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HOUSE SELFCE COMMETTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS STATE HEADQUARTERS

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RAY, MANUEL 201-0239298

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KAY KINDE, PORNIEL

### Costa Rican's Call for Talks With Castro Shocks Exiles

By JUREMIAH O'LEARY Stor News Stall Writer

Costa Rica's President Jose Figueres has thrown the Western Hemisphere's half-million Cubac exiles into a state cl shock by his declaration that they should seek a dialogue with Fidel Castro.

It happened at an exile banquet in San Juan, Puerto Rico, last week attended by many anti-Castro leaders and by the leading officials of the island commonwealth, including Luis Munoz Marin and the new governor, Rafael Hernandez Co-

Figueres had seemed to be an ideal choice as the speaker to the exile leaders because no Latin American leader has been a more open and vigor-ous enemy of Castro. The occasion was the 120th birthday celebration of Jose Marti, Cuba's national hero and a man idealized by both the exiles and by Castro supporters. For most of his speech, the e loquent and democratic-minded Figueres gave a stellar performance, combining fine oratory with wit. But then, toward the end of his speech, "Don Pepe" Figueres dropped his bombshell.

### Seek a Dialogue

He said the Cuban exiles should seek a dialogue with Castro because there is no prospect of overthrowing him. And he offered himself as an intermediary.

"If I have to share with you actions which are not pleasurable but bitter, and mediate

WASH STARNEWS, 9 FEB 1973

Interpretation

dience. Such exile leaders as Jose Mira Cardona and Manuel Ray, who once were active in militant attempts to overthrow the Communist regime set up by Casiro, were described as barely able to restrain themselves

The surprise declaration by Figueres was greeted with almost total silence, although a few women reportedly cried at his words.

Figueres appeared to have second thoughts about what he had said later in the week when he arrived in Panama. Reporters asked him about reports that he had offered to be a mediator among the Cubans and Figueres replied evasively that he had said nothing specific.

"I am always at the disposal of the Cubans for whatever they please," he told Panamanian newsmen.

#### Close to Exiles

Asked if it was true that the militant exile organization Alpha 66 had rejected his offer, Figueres said he was not familiar with the organiza-

Well-informed sources on Caribbean and Central American affairs say Figueres knows as much as any man about the Cuban exile movements and the men who lead them. After the Bay of Pigs disaster, some of the survivors of the invading force went to Costa Rica. Figueres himself, with Field, Russia or the devil, In his youth, was a leader of I am at your disposal," Figuerrilla forces fighting gueres said to the stunned auagainst such dictators as Rafact Trujillo and Anastasio So-moza Garcia.

But Figueres also is known as a realistic man When Costa Rica found itself with a huge coffee surplus, Figueres established diplomatic rela-tions with Russia and sold his entire surplus to the Soviet Union.

His Martl dinner speech seems to mean that he has decided that, realistically, Castroism is here to stay and will have to be accepted. Only Figueres, however, would have chosen a Cuban exile conclave to state his new

RAY y Rivero, Manuel Antonio

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER

Qualified for: Minister of Public Works

Biography:

Borm June 1924 in Havana. Educated in Cuban universities and became a very able construction engineer. He was politically unknown until 1957. In early 1957 he joined the Internal Resistance Movement (MRC). After engaging in numerous clandestine activities, he was made Secretary General of the MRC and a leader of the 26th of July Movement for Havana Province. At the time, he was President of the Havana Society of Civil Engineers and was employed by the Frederick Snare Corporation on the Hotel Hilton project. When Batista was everthrown, Castro made Ray his Minister of Public Works. Ray did a very creditable job "rebuilding" Cuba and acquired a substantial popular following. As Minister of Public Works, he showed a great understanding of the needs of the people of Cuba and a real concern for their welfare.

Political Affiliation and Attitudes: Although liberal and pro-revolutionary, Ray resented the Communist domination of the Castro regime and in November 1959 he was replaced by a Communist. He lived for several months under surveillance that amounted to house arrest and was unable to acquire another post. However, he remained in Cuba and organized the MRP as an anti-Castro movement. He escaped to the US in October 1960. His leadership, ability, and integrity are unmistakable.

Current Position and Location:

In the US as an MRP leader.

S-E-C-R-E-T

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

### DEFAREATI OF STATE Piographic Internation Division

PAY Rivers. Vanuel

CUBA

### Minister of Public Works

Panuel Ray, an earnest young civil engineer in his early thirties, was appointed Minister of Public Works in January 1959. He is a stocky man of youthful appearance who has been praised in government circles for the enthusiasm which he has exhibited in organizing an ambitious public works program.

Ray joined the Civic Resistance Fovement (NEC) in April 1957. After engaging in numerous clandestine activities, he was appointed Secretary General of the FEC and a leader of the 26th of July Fovement for Habana Province in September 1957. At the time, Ray was President of the Habana Society of Civil Engineers and was employed by the Frederick Snare Corporation on the Notel Hilton project. He subsequently lost his job and devoted all of his time to the 26th of July Movement. Nothing is known of his domestic affairs or competence in foreign languages.

RFB:BI

State\_RD, Wash., D.C. October 1959

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S E C R E T 1822252 JUL 77 STAFF

CITE CARACAS 33713

TO: DIRECTOR INFO KINGSTON.

WNINTEL REAM

REF: DIRECTOR 263636

- 1. THERE ARE NO CARACAS STATION TRACES ON MANUEL

  ANTONIO R A Y RIVERA, AKA MANGLO R A Y WHO IS CUBAN

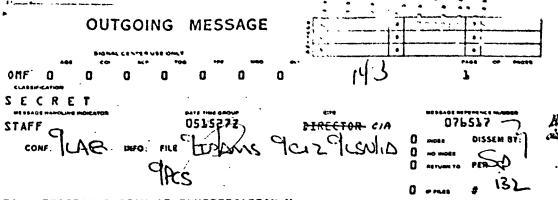
  CITIZEN, OR AMALIA ANGELINA E A B A L A MAS, CUBAN

  RESIDENT WHO CONTACTED RAY IN PUERTO RICO.
- 2. RAY'S ADDRESS IN VENEZUELA "PUBLICIDAD
  SIBONEY, EDIF. LEX. > PISO, AVE LIBERTADOR, EL ROSAL."
  IS LEGITIMATE AND IS IN PROCESS OF BEING CHECKED BY
  STATION UNILATERAL ASSET. WILL ADVISE RESULTS.
- 3. INDEX REF. FILE: 221-239298, 221-822841, 75-6-70/3. E2 IMPDET



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18 Jul 11 201-239298



TO: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.Y

ATTENTION: INTD-CI/9 4

CIR-316/02752-77 ¥

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SUBJECT: MANUEL ANTONIO RAY RIVERA, AKA MANOLO RAY; ESPIONAGE - CUBA Y

- 1. REFER TO FBI TELETYPE DATED 22 JUNE 1977, SUBJECT AS ABOVE. Y
- 2. THIS AGENCY HAS REVIEWED THE RAY FILE BUT WE HAVE NO REPORTING BEYOND JULY 1974, INCLUDING TRAVEL. WE HAVE QUERIED OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN KINGSTON AND CARACAS CONCERNING YOUR REQUEST WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS. Y
- FORMATION AVAILABLE TO HIM, RAY HAD BEEN IN BUSINESS IN MONTEGO BAY

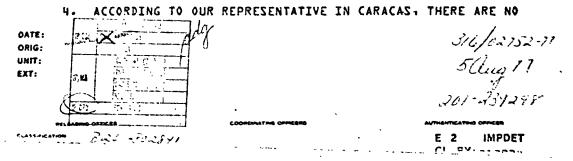
  UNTIL DECEMBER 1976 AND THAT HE FREQUENTLY TRAVELLED IN AND OUT OF THE

  COUNTRY ("SHUTTLING" WAS TERM USED). IN DECEMBER 1976 RAY WAS DECLARED

  "PERSONA NON GRATA" ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRIME MINISTER MANLEY. WHO

  BASED HIS DECISION ON VAGUE ALLEGATIONS THAT RAY HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN

  CUBAN EXILE ACTIVITIES. THERE ARE NO TRACES ON AMALIA ANGELINA ZABALA



# OUTGOING MESSAGE

SECRET STAFF.

DIRECTOR CIA

COAF:

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TRACES ON RAY OR AMALIA ANGELINA ZABALA MAS, CUBAN RESIDENT WHO COM-TACTED RAY IN PUERTO RICO. RAY'S ADDRESS IN VENEZUELA "PUBLICIDAD SIBONEY, EDIF. LEX. 5 PISO. AVE LIBERTADOR, EL ROSALT, IS A LEGITIMATE ADDRESS. MTHERE ARE ALSO BRANCH OFFICES IN PUERTO RICO AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Y

5. YOU WILL BE ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER INFORMATION HADE AVAIL-

ABLE TO THIS AGENCY. Y

- Was b. FYI: ABOVE INFO CANCER OBTAINED PURSUANT TO CIA'S RESPONSI-BILITY FOR CONDUCT OF FOREIGN COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE Y . 2.U 3HT
- 7. SECRET/WARNING NOTICE--SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND TENDES INVOLVED/NO FOREIGN DISSEM. CLASSIFIED BY 012094. EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E.O. 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-GORY 58(2). IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE DATE OF AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICA-H-NOIT

CABLE SEC: PLS PROVIDE COPIES TO IP/AN FOR FILING 201-239298, 201-802841.

