8,000.00, payable to CARLOS HEVIA. This was endorsed by HEVIA.

Miami Informant T-27 reported on June 2, 1953, that PRIO's balance was down to \$37.03 at the North Shore Bank.

T-4 reported on July 27, 1953, that PRIO's personal secretary, LUIS G. FERNANDEZ, had deposited a \$5,000.00 check to PRIO's account at the North Shore Bank. This check was drawn on Guaranty Trust Company, 44th and 5th Avenue, New York City.

Miami Informant T-50, of known reliability, reported on June 2, 1953, that the First National Bank of Miami possessed no record of a \$50,000.00 check allegedly deposited by PRIO on May 27, 1953, at the Guaranty Trust Company, New York City. On June 2nd, T-50 said PRIO does not maintain an account at this bank.

With reference to this \$50,000.00 check, Miami Informant T-51, of known reliability, reported on May 29, 1953, that CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS deposited a \$50,000.00 check to his account at the First National Bank of Miami on May 27, 1953.

Miami Informant T-25 learned on August 3, 1953, that PRIO has indicated that he keeps his money in a number of different banks outside of Cuba, primarily in the United States and in Mexico.

On June 1, 1953, Miami Informant T-52 reported that he is of the firm belief that PRIO is still securing cash from Cuba, inasmuch as Informant has ascertained that PRIO frequently makes payments in cash and that this cash has wrappers stamped "Havana Branch - Bank of Canada."

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**SECRET**XIV. ALLEGED MEETING OF CUBANS TO BOMB HAVANA

Miami Informant T-5 reported on July 13, 1953, that on July 11, 1953, he had received a report from Cuba through official channels to the effect that there had been a meeting of Cubans at 1811 S. W. 2nd Road, Telephone 82-2086, and that this meeting had been held for the purpose of planning the bombing of Havana. T-5 said that his source was of the opinion that the PRIO group would cause a bomb to be dropped in Havana in order to arouse the students to a revolt against BATISTA from within the country.

Miami Informant T-53, of known reliability, reported that Telephone 82-2086, at 1811 S. W. 2nd Road, is assigned to RAFAEL PEREZ of the same address. T-5 said that RAFAEL PEREZ is a cousin, or other distant relative, of CARLOS PRIO and is one of PRIO's followers.

XV. CONCERNING JOSEPH AND FRANK MIGUEL,  
FORMER GUARDS AT PRIO RESIDENCE,  
2100 SOUTH MIAMI AVENUE

Miami Informant T-54, of known reliability, who is presently acquainted with ANTONIO PRIO, brother of CARLOS PRIO, reported on June 2, 1953, that ANTONIO PRIO had recently come to him for advice, explaining that his brother CARLOS had until recently in his employ, two guards, JOSEPH and FRANK MIGUEL, Miami policemen, who during their off-hours were engaged by PRIO to guard his family and residence at 2100 South Miami Avenue. According to the information furnished the Informant by ANTONIO PRIO, about three months previously an unidentified individual approached FRANK MIGUEL and told him that they would pay the MIGUEL brothers well if they would "get lost." This information came to the attention of ANTONIO PRIO but, at the time, he did not give the matter much thought. However, because of subsequent developments, ANTONIO had reason to suspect the reliability and intentions of JOSEPH and FRANK MIGUEL, and desired for Informant to advise the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning his suspicions. ANTONIO PRIO told the Informant that he feared for his brother's life and safety. The Informant stated that because of the information obtained by ANTONIO and his brother, CARLOS PRIO, the two MIGUEL brothers were dismissed as guards and another private detective agency hired to perform this service.

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On June 3, 1953, ANTONIO PRIO, accompanied by T-54, called at the Miami Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. At this time, ANTONIO PRIO, speaking through T-54 as interpreter, advised the writer as follows.

