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ANTI-CASTRO PEOPLE

CUBAN CONSULATE

BLANCO, JAOSÉ VASQUEZ

ALLEGED GENERAL CUBAN INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION IN THE
NEW YORK CITY AREA

STEELSON, ANTONIO

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

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Report of : JOHN MARTIN DOGGETT Office: New York,
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Field Office File No: 105-39129 Bureau File No.:
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Title: CUBAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES
IN THE UNITED STATES

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY-CUBA

Synopsis:

NY T-1 advised inquiry was made by Cuban Consulate regarding radio for short wave broadcasts. NY T-3 advised Cuban National Bank issues 100-200 thousand US dollars per month for G-2 activities believed by T-3 to finance external activities since the money is issued in convertible currency. NY T-7 advised JOSE VASQUEZ BLANCO was considered head of G-2 operations in NYC since he handled none of the regular consulate work, yet received a higher salary than the Consular General. NY T-9 advised MANUEL GUILLOT and HERBERTO RODRIGUEZ, of the July 26 Movement, NYC, traveled to Miami, Florida and proposed acts of sabotage and terrorism be committed in such a way as to be blamed on anti-CASTRO. NY T-8 observed MANUEL GUILLOT and RICARDO AZCUY wearing pistols. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, MANUEL GUILLOT AND RICARDO AZCUY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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ALLEGED GENERAL CUBAN INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION IN THE
NEW YORK CITY AREA

NY T - 1 advised on November 3, 1960, that he had learned that an unidentified individual affiliated with the Cuban Consulate, New York City, made a contact with a representative of the Hammarlund Radio Equipment Outlet and inquired if a (Hammarlund-100) which was owned by the Cuban Consulate could be utilized with Koss head phones for short wave broadcasts. He identified the Koss phones as four amperes lightweight. The Hammarlund representative advised that this equipment was "satisfactory".

NY T - 2 advised on December 1, 1960, that he was a former Cuban Police Officer and that after FIDEL CASTRO assumed power in Cuba the Cuban Intelligence Office reorganized, restaffed, and renamed G-2. GERUASIO REUMON was appointed Chief of the Cuban G-2 and OCTAVIO RODRIGUEZ was made REUMON's assistant. Both of these men were selected for their experience in police work, their organizational ability and their judgment in selection of personnel.

According to T-2 REUMON and RODRIGUEZ had molded the Cuban G-2 into an efficiently, operating organization. The CASTRO government removed them from G-2 upon the advise of Russian consultants who were there in Cuba and who favored and supported RAMIRO VALDES for the position of Chief of Cuban G-2 operations. NY T - 2 advised that Cuban G-2 has some agents who operate completely independent of fellow members of the organization and report directly to RAMIRO VALDES. Other Cuban G-2 agents operate as a group under group leaders. He said that ordinarily a G-2 agent will not

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know the identity of any other G-2 agents outside his own group and that many of the G-2 agents in operation do so without compensation in what appears to be a voluntary service. According to T - 2 Cuban G-2 not only operates agents in the United States (US) and many other foreign countries but also has agents within all the departments and branches of the Cuban government.

NY T - 3, another government agency which conducts security investigations abroad, advised on December 6, 1960, that it learned from a source which it considers reliable that every month the Cuban National Bank issues between one hundred and two hundred thousand US dollars in cash to RAUL CASTRO. The issuance of cash is shown on the books as an expenditure for G-2 activities. T - 3 also advised that this money is probably used to finance external activities since the money is issued in convertible currency.

On January 10, 1961, NY T -4 advised that the Cubana Airlines have approximately 55 pilots and T - 4 estimated that approximately ten of these pilots are members of the Cuban Secret Police. Source, however, was unable to furnish the identity of these alleged secret police affiliated with Cubana Airlines.

T - 4 did advise, however, that from his knowledge of the financial aspects of Cubana it was his opinion that the airline is presently operating at a financial loss. However, the CASTRO government is interested in continuing the operation of the airline mainly for political and intelligence reasons.

On January 4, 1961, NY T - 5 advised on that date from an unidentified source employed with Cubana

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Airlines, Miami, Florida, that the pilot of Cubana Flight 998, Captain BUSTANANTE (phonetic), was to pilot Cubana Flight 998 from Havana, Cuba to Idlewild Airport, New York City, on that date and he had in his possession "important papers" which he was to deliver upon his arrival in New York City.