LA COMMENT: REF REQUESTED INFO ON RAY'S TRAVEL AND CONTACTS AND, IF POSSIBLE. DETERMINE STATUS OF HIS VISA WORK PERMIT.

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OUTGOING MESSAGE 3 SECRET DIRECTOR CAT STAFF CONF: INFO: FILE

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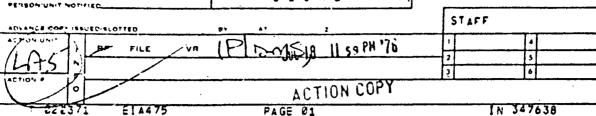
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S E C R E T 1822052 JUL 77 STAFF

CITE CARACAS 33713

TO: DIRECTOR INFO KINGSTON.

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REF: DIRECTOR 063636

1. THERE ARE NO CARACAS STATION TRACES ON MANUEL ANTONIO R A Y RIVERA, AKA MANOLO R A Y WHO IS CUBAN CITIZEN, OR AMALIA ANGELINA Z A B A L A MAS, CUBAN RESIDENT WHO CONTACTED RAY IN PUERTO RICO.

- 2. RAY'S ADDRESS IN VENEZUELA "PUBLICIDAD SIBONEY, EDIF. LEX, > PISO, AVE LIBERTADOR, EL ROSAL."

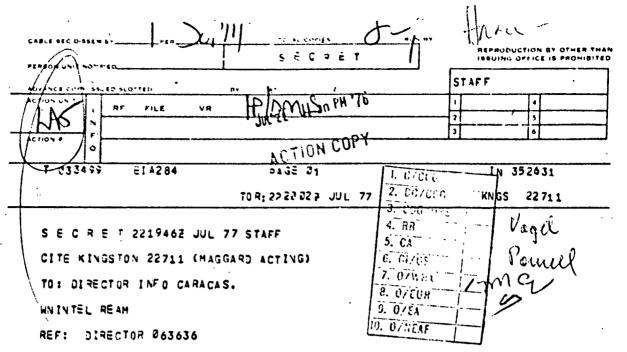
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- 3. INDEX REF. FILE: 201-239298, 201-802841, 75-6-70/3. E2 IMPDET

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- 1. THERE ARE NO KINGSTON STATION TRACES ON MANUEL ANTONIC RAY RIVERA AKA MANOLO RAY OR ON AMALIA ANGELINA ZABALA MAS.
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  USED). IN DECEMBER 1976 RAY WAS DECLARED "PERSONAL NON
  GRATA" ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRIME MINISTER MANLEY, WHO
  BASED HIS DECISION ON VAGUE ALLEGATIONS THAT RAY HAD BEEN
  INVOLVED IN CUBAN EXILE ACTIVITIES.
  - 3. FILE: 201-239298, 201-602841. E2 IMPDET.

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- 2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FBT CABLE FEDEROZ DATED OR JUNE 1977: W ISIG CENTER: PLEASE TRANSMIT ATTACHED FBT CABLE IN TRISHIP BEGINNING WITHINANUEL ANTONIO RAY RIVERA. . . "1
- 2. Has has reviewed bay file but we have no reporting beyond (
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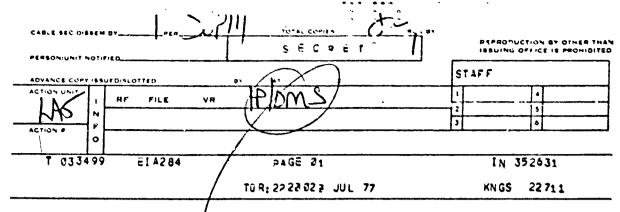
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=B1 rable 32 june 77 Re Manuel autorio Ray Pivera



SECRET 2219462 JUL 77 STAFF CITE KINGSTON 22711 (MAGGARD ACTING) TO: DIRECTOR INFO CARACAS.

WNINTEL REAM

REF: DIRECTOR 063636

- 1. THERE ARE NO KINGSTON STATION TRACES ON MANUEL ANTONIO RAY RIVERA AKA MANOLO RAY OR ON AMALIA ANGELINA ZABALA MAS.
- 2. THROUGH ELICITATION RUASHE-13 (R-13) DETERMINED
  THAT RUASHE-7 HOLDS A FILE ON RAY SUT HE WAS UNABLE OSTAIN
  FILE. R-13 WAS TOLD THAT RAY HAD REEN IN SUSINESS IN
  MONTEGO BAY UNTIL DECEMBER 1976 AND THAT HE FREQUENTLY
  TRAVELED IN AND OUT OF THE COUNTRY ("SHUTTLING" WAS TERM
  USED). IN DECEMBER 1976 RAY WAS DECLARED "PERSONAL NON
  GRATA" ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRIME MINISTER MANLEY. WHO
  BASED HIS DECISION ON VAGUE ALLEGATIONS THAT RAY HAD BEEN
  INVOLVED IN CUBAN EXILE ACTIVITIES.

3. FILE: 281-239298, 201-802841. E2 IMPDET.

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YGDO CROOSA

B201-802841

22 Jul 11 201-239298

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RES USA. ON FEB 24, 1973 ATTENDED A MTG OF THE PRP IN UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY. MBR OF POLITICAL COMMISSION OF PRP. : R 7305040150 Indicate The Subject, Project Or 201 File No. In Which This Form Is To Be Filed.

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REF: WH/MIAMI 16450, 23 OCT 72 (W) 767749)
1. RUABBE PASSED FOLL INFO RE SUBJ REF: 201 259 29 2
MANUEL ANTONIO R A Y RIVERO, BORN 13 JUNE 1924, HAVANA
CUBA. OCCUPATION: CIVIL ENGINEER. IN 63 RAY REPORTED LEADER
FEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT MIAMI. EARLY 64 RAY AND
EIGHT OTHER PERSONS CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL ENTRY AND POSSESSION
FIREARMS BY BRITISH AUTHORITIES NASSAU. ALL ACCUSED, INCLUDING
TWO AMERICAN FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHERS, PLEADED GUILTY AND EACH
FINED FIVE POUNDS STERLING. THEIR INTENTIONS WERE TO LEAD
SMALL SCALE INVASION CUBA. SINCE 65 RAY REGULAR VISITOR
Wil X
JAMAICA. HE DEPARTED FOR SAN JUAN ON 26 JAN 73 AND CLAIMS
558 RAMON GANDA HATO REY, SAN JUAN AS HOME ADDRESS. HE TRAVELED
ON PPH A7-056-49716/6/72.
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: Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

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Attention: Domestic Intelligence Division

PROM : Deputy Director for Plans

Ada ALVAREZ y Azoy

INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

1. Reference is made to your request dated 18 Docember 1970, Subject as above and to your San Juan, Puerto Rico report dated 10 December 1970, same Subject, which reported information received by Manolo PAY Rivero from a contact in Mexico.

2. A review of this Agency's file on Manulo RAY Rivero has failed to show any current operational interest in him.

CSC1-316/00280-71

DDP/WH/COG/OPS/JFinch:jaf

3 February 1971

Distribution:

BASED ON:

DBD-00938, 18 Dec 70

DBD-00739, 10 Dec 70

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Xref 201-239298

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21-237,298

JBI 257cb 69 From Miami, Ha Subj-JURE

SECRET 04 1354Z JAN 69 CITE WH/MIAMI 2233 VINCE, NINGSTON, PARIS

RAF CARACAS 1490 (46 2316)

RIVERO, AKA MANOLO, IS AMOI REPORT OF 9 AUG 68 INDICATING RAY PLANS
TO DISSOLVE THE JUNTA REVOLUCIONARIA GURE) WHICH PE HEADS AND HOLD
A CONGRESS OF CUBAN EXILES IN 1969 TO CREATE NEW ORGANIZATION TO
FIGHT CASTRO. REPORT CONTINUES THAT RAY AND ALFREDO (PEREZ) ALLEN
STATED THEY WORKING WITH HAITIAN GROUPS WHO PARTICIPATED IN RECONT
ABORTED INVASION HAITI. AMONG RAYS HAITIANS COUTACTS IS PIERRE
RIGOT (PROBABLY RIGALD) WHO IS MENTIONED AS THE OBL. WHO WILL CARRY
OUT A NEW INVASION ON HAITI. RAY CLAIMS RIGOT HAS PROMISED CIVE RAY
OPERATIONAL BASES AND RADIO STATION IN HAITI IF INVASION SUCCESSFUL.
RAY STATED HAITIAN OPS BASE WAS LOCATED IN BAHAMAS UNDER PROTECTION
BRITISH GOVT AND THAT MOVEMENT TO FREE HAITI HAD SUPPORT OF PUERTO
RICAN EX-GOVERNOR MUNOZ OARIN.

2. ACCORDING TO UPI PRESS RELEASE FROM PUERTO RICO PUBLISHED IN DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, 23 JUN 68, RAY ANNOUNCED HE WAS WORKING WITH THE COMMITTEE FOR AID TO HAITIAN FIGHTERS. RAY HAVE THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT A PAINTING EXHIBIT HELD AT PUERTO RICO ATHENASUR TO

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PAGE 2 WH/MIAMI 2233 S E C R E T BENEFIT HAITIAN EXILES.

- 3. AMOT REPORT OF 24 OCT 67: RAY REPORTED CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH JUAN BOSCH, EX-PRESIDENT OF DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND FILES 640 & RAY TRAVELLED PUERTO RICO TO SANTO DOMINGO DA PORTE 1200 DATES:

  22 AUG 67, 4 OCT 67, 1 FEB 68, 2 MAY 68, 26 AUG 60 AUG 60 OCT 68.
- 4. ATTEMPTING OBTAIN INFO'RAY'S CURRENT ACTIVITIES. WILL ADVISE IF RESULTS POSITIVE. RAY INIS U.S. CITIZE WAY.
  - 5. FILE: 201-259298.