ANTONIO PRIO said that shortly after CARLOS PRIO acquired his present residence at 2100 South Miami Avenue, following his flight to Miami after having been overthrown by BATISTA on March 10, 1952, CARLOS acquired the services of JOSEPH and FRANK MIGUEL, both Miami policemen, to guard his residence and family, because he feared that BATISTA or some of his followers might attempt to harm PRIO or some member of his family or might attempt some act on the premises which would prove embarrassing to PRIO. ANTONIO said that his brother was happy to have two Miami policemen employed in this capacity, because of the effect it would have upon the people in Cuba from a psychological standpoint. During the time the two MIGUEL brothers were employed there, ANTONIO PRIO said that he, himself, gave them money to purchase the El Toledo Restaurant at Biscayne Boulevard and Northeast 2nd Street. ANTONIO said this was done as a friendly gesture and that it was in the nature of a loan to a friend. ANTONIO said that an investigator from the Miami Police Department had recently questioned CARLOS PRIO concerning his employment of the two MIGUEL brothers, this inquiry apparently being made from a police administrative standpoint, and that this was the reason given to the MIGUELS by CARLOS PRIO for their dismissal from his service.

ANTONIO explained, however, that the real reason for their dismissal was because of information received by the PRIOS reflecting that the MIGUEL brothers might actually be in the pay of BATISTA. ANTONIO said that shortly prior to their dismissal, it was ascertained that both JOSEPH and FRANK MIGUEL, without notifying PRIO, took a trip to Cuba, where an official police car was placed at their disposal while there and where they talked to Colonel HERNANDO HERNANDEZ, who on one occasion had accused the exiled PRIOS of being responsible for a cache of arms located in Cuba. ANTONIO said that he also learned through connections in Cuba that the two MIGUEL brothers, upon their arrival in Havana in the early part of May, were met at the airport by a man influential with the BATISTA regime. ANTONIO PRIO said that because of security reasons, he did not wish to disclose the identity of this man who met the MIGUEL brothers because it would place his informant in jeopardy. ANTONIO said he also learned that

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neither of the MIGUEL brothers was searched, although it was undoubtedly common knowledge that they were employed at that time by CARLOS PRIO. He said the MIGUELS remained in Havana several days and almost immediately following their return each purchased a Cadillac. He said neither of these cars was new and that the price of one was \$2,600.00, less an \$800.00 trade-in. He did not know the value of the other car. ANTONIO said that he possessed no knowledge of any other unusual expenditures by the MIGUELS.

ANTONIO PRIO said that when the MIGUEL brothers were confronted concerning their trip to Cuba, FRANK MIGUEL admitted that almost immediately after their arrival at the airport in Havana, JOSEPH MIGUEL telephoned the Police Station.

ANTONIO PRIO said he had also ascertained that in Miami the MIGUELS had passed around remarks to the effect that they soon expected to be in a position to do big business in Cuba or Mexico.

ANTONIO also said that he had been informed by a contact in Miami that the two MIGUEL brothers had been in the services of BATISTA for the preceeding three months. ANTONIO said that he had reason to believe this report accurate, inasmuch as his source, although representing BATISTA in Miami in some capacity which ANTONIO did not disclose, had, along with his family, been previously aided in Cuba by ANTONIO.

ANTONIO stated that on the previous night, June 2, 1953, he had been visited by JOSEPH MIGUEL, who wanted to know why he and his brother were let go. It was then that ANTONIO and his brother, FRANCISCO PRIO, told MIGUEL that inasmuch as the police had been inquiring about the MIGUELS, it was felt that they should be dismissed from PRIO's services and also that they wanted to employ additional protection. On that occasion, upon being questioned, JOSEPH MIGUEL claimed that he had gone to Havana in connection with advertising propaganda which he intended to start in connection with the El Toledo Restaurant. ANTONIO expressed the opinion, however, that the amount of business done at the El Toledo Restaurant does not warrant such advertising.

Miami Informant T-5 reported on May 27, 1953, that FRANK and JOSEPH MIGUEL arrived in Havana, Cuba, on May 1, 1953, and returned to Miami via Pan American Airways

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Flight #496 on May 3, 1953. He said that since their return to Miami, they have twice been to New York City. He was of the opinion that they had gone there on business for PRIO.