On the same date NY T - 6 advised that upon the arrival of Cubana Flight 998 at Idlewild Airport from Havana, Cuba. The plane's captain was met by ANGEL JOSE ARANGO, ^{CARDED} the District Manager of Cubana Airlines in New York, and was driven by ARANGO to the Cuban Consulate, 625 Madison Avenue, New York City.

NY T - 6 stated that this appeared very unusual inasmuch as the plane for Havana usually departs two hours after its arrival in New York on the return trip to Havana.

On January 4, 1961, NY T - 7 advised that ANTONIO STEELSON ^{CARDED} of the Commercial Office of the Cuban Consulate had not obtained the private telephone he was seeking and had appeared to assume more authority in recent weeks in what the source felt was based on G-2 activity. T - 7 also advised that as of January 4, 1961, the Cuban Consulate had received no instructions regarding the closing of the Consulate or the disposition of the personnel.

On December 1, 1960, NY T - 8, who was an employee of the Cuban Revolutionary Government, advised that the Cuban law now requires that each Cuban leaving Cuba must have clearance from the Cuban Department of Technical Investigation, as well as the Cuban Passport Division. Each Cuban, at the time of his departure from Cuba is required to present a card, three and one-half inches by five and one-half inches bearing his photograph and identifying data. This card must be

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signed by the chiefs of the two of four mentioned Cuban departments and authorizes the Bearer to leave Cuba and return at will for a period of one year.

NY T - 8 advised that the significance of this change in regulation was that the ordinary Cuban citizen is obliged by Cuban law to carry this travel document. However, T - 8 knows it to be a fact that exceptions are made for Cuban Intelligence Agents and other Cuban citizens highly trusted by the Cuban Revolutionary Government. In these cases the Cuban Police merely furnishes a special certificate which states that by the courtesy of the Cuban Revolutionary Government the Bearer is authorized to depart Cuba. These special certificates do not require a photograph of the Bearer and unlike the regular identification card the special certificate must be surrendered to the Cuban Police at the point of embarkation in Cuba just prior to the individual's departure.

ALLEGED INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AT THE CUBAN CONSULATE,
NEW YORK CITY

JOSE VASQUEZ BLANCO ^{CARDED}

NY T - 8 advised on December 1, 1960, that JOSE VASQUEZ BLANCO, Consular Attache, was recently transferred from the Cuban Consulate General in New York City, to the Cuban Consulate in Miami. He said that VASQUEZ is so well known among anti-CASTRO adherents in Miami, as a Cuban G-2 Agent that VASQUEZ feared he would be assaulted and requested another transfer. According to NY T - 8, VASQUEZ is now in Cuba and it's rumored he will be assigned to a new post in Latin America.

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NY T - 8 also advised he believes that VASQUEZ was formerly a leader of a G-2 group at the Cuban Consulate in New York, composed of MANUEL GUILLOT^{CARDED} JOAQUIN SANCHEZ^{CARDED}, RICARDO AZCUY^{CARDED}, NILDA NUNEZ^{CARDED} and BERTA PLA^{CARDED}. NY T - 8 stated that none of these individuals ever admit to him that they were members of G-2 but that they all took orders from VASQUEZ who received a larger salary than the Cuban Consul General in New York. NY T - 8 also stated that he had known VASQUEZ on occasion to request ANTONIO STEELSON to purchase guns for him. T - 8 said that he observed MANUEL GUILLOT and RICARDO AZCUY wearing pistols on occasion in the course of their employment at the Cuban Consulate General in New York. According to NY T - 8 MANUEL GUILLOT is presently assigned to the Cuban Consulate in Miami, Florida.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE MANUEL GUILLOT AND RICARDO AZCUY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

It is to be noted that BERTA PLA was formerly Cultural Attache at the Cuban Consulate, New York, and was declared persona non grata by US Department of State on June 18, 1960.

MANUEL GUILLOT PEREZ^{CARDED}

On December 1, 1960, NY T - 9 advised that MANUEL GUILLOT, who is now assigned to the Cuban Consulate Miami, Florida, accompanied by HERIBERTO RODRIGUEZ^{CARDED} member of the July 26 Movement, New York City, arrived in Miami, Florida and both proposed acts of sabotage and terrorism be committed in such a way that these acts would be blamed on anti-CASTRO people in the area. According to T - 9, RODRIGUEZ, mentioned above, and EDELBERTO DIAZ ALUAREZ^{CARDED} Cuban Consular General of Miami, Florida, departed Miami for Havana, where they were to present sabotage and terrorism proposals to proper officials for their opinions and ideas.