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FORM NO. 237 Use previous edifions

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21 January 1969 NEW CRANDEM FOR: C/UH/COG SUBJECT Donn MUNIOR, Author of JAGA Article, and Juan ERCUIAGA, Subject of Article. 1. Donn Hale MUNSON, born 1905, resident of Los Angeles, approached LICOMET/1 in 1964 claiming he represented a large group of Cuban exiles in the Los Angeles area. MUNSON asked LICCHET/1 about the location of training camps, etc. LICOMET/1 reported the discussion to Station Mexico City and was instructed to avoid MUNSON. Donn Hale MUNGON is probably identical with the Donn MUNGON who authored the Saga article. There are no additional identifiable traces on MUNSON. 2. There are numerous traces on Juan EXQUIAGA Aizcorbe, the owner of the weapons plant named in the Jaga article. The FBI also reported ERCUIAGA was involved in the sale of arms to Cuban revolutionaries in 1965. Although RI was unable to locate the report, it was classified to Manolo RAY's 201 file. This would tend to support the laga claim that any weapons supplied by ERQUIAGA's firm went to the JURE crowd, not to any Agency supported group. Manage Gratz

TRANSMIT	TAL SLIP	ió Janu	ary 1969
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FORM NO 241

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REPLACES FORM 35-6 WHICH MAY BE USED (€



CIA-approved Arisona factory sold 45-cal. "Spiifire" machine guns as sporting weapons to Cuban exiles (photo), paramilitary "home defense" groups, and black nationalists . . . until IRS crack-down.

While the Administration, Con- in this light, brought to the public's attention gress and various law-enforce- for the first time enveloped, is SAGA's Paccuses.

The CIA is responsible for arming fur-out extremist

Intellizanco Agency was scoretly subsidizing the manufacture of thougands of machine guns which were being enapped up by some of the worst extremists in the U.S. today!

Last year, Attorney General Thomas Lynch of California ordered a raid on a secret machine gun plant in City of Industry (a suburb of L.A.), which did not have state permission for the manufacture, possession, sale or transportation of such weapons—but was churning them out illegally with the biossings of the CIAI

Of all the dangerous elements that exist in our society today, the most subversive would have to be any organization found arming the extremist elements-of either side-with modern weapons for possible civil war.

ment groups have worked for groups in their preparation for civil conflict which years for some sort of sun CIA has, indeed been covertly bankrolling the control legislation, the shoots manufacture of thousands of revolutionary autoing truth is that the Central noses of high state and city officials.

Coutinued

further, the U.S. military has been an unwitting. Castro gave him some each and lots of rank,

in the City of Industry (a Los Auguica sounds, looks like any of a score of other small manufacturing plants in the area. It could turn out lump shades, dog collars, aluminum avnings, ore in openers. Maybe it has at some time. But for years it was one of several factories where a mysterious Poruvian named Juan Erquiaga, a 50-ish buotlo browed gun genius churned out machine guns illegally ... with the blessings of the CiAl

The Erquiaga Arms Company sought anonymity and got it for years. It was organized and designed I think," guessed one neighbor.

. But behind the exterior of normalcy and calm were fitted.

Every employe of the plant was a guard. There thing deeper and deadlier. was a loaded gun behind every door, under every in the City of Industry plant, he was grinding latho, always near at hand. And over this busy, out 20,000 machine guns. And what gunst deadly business presided Juan Erquiaga, a major Feather light (six pounds loaded) and of his own CIA said "Selil"

Militar (military school) there and from 1940 to or "blowback." 1944 according to police records served in the Judd Smith, a California journalist and small arms cipal del Paru as a tool designor. But after having accuracy in short and prolonged bursts. tasted life in the U.S. and realizing he could ply

recalled.

And he had ideas, plenty of them ... and all with some justification. of them lethal. Even before he came to the U.S. Juan Erquiaga had a good thing going for him South Gate, another Los Angeles suburb.

Military rifles were his specialty . . . modifications in fact. America, where the winds of revolution blow out files, with the CIA picking up the tab.

constant and hot, competed with homogrows keek a prominent Cuban exile new living in Les nia Rangers for his products.

Fidel Castro was on the rise in Cuba and he needed the first of thousands. mon like Juan Erquiaga. Fidel waved money under "I was working for the CIA," the exile brags. like a starving tigor smolling frosh moat.

source of arms to these same elements which he made Erquiage commander of his ordinance together with Cid-supplied orms constitutes one department. When the Cuban Communist swept of the gravest torcats to the country today. . . . dictator Satista out of power and into exile, The shally building at 15036 E. Practor Avoy Sequiage stayed on fidel promised him new glary and he delivered, making Juan a minister of public works. Erquiaga was riging high with the robols. But then-in 1966-he found it expedient to floo Cuba

. . were betrayed," he said later. What betrayed him was a love not for freedom but for money. The big loot was not in Latin America but in southern California, where blazing sunshine feils to illuminate many dark plats and counterplats.

Erzulaga came back to the Golden State via so skillfully owners of noighboring plants did not Mexico, where he took a brief filing at making know what was being made next door. "Paint, mechine guns for anti-Castro forces, he never had any political convictions cash couldn't change.

By 1962 Erquiaga was back in the big loague, thore was furious ectivity. Machine gun parts were this time in El Monte, not far from the scene of stamped and tooled. Ammunition clips were shaped his certior success as an arms maker for the maker and wolded. Barrels were chambered and stocks contents. Once again he was turning out fast-firing rifles. But within three months he was into some-

langue merchant of death whose goods were for design, the Erquiaga weapons are chambered for solo to the highest bidder. Or to wheever the 9 mm parabolium ammo, carry 32 rounds and fire 1,500 rounds por minute. They combine full and Born in Lima, Peru, he studied at the Escuela selective automatic firing. The action is inertia,

U.S. Army as a second lioutenant. Returning to expert, says they out-perform existing U.S. military Poru, he was graduated from the Politecnico Prin- submaching guns both in terms of rate of fire and

"The most notable feature of them is that the his strade more rewardingly here, he came back muzzle doesn't climbuncontrollably during sustained to the States and became a naturalized citizen bursts, permitting amazing accuracy," Smith says.

Erquiega proudly pointed out that the muzzle is A genius with guns, he had trouble with lang provented from climbing by a special device of uage. "I spont many hours learning English so I his own design affixed to it. "Other similar devices could communicate my ideas to others," he once have been designed by the U.S. Army, but none has ever proved as offective as this," he boasted

Erquiaga invented many types of weapons. Once and he know just how to keep it roiling . . . deep here as a citizen, he put his fearsome takent to underground. Business was great. Even if Juan work by opening a finaarms manufacturing shop in did not have the right permits hanging on his factary wall, he had something better-several things,

of old guns that under his magic touch could fire. One was a contract for 500 machine guns signed faster and doublier than their inventors had over by Manuel Roy, leader of Junta Rovolution Airia dreamed. Eager customers from South and Control Cubana (JURI), an anti-Castro outfit then trying to

organizations, such as the Minutemen and Califor Angelos boasts that he personally delivered \$50,000 edvance cash to Erquiaga as part of \$250,060 put Two years later, Erquiaga smolled bigger game, up by the CIA. The 500 machine guns were to be

Erquiaga's bulbous nose and the Peruvium reacted "I made the payoff. No, I'm not certain where the guns were supposed to go. But I was hoping they were scheduled for anybody fighting fidel."

Continuad

Anen, monpocioully, after yours of full bleet. True enough, admitted the enerill's ofoperation, the roof suddenly fell in on Juan fice, but Enquines did not have state au-Erquiaga. By naw, he was a flush businessmun with thornation for the manufacture, possesa wife and 10 children living at 650 Chafforton sun, sale or transportation of such weap-Avo, in the comfortable LA, suburb of La Puente, ons. Avo, in the comformula LA, suburd of to Quento. Clearly, the CIA had slipped up.
Onco again Juan Erquinga blow the whole setup Perhaps Erquinca did not have level because next to his leve for guns come his leve permits because he had a local record, for money.

Not satisfied with his CIA payoffs, he tried to life for making machine suns without pick up some extra cash on the side. Relicule any kind of permit in 1953 and that for sources say his wonder guns began to end up in four years he had been a funtive. He gave some poculiar hands. At the same time, he began himself up, paid only a \$500 fine and was to modify 18-14 rilles into full automatics for the back in business until the big raid. Oxtromist Nutional States Rights Party, a partie sociate at the gun plant, was convicted of ularly vicious anti-Nagro, anti-Lawish guarrilla gang possession of illecal firearms and fined a which has its headquarters in Girmingham, Ala, mere \$100 and put on probation for three It requires its mornhors (Chill Superior Cours

to wear white shirts, black ties, black Sam Browne helts, black trousers, and an arm band emblazoned with a thunderholt insignia.

. As recently as Sept. 1, 1968, the white supremacy outfit waged a gun battle against Negroes in Herea, Ky., leaving two dead, several injured, and 13 charged with murder.

The States Rights Party had a large following in California, some of whom had big mouths and whose braging fell on the ears of an alert but anonymous local police officer. He promptly turned in a report on Erquiaga's activities and it came to the attention of Attorney General Thomas Lynch.