XVI. GENERAL ANSELMO PAULINO, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Miami Informant T-1 reported on July 6, 1953, that PRIO was contacted under rather mysterious circumstances by an individual who was ascertained to be registered in Room 1107, Columbus Hotel, Miami. T-1 said that PRIO and this individual agreed, through intermediaries, to meet each other near the P & O Docks, Biscayne Boulevard, at about 10:00 PM that same evening. It appeared that they were anxious not to be observed in the company of each other. Miami Informant T-55, of known reliability, reported on July 6, 1953, that Mr. and Mrs. ANSELMO PAULINO, MAX GOMEZ, #76 Trujillo, Dominican Republic, were registered in Room 1107 of the Columbus Hotel. Informant said that this man referred to as General was once previously in Miami with RAFAEL TRUJILLO, former President of the Dominican Republic, arriving together by yacht. This occurred approximately one year ago.

It was ascertained by the writer through physical surveillance that the rendezvous did not take place as scheduled. Miami Informant T-1 reported later the same day that confusion had apparently arisen concerning the place of the appointment, and he was unable to state whether this meeting was actually held.

With reference to ANSELMO PAULINO, Miami Informant T-56, of unknown reliability, reported on November 13, 1952, that he had been approached in late December, 1951, by Dominican Republic Consul, PEDRO BLANDINO, in Miami, to handle a kidnapping for the Dominicans for a price. T-55 received \$1,000.00 and travel expenses to Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, on or about April 6 or 8, 1952, for this purpose. After arriving in Ciudad Trujillo, he was propositioned by General ANSELMO PAULINO of TRUJILLO's cabinet to effect the kidnapping of ENRIQUE HENRIQUEZ (Dominican brother-in-law of CARLOS PRIO), and by General MIGUEL RAMERIZ, who was then in Guatemala. He was offered \$35,000.00 but claimed he refused this proposition.

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XVII MISCELLANEOUS

A. Leading PRIO Associates Located in Miami

Miami Informants T-1, 2, and 3, and Miami Informants T-57 and 58, of known reliability, all of whom are well informed concerning PRIO and his immediate associates, have advised over a period of time that SEGUNDO CURTI, former Minister of Interior under the PRIO regime, who resides at 60 S. W. 25th Road, Miami, appears to be one of PRIO's most trusted and important associates; that RICARDO ARTIGAS, former Chief of the Cuban lottery under PRIO, who resides at 727 East Dillido Drive, Miami Beach, visits PRIO almost daily and appears to be high in his confidence; that Colonel RAFAEL IZQUIRDO, Military Aid to PRIO, who resides at 249 S. W. 23rd Road, Miami, enjoys a very close personal relationship with PRIO and apparently has his complete confidence; and that DIEGO VICENTE TEJERA y RESCALVO, previously mentioned in this report under Section IX, appears to be one of the key lieutenants in the PRIO group.

According to these informants, PRIO's brothers, ANTONIO and FRANCISCO, do not appear to be too deeply involved, especially FRANCISCO, who is presently in California on a pleasure trip, after having left Miami in early June, 1953, for New York City.

B. Visitors to the PRIO Group in Miami

Miami Informants T-1, 2, and 3 have reported that among a constant stream of Cubans who have visited PRIO and his leading associates during the past few months are the following.

LOMBERTO DIAZ RODRIGUEZ, a former Minister of Interior under the PRIO Government, who was in Miami on June 12 and July 5, 1953.

FELIX LANCIS, a medical doctor who was in Miami on June 13, 1953. Miami Informant T-5 has advised that LANCIS served under the GRAU Government as a Prime Minister; that he is not especially a good friend of PRIO, but served as a liaison man between PRIO and GRAU in connection with the Montreal Conference. He said that LANCIS had planned to run as President on the Authentic Party ticket last June, but that PRIO had chosen CARLOS HEVIA over LANCIS.

JOSE ANTONIO RUBIO PADILLA, previously mentioned in this report, who was in Miami on June 16, 1953 and who also later

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accompanied PRIO to Boston, Massachusetts for medical treatment and later to New York City.

SERGIO CARBO, a Havana newspaper publisher who was in Miami around June 18, 1953.