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On November 29, 1960, NY T - 7, who is acquainted with employees at the Cuban Consulate, New York City, advised that he had no personal knowledge of Cuban Intelligence (G-2) activities but was of the opinion the following individuals who were at that time employed at the Cuban Consulate, New York City, were members of the G-2:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>JOSE VASQUEZ BLANCO</u> | - | Consular Attache |
| <u>Dr. ROGELIO GUILLOT</u> | - | Consul General |
| <u>MANUEL GUILLOT</u> | - | Review of above |
| <u>JOAQUIN SANCHEZ</u> | - | Auxiliary 2nd Class- Cuban Foreign Service |
| <u>RICARDO AZCUY</u> | - | Auxiliary 2nd Class - Cuban Foreign Service |
| <u>ANTONIO STEELSON DELGADO</u> | - | Commercial Office employee |
| <u>NILDA NUNEZ</u> | - | Secretary |

T - 7 was of the opinion that VASQUEZ was in charge of the G-2 operation in New York City, since he handled none of the regular Consulate work yet received a higher salary than the Consular General. T - 7 also stated that MANUEL GUILLOT has recently been assigned to the Cuban Consulate in Miami, Florida, and that Dr. ROGELIO GUILLOT has issued instructions that inquiries for VASQUEZ and MANUEL GUILLOT were to be received by him, Dr. ROGELIO GUILLOT.

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NY T - 10 advised on November 25, 1960, that he had resided in Cuba for most of his life and he was familiar with certain individuals of Cuban origin in the US. Information obtained from an individual whom he declined to identify but considered this person to be reliable regarding JULIA GONZALEZ, reads as follows:

GONZALEZ was nominated by the Cuban Government as Cultural Attache to the Counsul General of Cuba, New York City, as a substitute for BERTA PLA who was expelled from the US early in the year. GONZALEZ was reported to be a member of Cuban G-2 and was scheduled to arrive in the US in October, 1960.

On October 28, 1960, NY T - 11 advised that JULIA GONZALEZ was due to arrive in the US and work as Cultural Attache to the Cuban Consulate, New York City.

NY T - 8 advised on December 1, 1960, that JULIA GONZALEZ^{CARDED}, who was recently assigned to the Cuban Consulate General in New York, as Cultural Attache, may now be the leader of the group of G-2 Agents operating outside the Cuban Consulate in New York, inasmuch as she has taken over the files which were formerly handled by JOSE VASQUEZ and MANUEL GUILLOT before they were transferred from New York.

ANTONIO STEELSON

NY T - 8 advised on December 1, 1960, that ANTONIO STEELSON and JOAQUIN SANCHEZ, both employed in the Cuban Consulate General in New York, had a heated discussion after which SANCHEZ bitterly remarked that STEELSON is an American citizen and he intended to see

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to it that STEELSON was discharged from his position at the Consulate.

NY T - 7 advised on November 29, 1960, that JOAQUIN SANCHEZ had been transferred from the Cuban mission to the United Nations and that since there has been several transfers in the recent past it appears that ANTONIO STEELSON may be taking a higher position in G-2 activities in New York City.

RICARDO AZCUY RODRIGUEZ

On January 6, 1960, NY T - 11 advised that RICARDO ASCUY had been arrested by the New York City Police Department in front of the Cuban Consulate, New York City, inasmuch as he had been searched and it was found that he was carrying a pistol.

It was stated that AZCUY was arrested in spite of the fact that he exhibited his diplomatic passport and the Cuban Minister in Charge of Affairs was contacted regarding whether AZCUY had a diplomatic passport.

He noted that RICARDO AZCUY was arrested by the New York City Police Department on January 5, 1961, and charged with violation of the Penal Law 1897 (gun). He was released on \$1,500.00 bond and scheduled for a hearing on January 9, 1961. AZCUY failed to appear at the above hearing and forfeited his bond at which time a local bench warrant was issued charging subject with failure to appear to answer charges and bail jumping. Subsequent investigation on January 12, 1961, deemed that AZCUY was at that time in Havana, Cuba.

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CLOSING OF THE CUBAN CONSULATE, NEW YORK CITY

NY T - 12 advised on January 20, 1961, that he obtained information on January 19, 1961, that the official compliment of the Cuban Consulate in New York, as of the beginning of January, 1961, totaled 21 employees. NY T - 12 stated that as of January 20, ROGELIO GUILLOT, JULIA GONZALEZ, PEDRO VEGA and RICARDO AZCUY had all returned to Cuba.

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