Attorney General Lynch, who later engineered legislation outlinking private armies in California, ordered a raid. Los Anceles county and state (plus tederal) officers swooped down on the Eriquiaga plant, aemed with a search warrant the runs, signed by Judge Fred W. Raab and is- The u rice Oppenheimer.

It was a big raid which netted only little fish-the big one got away.

Sheriffs deputies grabbed 373 automatic weapons (which they still have as evidence), and 100,600 rounds of ammunition. Equiago's wife said he was in of conspiracy to commit bank robbery. Panama, Police said he had hightailed it. The U.S. Attorney at Scattle won the infor Guatemala, where machine guns are dictment but now refuses to reveal details very much in demand and where assassination has claimed 4,000 lives (including the U.S. Ambassador and two U.S. milis he shrouds the case in mystery at this tary attaches stationed there). It is possible Eriquiaga, Castro's on again. off again employee, may have found work there in the current guerrilla war being waged against the government.

However, Erquiaga, still wanted in Los Angeles, has never been seen since in the sent a letter, saying in part: States. His disappearance opened some startling revelations. Among them,

A possibility that President Lyndon and its operation A former aide who lives na! -- we are political refugees in Pico Rivera, Calif. told a reporter he President "as a favor to Juan."

Juan, he said, had a federal permit.

liciatedly, it was revealed by the HIS that Juan had been arrested in Lynwood. Ca-

Lowell Knudson, another Erquiaza as Judge Howart McClain.

But that didn't end the Erquiaca case. At it art low of his guns vanished to reportedly reappear in a secret San Fernando Valley cache to become the nucleus of still another illegal operation-this one run by the Minutemen.

Lloyd Pullen, of Long Beach 30-veir-old one-time lieutenant of Minuteman National Commander Robers DePugh, revealed to this writer that the extremusts were unable to buy enough automatic weapons in any single market. open or underground.

They were forced to go into manufacturing, Pullen said. The ex-Minuteman, who has now formed his own "home de-fense" unit with the backing of some unit with the backing of some John Birch Society members, declared he broke with Del'ugh because the national. communder "was too konky, a real Nazi bastard." Pullen had no connection with

The underground gun-making resued to Deputy District Attorney Mau- mained secret for some time. Then, early in 1968, Del'ugh and some of his cohorts silegedly attempted to hold up a bank in the Northwest as "pari of a guerrila warfare training exercise.

He was indicted Feb. 20, 1968, by a grand jury at Scattle, Wash., on a charge of the case, refusing to answer written or telephone requests for particulars. Why point cannot be determined.

DePuch is now wanted by the Fill and. is the object of an international man-hunt. Presumably, he fled the U.S. by way of Canada, a la James Earl Ray, But he has communicated with newsmen. He

"We are fugitives, not because we made machine guns, or robbed banks, or kidnapped little rirls. We are fugitives because we openly opposed traitors in our Johnson personally knew about the plant own government. We are not crimi-

He is going to have a tough time conpresented an Eriquiaga Special to the vincing a jury of that when he is caught; for he has a long record and has led a Malcolm F. Warner, then supervisor of sough guerrilla outfit not noted for its the L.A. Bureau of the Internal Revenue bravery. In 1966, a Minuteman tratified Services Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Divi- during a trul on a firearms count that sion, charged with enforcing the Federal Del'ugh's men once discussed assessmat-Firearms Act, said he didn't have any ing Sch. J. William Fulbright, chairman . knowledge of Erguiaga's wrongdoing, of the Schate Foreign Relations Committee, and a scheme to put cyanide cas in the air-conditioning ducts at the United Nations building in New York.

Continued

. Their new areas from bears for to-increases. and threal possession of automatic weak-

Though the Minutemen are new a per underground than ever, they occa-At Voluntown, Conn., on Aug. 24, 1988 six men described by the FIG as extremist and anti-Communist" shot it, out with Connecticul state police in a reedann said on an encampment of perenfinite.

Masked and armed, the Minutemea broke into a training camp. They were eld Army foliques and carried bayes net-tipped rifles, FIII men had alerted the state troopers and both were waiting for the attack.

"When the Minutemen were spotted." said State Police Commissioner Leo & Mulcahy, "we identified ourselves and Mulcahy, "we the firms becan.

Six persons (four raiders, one state trooper and a woman re-sient of the camp) were wounded, none fatally

The fact the miders carried only baysnet-tipped rifles indicates they are low on the totem pole when it comes to being combat-equipped. Because subversive are experiencing no trouble in getting automatic weapons straight from CiA factories and, indeed, from Uncle Sam's arsenals.

Shortly before Christman last year (1967), Marine Corps officers at Cama Pendleton, Calif., discovered that 15 M.79 crenade jaunchers, each capable of centreying tanks and atmored cars, had vanished from the military rest. It was a serious, though not highly unusual, theain the hands of extremists, they could be desastating.

Word was flashed to the FBI, the National Guard, the CIA, Naval Intelligence, and police units the length and breadth of the country. The 18 grenade launchers joined an alarming list of guns and ammunition currently being stolen on an almost continual basis from muitary installations all over the United States

The reaction of Lt. Col. G. W. Fercuson, spokesman for the Mannes at Camp Pendicton, was almost one of resignation.
There are 43,000 Marines, plus special units of the Navy and Army, in training here," he said, "We cannot search each and every one of them each time he rees out of the gites. Weapons and ammuni-, tion can be stolen anytime some guy decoice to walk off with them and co over the hill."

...

Each week a long list of stolen arms is circulated to police and military inprised to see on it such items as the grenade launchers, or even machine guns. These losses are earely made public.

Nor is news of their recovery any-broadcast. In fact, police and the mulitary to to extraordinary, and sometimes indiculous lengths to cover them un

While Lt. Col. Ferguson admitted the 18 M-79s had vanished, the civilian poince was recovered them denied they were ever strien!

Lt. Col. Fercuson declared that credit for their recovery should go either to the Santa Ana Police Department or to the Orange County Sheriff's Office; be connin't be sure where you 1515, 54H4 the Marine others, were captured less than tol days after the M. The were taken and returned to the USMC. But official applicamen for both civilian police departments, one of which was in charge of his unit when the case broke, denied only windige of the affair.

"If any Marine weapons were stolen. that would be a federal case. one high ranking rivilian cop said blandly. Pressed for details, he insimuated the whole matter was now FBI-controlled and refused to discuss it further.

Not all thefts from the military are statestie, Recently, the Post Office Department in San Francisco, through which most Victuam muil passes, announced that it had spot-checked packares heine alumned home from the war sone. What postal inspectors found rocked them to the core . . . M-16 rifles, gre-nades live ammunition, even light, dismantled machine guns! They did not reyear the names of the senders or the potential receivers. They did not even report what means they were taking to prevent future shipments.

In fact, the cloak of secrecy which surrounds illocal weapons activities is being drawn lighter and tighter, sometimes. with embarrassing results.

This past summer, as the nation braced an outbreak of civil violence and a possible race war. Los Angeles Police Chief Thomas Reddin told a press conference he had definite information that well-armed guerrilla groups existed in his

Los Angeles, still shaking from frequent shoot-outs in Watts and the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. reacted nervously to the news. So did Chief Reddin and sources above him.

Before the day was out, he called two other news conferences-the second to explain what he meant by the first an-nouncement, and the third to deny his, original statement. At least one Los Ans geles radio station broadcast all three of the chief's statements consecutively. It up. Then many of them took to the made highly interesting, if confusing, listening and left people wondering who had slipped Reddin the word.

When Watts did explode with another gun battle not long afterward, it lett Angelenos more confused than ever. Three civilians were slain and 41 persons, cluding six cops, were wounded. But a news blackout was imposed. "Who shot whom and with what?" demanded The Las Angeles Times, a newspaper with nearly 1,000,000 daily circulation.

One of the coss confused persons in Los Anceles was Celes King III, head of the Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

the black community, highly respected in sembles a submaction gun, could be made all conceircles, King declared L.A. had a full automatic merely by depressing the right to not only be confused but to be safety lever at the same time the trigger seared. The city, he said, was then, and is was point."

now, in a "touch and go" situation. "It "That tiling," said a disnusted IRS could explode any minute," he said.

man charged with enforcing the law

"he said flativ.

King added he was considering only incoun." renstered guns. The number of unregatered weapons, including fully automatic terror, the 185 man disclosed this: firearms, was beyond his speculation.

Made a coopy as beingers. make mermany operation which flour rishes because Arizona, Nevada and Califorms. In any two previous states they are easer to obtain then in California, Handmany are Newson chean there may into senia to cur and plane by both white and Nack configurates, and then said at tremendous profit to buyers who want to avved a five-day watting period and a pointo marine comments.

Until May 1968, it was possible to buy a toke automatic machine gun without movement at an accordance with federai isw.

Thanks to Uncle Sam's generosity, it was recorded the subversive crowns and individuals to purchase them over the counter ice as utile as \$99.

Thousand of them are now accretly owned by counduals and groups all through the Conted States, the HIS admus, as it famile's pleads for the owners to . come take assertiment offices and pay a SNV fee to recister each one. Few have done sa an 1113 spokesman admits, rew. lie said he wanted it for a wall decoration. Anyway, he paid the \$260."

The story briging their manufacture and sale is been fascinating and shocking. many of the details still hidden by embarraced percentuent officials.

it haras in Phoenix, Ariz, where on a quiet etres in a nondescript building a . mail organization called the Spitfire Manufacturing Company set up shop some time are. Its purpose was to make and sell a festherweight, 45 enliber car-bine as a "scotting weapon."