CANDIDO de la TORRE, who was one of the victims in the \$240,000 Fort Worth, Texas robbery, who was in Miami June 23, and who again arrived July 30, 1953.

CHINO MIRANDA, who was in Miami around June 30, 1953 and who, according to T-5, is a musician, resides in Havana, Cuba, and is a close personal friend of CARLOS and FRANCISCO PRIO and frequently travels between Cuba and Miami. T-5 said this man is politically interesting.

DIEGO MEJIAS, who arrived in Miami on or about July 5, 1953 for a brief trip. It appeared, according to these informants, that considerable importance was attached to his presence. T-5 has stated that this man is undoubtedly identical to DIEGO SERGIO MEJIAS who was Minister of Communications during the PRIO regime, who served as a former Senator in the GRAU administration, and who travels back and forth frequently between Miami and Cuba.

JUAN RIOS MONTEAGRO arrived with his family in Miami from Mexico on August 1, 1953. T-5 has stated that MONTEAGRO is a very close personal friend of SEGUNDO CURTI, is an aviator, and appears to be very active in the PRIO Party.

Miami Informants T-1, 2, 3 and 5 above have also advised during this period that RUBEN GARCIA CHELIN, 2200 S. W. Second Avenue, appears to enjoy the confidence of PRIO and his closest associates. T-5 has advised that CHELIN is either the adopted or illegitimate son of PRIO's father, was raised in PRIO's house, and resides next door to FRANCISCO PRIO. He described CHELIN as being a dwarfish sort of individual about 5'2" or 5'3" tall, with a very large head and about forty years of age. He said that CHELIN's wife is now obtaining a divorce from him and he is living with another woman by the name of JOSEPHINA at his residence. T-5 said that CHELIN had recently gone to New York City on a trip with RAFAEL PEREZ, who is wanted in Cuba for taking about two million dollars from the Public Works funds there. The informant said that PEREZ was formerly a Paymaster in the Public Works Department in Cuba.

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Miami Informants T-1 and 3 have also learned that on June 22, 1953 an individual subsequently identified as NORMAN made an appointment to see PRIO at his home under rather confidential circumstances. It appeared to the informant that PRIO was anxious not to have anybody know that NORMAN was coming to his home. It was observed on that evening at the time of the appointment a car bearing Florida license 1W10858 was parked at the gate to PRIO's residence. This car, according to the Dade County Motor Vehicle Bureau, is registered to ETHEL ROTHMAN, 425 Surfside Boulevard, for a 1953 Oldsmobile coupe.

Miami Informant T-59, of unknown reliability, who is well informed concerning gambling activities in the Miami area, advised that NORMAN ROTHMAN lives at 425 Surfside Boulevard, Miami Beach, while in this area. This informant said that NORMAN ROTHMAN drives a green Oldsmobile coupe while in Miami. The informant has stated that NORMAN ROTHMAN is a front for the MANNARINO gang of New Kensington, Pennsylvania, a well known mafia organization actively engaged in gambling enterprises in Cuba and New Kensington, Pennsylvania. This informant has also stated that ROTHMAN was at one time manager of the gambling casino at the Sans Souci Hotel in Cuba.

Miami Informant T-1 subsequently ascertained that PRIO apparently had a very low regard for ROTHMAN, however T-1 was unable to ascertain the nature of their contact.

C. RE: CARLOS HEVIA

Miami Informant T-1 reported in July, 1953, that CARLOS HEVIA, who resides at 2475 Brickell Avenue while in Miami, is presently residing at the Lexington Hotel, New York City. It is to be recalled that HEVIA had been picked by PRIO to run as Presidential candidate on the Authentic Party ticket for the June, 1952, presidential elections in Cuba. However, this failed to materialize when BATISTA executed a coup d'etat March 10, 1952 and consequently cancelled the June, 1952 elections.

Miami Informant T-25 learned on August 3, 1953 that PRIO in commenting on CARLOS HEVIA stated that he had sent HEVIA up north so that HEVIA could take care of many important business matters for PRIO in New York. This informant got the impression that PRIO was referring to his plans to overthrow BATISTA.

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