At \$55 ouch retail, they were something for of a sensitiva among certain." aports. men." Anta-Castro Cuban groups, planning on heating big game on their native ice snapper them up. After all, there's no lan against non-citizen Cubana own-

ing sporting guest.
So groups like the recently reborn Bay of Pas Brauer and Exilio Cubano hur ned to their local gunshops and stocked mountains and deserts to practice hunting manecover which, strongely enough, incluies ambushes, patrolling, scouting, and wild causes which are not ordinarily associatea with California jackrubbits and coveres. Such critters stood in little danger horace the Cubanos sometimes

accidentally used each other as targets. Minutemen, black nationalists, and paramilitary "bome defense" troops eager's South the lethal little Spitures. and all pecause they, like the Cubana, knew something it took Uncle Sam many months to learn.

The "sportsmen" learned that what one branca of the government considered A calm, collected moderate leader of a sample carbase, but which actually re-

ild exploite any minute," he said. — man charred with enforcing the law. There are riore guns here than in Sai- acainst Lieux machine guns, "doesn's "doesn't bear the samplest resemblance to a sport-

Then, requesting his identity be pro-

As I get in the company that made them was fully aware of their automatic

capability. In fact, I'm told magazinally that the company was set up financially by the House Small Husiness Adminis-tration loans section in Wishington. The guns were never supposed to be put on public sale Something got loved up."

The IRS man said "another agency had asked that the company be established. It was concluded he was referring obliquely to the CIA. If so, it duplicates to some degree the Erquiuga case.
The operation was brought to a

fired. The plant itself was reportedly shut down in May, 11th sources said "some arhad been made but because a trial is pending no more information would be made public. When this writer attempted to learn further details, he received unsolicited long distance telephone calls discriminate selling of weapons, from IRS headquarters in Washington. Admitting deep concern over and California demanding to know why," he was cathering facts.

A recent 101-pure report on "Fireurms, Violence and Civil Disorders," prepared by Arnold Kote of the Stanford Research with the Nutional Rifle Association sold Institute for the National Advisory Com- excess military firearms and ammunition mission on Civil Disorders, does not con- at reduced prices to not only the all-white ern itself with machine guns or other fully automatic weapons.

many citizens into arming themselves for China. future disorders."

no concrete evidence), but is inaccurate America. on the subject of urban riots. The Stanconvinced that reports about civilians using firearms (not to mention machine, ing process). guns) during urban riots is pretty much hokum

It will be very difficult to convince Cleveland, Ohio, Police Chief Michael Blackwell of that,

He told Mayor Carl Stokes on July 30. 1963, that if the mayor had not ordered white policemen out of the violence-torn eastside area of the city earlier in the month that the officers "would have walked into a slaughter.

Chief Blackwell said there was evidence that black nationalists who ambushed police, touching off a savage gun hattle that killed 10 persons, had "tripod military type machine guns" and would have used them had the white officers not

The chief disclosed that police informants saw at least one machine gun and that the black nationalists had stitched ammunition belts which would have been useless in any other type of weapon

They (Cleveland officers) should thank their lucky stars they were pulled out. There were machine guns up there waiting for them," Chief Blackwell said. Then he declined to amplify the disclosure. Once again the curtain was drawn around the subject of machine guns and a news blackout was on.

However, Chief illackwell dol say that start shooting for keeps, they will do so weapons, including one machine san, plied by an unwitting military cetab-from the charred runs of an apartment lishment. house in which a black nationalist died in the gun battle, according to an Associated Press report from the embattled city;

Where might these lethal, high-The operation was brought to a powered weapons have been obtained. RAM and they've been reading about the acreeching halt July 7, 1968, when the They could have been bought from the Minutemen . . and wondering what IRS preferred the registration of the Spit. 'CIA's underground factories, or they other extremist groups are stocapiling could have been stolen from the military, weapons, just waiting for their day, or they could have even been purchased \* THE from the Army, indirectly, According to the Stanford Research Institute's report, the U.S. Army has indeed been duped by extremist groups in the past into in-

Admitting deep concern over the proliferation of paramilitary organizations. the Stanford report says the Civilian Marksmanship Program administered by prepared the Secretary of the Army in conjunction Minutemen but in 1967 to a group called RAM (Revolutionary Action Movement). The report cost its aponsors-two of the RAM is the parent organization of nation's largest firearms manufacturers. UHURU, the Afro-American Youth As-Winchester and Hemington-\$35,000. It sociation, Afro-Student Association and concludes that "guns have not played a the Black Panther Party, RAM is aligned major role in America's urban riots to with the Communist Vict Cong under date, but exaggerated press reports of riot- leadership of the notorious Robert Wilers using runs have apparently frightened hains, a fugitive American now in Peking.

The House Committee on Un-This report may be correct with regard American Activities considers RAM one to the frightened citizens (though there is of the most dangerous radical groups in .

The purchases of these military arms ford Research Institute study, which is were made by subversives of every stripe addressed to the White House as the word who formed phony gun clubs which then on firearms, violence and civil disorder, is joined the NRA (which has since repudiated them and set up a coreful screen-

> Lumentably, the five-month, \$35,000 study concludes also that "there is no information as to who is buying firearms by age group, sex or race, or the declared mo-tivation for purchase . . . " The report nlso says "adequate information is also not available as to the number of guns stolen or transferred annually, the number of guns in the inventory of individual possession in each state or city, or the number of guns currently being sold to residents of each state or city."

The Stanford Research Institute "estimate" is that individuals possess at least 200 million, or one for every man, woman and child in the US. Considering the number the Stanford Research In titute does not know about, as for example miletary thefis, there's no doubt about it.

if motivation for buying weapons is a mystery to Stanford's learned scientists, they might do well to consult some of the 115-to-200 million owners. Today, in an America rent by turmail and conflict, where there is at least one gun for every man, woman and child, there is great fear that extremist activity will precipitate a virtual civil war. And if the extremists

he didn't know where the maxime game with sophisticated weapons sold to them are now. Nunetheless, his own in- by the CIA factories that may still be gotted telligence unit recrieved 15 high powered ing today, or with modern weapons sup-

> Little wonder, then, that so many people feel uneasy about the cun situation today. They've been reading about the RAM and they've been reading about the

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of Security

Chief, Operational Support Division

: Mr. Robert E. Bullock ATTENTION

SUBJECT : Dr. And Mrs. Julian Gallo

Cancellation of Proposed Travel

: WH/COG #67-312, 6 October 1967 REFERENCE

1. In the reference it was requested that a welcoming officer meet Dr. and Mrs. Gallo, Cubans residing in Puerto Rico, on their arrival at Kennedy Airport from Lisbon on 9 November 1967.

- 2. Dr. Gallo telephoned Mr. Harry Mahoney, WH/COG/CICS from Puerto Rico on 19 October 1967 to say that his European trip has been cancelled.
- 3. Your cooperation in this case has been appreciated.

Earl J. Williamson RC WH/COG

DDP/WH/COG/CICS/MTJoyce:ear 20 October 1967

Distribution:

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PFTR:

Subject: A!BADGLR/1

19 October 1967

1/The Subject called me on the sterile phone at approximately 1500 hours this date to report that he had just received word that his mother in Guba was dying of glaucema. He had had to cancel his trip to Europe (CS has already been notified to cancel the VIP recention in New York that we had planned for the Subject) and instead was coming to the US to consult with his eister in Petersburg, Virgina (Telephone 703-733-9082).

On 20 October 1967-----2. He will be arriving at Dilles International Airport at 1210 hours on/

PAA 280. (This is a flight that leaves San Juan at 0830 hours the same date).

I told him that I would meet him and that we could have lunch together with

Earl Williamson. (Subsequent check with Williamson approved this appointment).

3. The Subject will leave right after lunch for Petersmaburg by rented car or by bis. When he returns to Washington (sometime around 24 of 25 October 1967) he will stay overnightnessman with Williamson.

Harry T. Mahoney

Noted indraft:

Earl Williamson

1920A

#### ₩H/COG Ø 67-312

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of Security

Chief Operational Support Division

ATTENTION : Mr. Robert E. Bullock

SUBJECT : Arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Gallo

- 1. On 9 November 1967 Dr. Julian Gallo and his wife, who are both Cuban, and who reside in Puerto Rice, will be returning to the United States from Lisbon, on Pan American Airways (PAA) Flight 155 arriving Kennedy Airport at 4:15 PM.
- 2. Mr. Gallo has been a most valuable contact of this Agency for a number of years, reporting on the Cuban exile community in Puerto Rico. Previously he was a productive contact in the Havana Telephone Company in Cuba.
- 3. Mr. Gallo is about fifty-five years of age, approximately 5'8" tall, rather portly, and is medium dark complexioned. Normally he uses glasses only for reading. Krs. Gallo is somewhat shorter than her husband and is quite stout.
- 4. The Gallos plan to rent a car and go from New York to Philadelphia to visit his sister there.
- 5. It is requested that Mr. and Mrs. Gallo be met at Kennedy Airport by a welcoming officer, and that they be given all possible help to facilitate their going through customs, I & NS, etc. Every possible courtesy should be extended them.
- 6. Mr. Gallo knows both Earl Williamson and Harry Mahoney of WH/CCC by their true names. Their names may be used as bons fides by the velocing officer.

David A. Phillips C/VH/COG

DDP/WH/CCG/CICS/Alice Gonzalez

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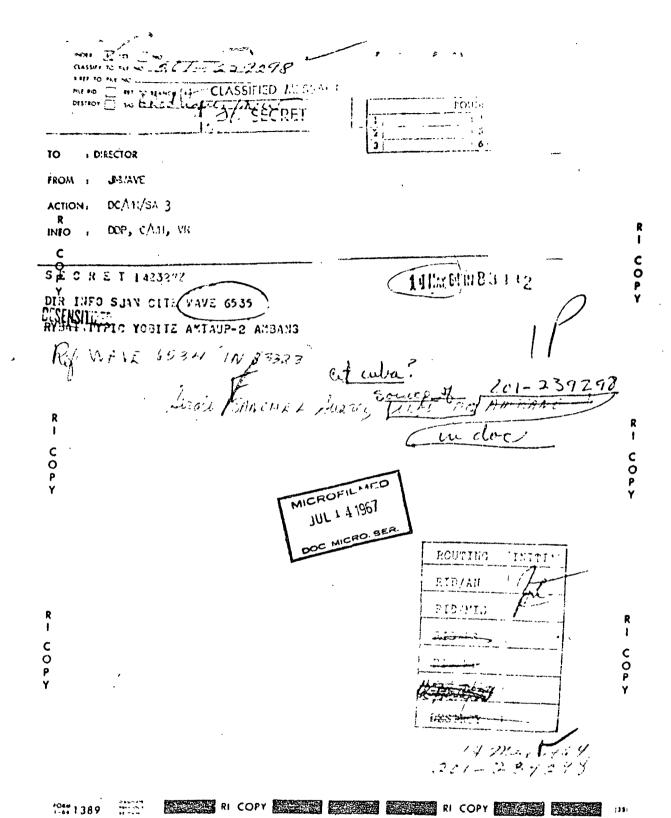
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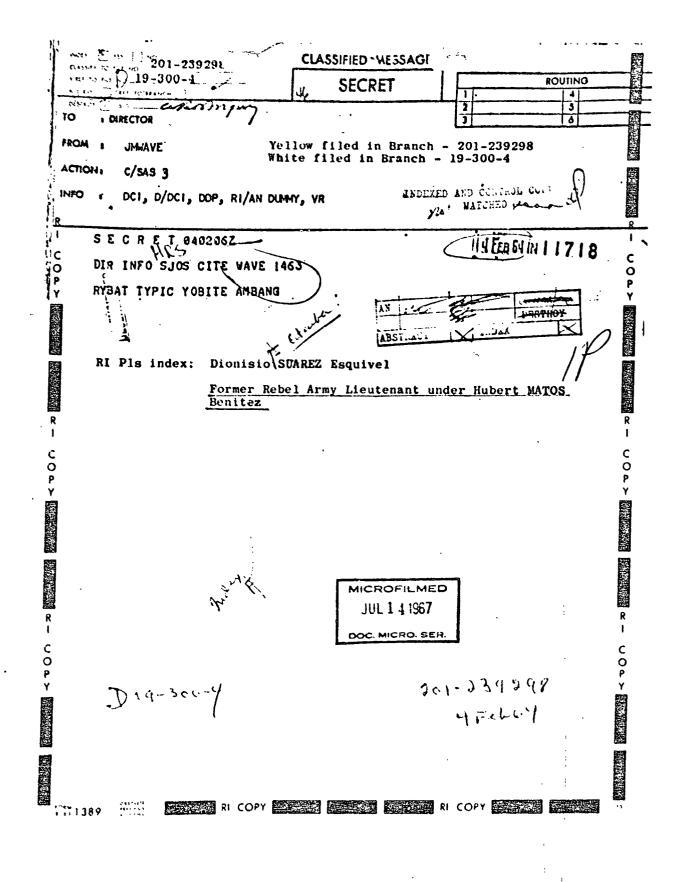
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Envelope: Dr. Manolo 1 y Rivero La Rablda 210

San Juan, Puerto Rico

201- 27/298

Dear Manolo,

14-00000

I am writing to ask you to do me a special favor. As you probably already know, Expo 67 and the Fith Pan-American Games are being held this year at Montreal and Winnipeg respectively in celebration of Canada's centennial as a conicderation. I have heard some of the Cuban exites are planning some actions against the Cuban delegations to these events, and I am interested in knowing anything that may come your way regarding this:

I hope you are well and am looking forward to hearing from you in the near future should I have the opportunity to visit San Juan.

In the meantime Earl joins we in sending best withes to you.

Personal regards,

ham

P.S. - Should anything of a priority nature come to your attention please let me know through Julian.

Many thanks,

Km

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24 March 1967

#### MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: (Operational Meetings with Monolo Ray

- 1. Manolo Ray arrived in Washington, D.C., by air from San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 20 March 1967 on a personal business trip. At the request of AMBADGER he phoned the writer and we met for approximately 1½ hours in the bar of the Hotel Ambassador in downtown Washington. This meeting was followed by a luncheon meeting on 21 March at the Occidental Restaurant. Ray returned to San Juan on 22 March. The following are the highlights of our conversations.
  - a. Ray claims he has "lost access" with lost the MI& pilot whom he had previously reported as a defection target. He no longer has any means of contacting him or of knowing his present whereabouts or attitude.
  - b. He claimed he does not have any direct communication—or access—to any significant military or government officials in the Castro regime.
  - c. He still maintains his half hour radio broadcast over Puerto Rican radio stations. This program is prepared by his people and the radio time donated so the cost is minimal.
  - d. Although he maintains contact with active members of his "movement" they have no present or projected plans for "action" except in the propaganda field.
  - e. His business in the prefabricated housing field is progressing satisfactorily. He has obtained private financing to start a prefab plant in Santo Domingo and recently visited Panama where the prospects are good.

### 2. Future Plans:

a. Ray mentioned that his organization plans to send a representative to Mexico City before the end of March to talk to Gustavo Arcos' sister who recently left Cuba. Ray is

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anxious to do everything possible to assist Arcos in obtaining his freedom but admitted he had no commo or means of making contact with him in prison.

- Ray is interested in expanding his propaganda radio broadcasts. He spoke in teras of renting time on a U.S. short wave station to beam broadcasts to Cuba. This would be done at his own expense. He also mentioned that during Reid's former administration in the Dominican Republic he had been promised a site and permission to set up a short wave station for Cuban broadcasts. He may explore this possibility with Balaguer's present government during one of his business trips to the D.R. I suggested he sound out other stations in L.A. to see if he could get some free time and replay for his Puerto Rican material and have since mailed him via AMBADGER a list of stations in L.A. who are known to have accepted and used other Cuban exile tape broadcasts. At my suggestion he prepared a brief outline of what he would like to do in the radio/propaganda field and what he would hope to accomplish.
- 3. Ray mentioned that he thought someone should utilize Pardo Llada, who now lives and works on a newspaper in Cali, Columbia, in propaganda activity against Castro.
- 4. He did not ask or hint for any financial assistance for his organization.
- 5. We discussed briefly the Olympic Games to be held in Winnipeg, Canada, this summer. AMBADGER had asked him to bring up the subject. I told him in essence that we were not interested in inducing the defection of any athletes but that if he received any information indicating that any of the Cuban officials attending the games might be disaffected we would be interested in checking out any leads.
- 6. In general Ray was as usual pleasant, friendly and talkative. It is evident that he is now concentrating on carning a living for himself and his family. However, at the same time he maintains a keen interest in Cuban

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developments; hope to maintain somewhat of a name for himself and his organization in exile circles by a limited amount of propaganda activities and stands ready and willing to help in any major plans if and when they should ever materialize.

7. Regular contact will be maintained with Ray in Puerto Rico by AMBADGER who Ray speaks highly of and is pleased with the handling arrangement.

Earl J. Williamson Deputy Chief, WH/COG

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MEETING ORGANIZED BY JOSE DUARTE OROPESO

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25 October 1966

### MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meetings with Manolo Ray, San Juan, Puerto Rico 13 and 15 October 1966

# MIG-21--Defecting Pilot--et al.

- In lengthy discussions on this point it developed that Ray has been unable to obtain any more pertinent information since he first called the matter to AMBADGER's attention almost two months ago. The basis of the "Mig Plot" is a tip he received from an inside contact which was brought to him by someone exiting Cuba. Ray considers the inside contact reliable but prefers not to identify him. Ray has not been able to determine if the inside contact is personally in contact, or can arrange contact, with the Mig Pilot who reportedly is fed up with the situation in Cuba and plans to defect with his airplane whenever he has an opportunity. The "tip" Ray received was to this effect i.e., that there is a Mig Pilot who is disenchanted and plans to defect with his plane. One point Ray was specific on was that the plane was described as "one of the smaller Migs" and according to Ray it is not a Mig-21.
- After Ray's original contacts with AMBADGER on this subject (wherein the plane was apparently erroneously identified as a MIG-21) Ray claims he sent a message to the inside contact requesting the complete details we had asked for. He has received no reply. In response to my request at the meeting on 13 October 1966 he told me at our subsequent meeting on 15 October that he attempted to reach his inside contact by phone but was unsuccessful. He was urged to continue until he reached the party and to obtain as much detail on this matter as possible so we could hopefully clarify the situation. He assurred me he would follow-through on this and report to AMBADGER. (It seemed pretty obvious to me after two discussions with Ray on this subject that he has no direct means of reaching the original reporting source on the "Mig Plot" and consequently may never be able to verify the original "tip" and obtain further details.

- 3. In any event I outlined for him in general the U.S. Government interest in obtaining a modern version of the MIG-21 and the financial and other rewards available to a pilot who would bring one out. I emphasized that any activity along this line would have to be strictly Ray's and the JURE's operation and done through his contacts and sources reiterating again that therefore it was essential that he confirm the plane, model, pilot, etc. reported to him to determine if the operation was feasible.
- 4. We spent sometime discussing his "image" both inside Cuba and with the exiles. He agreed that at the present time it could hardly be lower and something rather dramatic was needed to improve it. We both agreed that if he could pull off a successful operation to defect a MIG-21 pilot with his plane it would do much to restore his and the JURE's name and prestige.
- 5. Although Ray is obviously far removed from the action agent (the pilot), if such exists, the idea of the operation intrigues him and he will undoubtedly do everything he can to stimulate some action. Any further information developed by him will be forwarded to us through AMBADGER.

Earl J. Wiffiamson Deputy Chief, WH/Cuba

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25 October 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Manolo RAY

1. The following are the highlights of meetings held with Manolo RAY in San Juan, Puerto, Rico, on 13 and 15 October 1966. The matter of the possible defection of a MIG-pilot previously reported by RAY has been covered in a separate memorandum:

### Personal Situation:

a. RAY has an engineering and planning office in San Juan which he shares with Emilio Guede, a personal friend and JURE colleague who is in the publicity business. RAY said he just signed a contract for the planning of a commercial development site in San Juan, from which he will realize several thousand dollars profit. His principal (and pet) project is the promotion and attempt to raise through private funds the financing of a plant to mass produce low-cost prefabricated housing designed by him. He claims with an investment of \$200,000 he can mass produce prefabricated homes to sell for \$3,000 which would be ideal for Puerto Rico's needs.

# Recent Trip to Santo Domingo:

b. RAY said his recent trip to Santo Domingo was strictly for business purposes. He hopes to start a small project in Santo Domingo to produce prefabricated housing. The small project he has in mind can get underway with an expenditure of \$80,000, which he feels confident can be raised in Santo Domingo. He said he naturally talked with some people in the government about Cuba and the JURE, but that the government must become stronger and more confident before there would be any possibility of obtaining their assistance—or blessing—in conducting any activities against Cuba.

### MIG-21, Defecting Pilot, et al.

 $\ensuremath{\mathbf{c}}.$  This matter has been covered in a separate memorandum.

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# Internal Contacts.

One gets the impression that RAY lives somewhat removed from the actual realities of the Cuban internal situation. He has a tendency to compare the internal situation today with that which existed in Batista's time when he (RAY) was one of the leaders of the 26th of July underground resistance movement in Habana. RAY maintains direct personal contact with many new arrivals seeking asylum both in Puerto Rico and the U.S. and also undoubtedly receives a certain amount of general information and gossip from other JURE contacts and supporters. He claims to have many friends and former associates inside, which is probably true, but does not have any regular or secure means to communicate with them. It appears obvious that these friends and contacts are not working together, if at all, and that he has no cohesive resistance group or force as such inside.

I questioned him about several personalities such as Carlos Franqui, Pedro Miret, Emilio Aragones, and others. He had no specific information at all on their activities in recent months but said he "could get it if you want it." In summary on this point, it would appear that RAY and the JURE maintain no regular contact with any internal "supporters"; that he undoubtedly still has many former friends and supporters inside but just what they would do-or how far they would go-to support him is a moot question.

# JURE Propaganda Activities.

e. The JURE, Manolo RAY, Emilio Guede, and others, have a half-hour weekly program which is carried on 4 different Puerto Rican radio stations between 6:30-7:30 PM each Sunday. This program, which is taped in advance, features commentaries on news and events in Cuba, interviews with recently arrived refugees, and other items of current interest regarding Cuba. The program is composed without cost and all radio time on the 4 stations is donated free of charge.

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f. RAY is a man who is relaxed, is now engaged in making a legitimate livelihood for himself, his wife and three children but still seriously dediacated and motivated towards seeking the overthrow of the Castro government. He has a realistic outlook to a considerable degree, although as mentioned in paragraph d., above, his viewpoints on the reality of the internal situation in present day Cuba are somewhat naive. As an experienced resistance organizer and fighter in the 26th of July movement against Batista, he knows the value of propaganda in preparing the general populace for resistance. He also knows that propaganda is useless and counterproductive without follow-up positive results. He speaks of continuing his local radio broadcasts (which he readily admits are useful only to maintain some spirit amongst the exiles for possible future use), and at some later date--he has no timetable--hopes to obtain facilities in Venezuela, Puerto Rico, or some other site where he can beam broadcasts into Cuba. His intention being to follow-up the broadcasts with action. He speaks again of clandestine entry into Cuba himself to contact sources within, prove to people that there is a resistance movement, and to form a nucleus for later action. He openly admits the blunder of his last "publicized" return and that if it is done again it must be completely clandestine and unannounced. He seems to have no fear of returning and claims he still has plenty of friends who would hide and help him. He made an off-hand reference to the Agency furnishing him assistance to enter clandestinely at some future date. He was told that his sources in Miami surely knew of several "family run" operations which could take him successfully to Cuba if and when he was ready to return.

## Financial Situation.

- g. RAY made no request for financial assistance and from all indications is doing fairly well in his local business.
- 2. RAY plans to travel to the U.S. in early November for about two weeks and said he would visit JURE representatives in several large cities, including D.C. He will be in touch

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with AMBADGER who will be vacationing in the U.S. at that time and hopefully they will be able to get together with the writer while in D.C. In any event, RAY obviously likes, respects and accepts AMBADGER as our go-between in San Juan and I believe he will keep AMBADGER posted on most of his activities.

3. Manolo RAY, as exiles go, certainly seems like one of the better of the lot and contact on the scene by AMBADGER on a regular basis should be adequate to keep up with his activities. Occasional contact by an Agency staff officer, however, could be useful in keeping AMBADGER's relationship fully alive.

Early. Williamson

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7 September 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: AMBADGER/Manolo RAY

FILE

- 1. AMBADGER phoned this A.W. to tell me that he had met again with Manolo RAY on the night of 3 September. He said RAY claimed he had passed the word to his inside control (who is either the MIG pilot or the man in contact with the MIG pilot) by telephone to tell the pilot to proceed with his defection plans. AMBADGER still does not know the name of the MIG pilot or any further details concerning RAY's plans.
- 2. AMBADGER has another meeting scheduled with RAY on 10 September at which time RAY has promised him biographic data on two of his alleged internal contacts which emerged (??) recently after RAY's meeting with Garcia Bango in Madrid.
- 3. RAY still plans a seminar for JURE supporters for early October, date as yet undetermined, in San Juan. JURE supporters from Mexico, other Latin American countries, and the U.S. will be invited.
- 4. AMBADGER plans a two-week vacation in early October, but if RAY follows through with the seminar AMBADGER will remain in San Juan until it ends.

Earl J. Williamson



2 September 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Manolo RAY / File

- 1. During a brief TDY stopover at Headquarters on 23 August 1966, QUSPORT-1 said he had talked with Manolo RAY in San Juan, Puerto Rico on 22 August. According to QUSPORT-1, RAY had no additional pertinent information concerning his alleged inside contacts or his recent meeting with Garcia Bango in Madrid, Spain. RAY continues to insist that he has inside support in Cuba and contacts who are anti-regime and prepared to assist him when needed. He did not reveal to QUSPORT-1, however, who the people were or where they are located.
- 2. RAY told QUSPORT-1 that he wanted very much to see the writer concerning a delicate operational matter. When pressed by QUSPORT-1 RAY said he had access to a MIG pilot in Cuba who was ready and anxious to leave Cuba and was willing to fly out a MIG aircraft. RAY did not mention the name or location of the pilot or the model MIG aircraft he was flying. Neither did he discuss his ways and means of communication with the pilot and how he had determined the pilot's intentions to defect with his airplane. RAY told QUSPORT he wanted to discuss the matter with the writer. He admitted that a MIG aircraft might not now have as much value to the U.S. because of the recent access to a MIG-21 in Isreal but that it would have tremendous propaganda value if a Cuban pilot defected and brought out a MIG. He said he particularly wanted to discuss the matter with the writer because if the operation were successful he did not want Manuel Artime and the MRR or any other exile group taking credit. He wanted to make sure that he and his group received all the propaganda advantage which he would in turn exploit internally as further evidence to his supporters inside that the JURE was active on the island. RAY in the latter part of the conversation on this subject when he learned QUSPORT-1 was coming to Washington the following day, asked him to check with the writer to determine if it was OK for him (RAY) to discuss this subject with AMBADGER. (AMBADGER is the man who was recently introduced to RAY in San Juan by Harry Mahoney as the man who would insure that any information RAY wanted passed to the Agency would reach them.) QUSPORT told RAY that if he did not receive a phone call from him before the evening of 20 August he should give AMBADGER all the details.

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- 3. I told QUSPORT to phone RAY and assure him that I wanted him to pass all the details to AMBADGER even though according to QUSPORT-1's arrangement this was not necessary. QUSPORT-1 was unable, however, to reach RAY by phone during the afternoon of 20 August.
- 4. About 8 p. m. on 20 August I received a collect phone call from AMBADGER from San Juan. AMBADGER was very excited and said he had to see me right away. After he settled down a bit he told me he had just left RAY and his two local lieutenants Emilio GUEDE and Arturo VILLAR (the so-called triumvirate of the JURE). He said RAY had contacted him and the four of them discussed the possibility of defecting a Cuban MIG pilot and having him bring out his plane. In essence and from what I could discuss over the phone the details were substantially the same as those given to me by QUSPORT-l earlier in the day. AMBADGER said he needed my guidance right away and further urged me to come to San Juan to discuss the matter with RAY who was pressing AMBADGER to see me. He said he had agreed to see RAY latter that night. I told AMBADGER I could not make the trip in the next few days and that further there were a few basic facts I needed to convince me that RAY really had the potential to pull off the operation. I told AMBADGER to see RAY later that evening and to try and determine the following:
  - a. Name of the MIG pilot.
  - b. Military field where he is stationed.
  - c. Type MIG he flys.
  - d. RAY's commo if any with the pilot.
  - e. Estimated timing for the defection, i. e., has the pilot indicated he was ready to defect and awaiting instructions, etc.

I asked AMBADGER to phone me if he could develop any further information. AMBADGER phoned Mr. Mahoney on the afternoon of 24 August to report he had attempted to obtain further details from RAY following his conversations with the writer but that RAY had replied he did not know the name of the pilot or other details of the operation. (See Mr. Mahoney's memo attached)

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5. As soon as time permits I plan a short trip to San Juan to see AMBADGER and to sit down with RAY and try and clear up many of the obvious questions concerning his Madrid/Cuban internal contacts and the MIG pilot.

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- I. Approximately 2030 hours on 23 August 1966
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  AMBADAER had a report from AMBADA that agents of his inside Cuba were prepared to fly a VIG 21 to the United States.
  Williamson asked AVBADAER for more information but AMBANG claimed that he did not have any additional details. (In view of AVBADA s provious reluctance to source his information there is always a certain skepticism about AVBANO's claims of agrouplishments? Williamson told AMBADGER to find out from AVBAND the whom where they, what when, and how and to report tack. AVBANO stated that he did not have this information but they planned to go ahead with the operation.
  Williamson told him that if a Cuban pilot wanted to fly a MIG 21 to the U.S. we could do nothing to stop him.
- At 1400 neurs on this date AMBADGER called me to report that he had its ussed Williams in a suggestions with AMBANG who had replied that he honestly did: t know the name of the pilet or the details of the operation. In short, he had been intored by a contact of his in Cuba trat some of his people asse going to stell a Mic 21 (AMSADIER commented that AMSANO did not appear to be evasive or reluctant to discuss to matter bot apparently order know the details of any event. AVBANG stated that they were going about with the operation and plasm of to "do some damage" before they left and AVBANCIR asks for my approval. I told AFBANGER that I couldn't approve anything like that which bought that the crarce of less to aircraft outs ighed the possible gain. I suggested that it they were going about with the operation and so it would be of more value to just get the aircraft. AMSADIER replied that AMBANC appeared adamant in this respect and writed to be continue that if the operation was successful that to be all and to take all the credit for it. I replied that it in fact he was responsible for the operation to explicate attention credit
- 3. I have called the Cri. Norman B. Sturre, beliew Sands Officer. So Am For a extrastion 3207 and informal him that there is the pre-modified in a MIS 21 prior desfecting to the C.S. in the aircraft. Be in this has alerted to Scottmant Air Debinse Command who will be until the aircraft of such a possibility.

Harry Fat to ,

Memo No. 771 1 September 1966

MEMORANDUM POR: Chief, OPS Cubs/WH Division/DDP

ATTENTION:

Mr. Harry Mahoney

SUBJECT:

MIG-21

Attached is a copy of the communication in which DIA authorizes \$100,000 should your operation to acquire a MIG-21 succeed. As is indicated in the message, funds are already on hand in Sovmat to effect the immediate reward for the pilot.

JOHN A. JENNINGS Chief, Sovmet Staff, DCS

Attachment DIACO 5099-66

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: MIG 21

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- 1. Approximately 2030 hours on 23 August 1966 DC/WH/C (Williamson) called me to report that he had just received a call from AMBADGER from San Juan, Puerto Rico. AMBADGER had a report from AMBANG that agents of his inside Cuba were prepared to fly a MIG 21 to the United States. Williamson asked AMBADGER for more information but AMBANG claimed that he did not have any additional details. (In view of AMBANG's previous reluctance to source his information there is always a certain skepticism about AMBANG's claims of accomplishments.) Williamson told AMBADGER to find out from AMBANG the who, where, why, what, when, and how and to report back. AMBANG stated that he did not have this information but they planned to go ahead with the operation. Williamson told him that if a Cuban pilot wanted to fly a MIG 21 to the U.S. we could do nothing to stop him.
- 2. At 1400 hours on this date AMBADGER called me to report that he had discussed Williamson's suggestions with AMBANG who had replied that he honestly didn't know the name of the pilot or the details of the operation. In short, he had been informed by a contact of his in Cuba that some of his people were going to steal a MIG 21. (AMBADGER commented that AMBANG did not appear to be evasive or reluctant to discuss the matter but apparently didn't know the details.) In any event, AMBANG stated that they were going ahead with the operation and planned to "do some damage" before they left and AMBADGER asked for my approval. I told.\AMBADGER that I couldn't approve anything like that and thought that the chance of losing the aircraft outweighed the possible gain. I suggested that if they were going shead with the operation anyway it would be of more value to just get the sircraft. AMBADGER replied that AMBANG appeared adamant in this respect and wanted to be certain that if the operation was successful that he be allowed to take all the credit for it. I replied that if in fact he was responsible for the operation he could have all the credit.
- 3. I have called Lt. Col. Norman H. Stuzer, Yellow Sands Officer, U.S. Air Porce, extension 3207 and informed him that there is the "possibility" of a MIG 21 pilot defecting to the U.S. in his aircraft. He in turn has alerted the Southeast Air Defense Command who will be on the alert for such a possibility.

Harry Mahoney

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pring .

july 22,1966

.ecr Harry:

I believe to have located the serson that meets with the details you sent me. It's name is Jose Ledina who arrived in Madrid on July 3 with a spanlard named Jose Gallego. Medina works with a firm here in San Juan, Ternandez & Medina and he seems to be related to a partner of the firm, wholesalers that represent Amour Meat Products. Theiradiress here is B.O. Box 3927 San Juan, and their telephone is 724-5532

No more information yet but we have several feeler out and cay have more on him by next week without setting our mutual friend know of course. By the way, I am having a tall one with him this afternoon to see if livere is anything new and to maintain the pressure. He told me he has a very important meeting today and perhaps he will let me know about what when we neet this afternoon, if it is really important I will call you if not I'll write you next week.

In the course of the investigation on weding there is another by this name that was in some way related to Cubela but this is 45 yrs old.

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Thinks for the injornation you sent me on the money for nother and my wife's residence. On the first I below I have found a very good contact in Tanna and on the subject of the residence I am going to wait until further news from you on the modification on the travel regulrements by Congress.

Give my regards to the "Eagle".

Best regards

Julian H. Gallo

Tranks for the injornation you sent me on the money for mother and my wife's residence. On the first I below I have found a very good contact in Tampa and on the subject of the residence I am going to wait until further news from you on the modification on the travel requirements by Congress.

Tive my regards to the "Eagle".

Best regards

Julian II. Jallo

AMBANG

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- B. M.L. 10-4-127
- C. 4.1711-8526
- L. Balle in-1468
- 1. The following information supplemental to reference was accurred during two Station sectings with AMING-1 (2) and 20 June 164t) and several meetings with CD-MCMT-1 during the came period.
- 2. ABEANG-1 expects that Bubject (201-772070) will be returning to Cuba in the near future. (In relation to the return of Subject to Cuba, Subject told QUITOUT-1 on 12 July that he had recoived permission to return and had wiscussed this with AMJFtm1-1 earlier that some day.) Although AABANG-1 expressed noutle concerning the character and general requirties of Eudject, he nevertheless felt that Subject, in conjunction with his brainest (201-784402), and potential for contact within military circles inside (max.
- 3. In general no definite plans were ende during the conversations between AMMSG-1 and subject in Americ. However, various neste of communication were established for future contact:
- A. Wall, Abrand-1 gave Subject tures different and I drope in the United States (New York, Minut, and San Juan, Footto Aico) for his correspondence to AECAHG-1 from Inside Culm.
- B. Telephone. In the event that telephone contact im desired, Subject in to call hereeded "Norrita" PROBRIGUEZ, who resides in Miami and is the daughter of the former offer of the Partagan Cigarette Company in Cuba. Publicated in term is to contact AMEANG-1. (continued)

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- C. Fersonal Meetings. The following plan was established for personal decings. Subject will send a picture of a boat that is utilized by LADER for encursions to AHSARG-1 via mail drop. It appears that EMFER has bonts which are rected to apprished for deep sea lishing trips. AELAED-1, in turn, eith attempt to procure a boat identical to that in the picture sent by Subject. Accordingly, on given instructions the boat rested by INDER will depart from a point is Cubs, beading for another port in Cubs. All official Cuban dovernment communication regarding the clearances accountry for the IPDER boat will be made by INDER prior to the departure of the boat. The INDEE boat would then depart Cubs, heading out to sea catenably destined for Envana. The two boats (the INDER boat and the identical boat acquired by AMMARG-1) will render-vous on high mean and make appropriate exchanges; them
- D. Contact with 201-736492. In San Juan the contact between AMRANG-1 and 201-736492 will be made through ""Kl Sorde", who is a cousin of Subject's family and resides in San Juan.
- 4. ANDARG-I commented that he had a 102-foot beat which be is willing and intends to use against Fidel. So lemented the fact that approximately \$80,000 worth of arms had been lost in Santo Desirgo as a result of the insurrection is that country.

Leslie H. ETTIR 1992

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