

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1991
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
~~as reflected~~

Dx 55
Folder 1

8/3/78

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11111039

Alexander Rorke

CIA NO OBJECTION
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT

~~as reflected~~

Deletions

- FBI - 1/8/63 Conf. re: Robert S. Ray.
UNK (Boston)
- FBI 4/30/63 Unclass. re: Rorke
97-144 (New Haven)
- FBI 4/30/63 Unclass re: Rorke
UNK (Wash., DC.)
- FBI 4/30/63 UNK/Class. re: Rorke
UNK (Wash., DC.)
- FBI 4/29/63 Unclass re: Rorke
UNK (Wash, DC)
- FBI 4/27/63 Secret re: Rorke
UNK (Wash, DC)
- FBI 4/27/63 ~~Sec~~ Unclass re: Rorke
UNK (Wash. DC.)
- FBI 4/29/63 Unclass re: Rorke
UNK (Wash, DC)
- FBI 4/18/63 Unclass re: Rorke
UNK (NY.)
- FBI 12/6/61 Unclass re: Rorke, Jr, Serge R. Rojas
97-4623 (Wash. D.C.)
- FBI 9/20/61 Unclass re: Rorke, Serge R. Rojas
UNK (Wash. DC)
- FBI 9/12/61 Unclass re: Rorke, Serge R. Rojas
- FBI 6/28/61 Secret re: Ramiro Valdez
Menendez, # UNK, CNLY.
- FBI Incomplete, 4/24/61, Class UNK, Re: UNK
MM 2-A2

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FOR RELEASE.**

*Improperly marked during
first redaction*

FBZ info
REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE
ON 1/14/98 dlab
☒ RELEASE IN FULL
☐ RELEASE IN PART
☐ TOTAL DENIAL

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RETURN TO CIA
Background Use Only
Do Not Reproduce

10145-10329

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All deleted 3rd Agency.

- FBI May 31, 1963, UNclass Re: Rorke
UNK (Wash. DC)
- FBI 5/27/63 Secret Re: Rorke
97-4623 (Wash, D.C.)
- FBI 5/31/63 Unclass re: Rorke
UNK, (New Haven)
- FBI 5/28/63 Unclass Re: Rorke
UNK (Boston)
- FBI 5/27/63 Unclass re: Rorke
97-4623 (Jacksonville)
- FBI 5/27/63 Unclass. Re: Rorke
UNK (Washington, D.C.)
- FBI 5/24/63 Unclass
97-4263 (^{Boston} ~~Boston~~)
- FBI 5/24/63 Unclass Re: Rorke
97-4623 (^{New Haven} ~~Boston~~)
- FBI 5/24/63 Unclass re: Rorke
97-4623 (Norfolk, VA)
- FBI 5/22/63 Unclass re: Rorke
92-4623 (Cleveland, OH)
- FBI 5/16/63 Unclass Re: Rorke
UNK
- FBI 5/14/63 no class. Re: UNK # UNK
CIA Doc iden - DBA - 41502
" File # 201-280990
- FBI 5/1/63 Unclass Re: Rorke
UNK Boston

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3A

- FBI 5/13/66 Unclass re: Porke
UNK (Albany, NY)
- FBI 5/3/63 Unclass re: Porke
UNK (New Haven, Conn)
- FBI 5/6/63 Unclass re: Porke
UNK (Wash, D.C)
- FBI 5/9/63 Unclass re: Porke.
UNK (New Haven)
- FBI 5/2/63 Unclass re: Porke
105-724 (Oklahoma City)
- FBI 5/2/63 Unclass re: Porke.
UNK (Boston)
- FBI 5/3/63 Unclass re: Porke.
UNK (Wash, D.C.)
- FBI 5/1/63 Unclass re: Porke
UNK (Wash. D.C)
- FBI 5/2/63 Unclass re: Porke
UNK (Wash, D.C.)
- FBI 5/2/63 Unclass re: Porke
2-346 (Miami)

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Deletions Vol. III

4A

- Dept of State (Telegram) 6/24/64
Conf. Re: Rorke
90368
- FBI 4/30/64 unclass Re: Rorke
UNK Miami
- FBI 1/20/64 unclass Re: Rorke
UNK (NY)
- FBI 3/12/64 unclass Re: Rorke
UNK (Miami)
- FBI 4/14/63 unclass Re: Rorke
UNK Miami
- US Treas. Dept 10/21/63 unclass
Re: Comandos L. 23-1153
- US Treas Dept 10/22/63 unclass
Re: Rorke, Sullivan # 23-1123
- FBI 6/24/63 unclass Re: Rorke
97-4623 (Miami)
- FBI 7/26/63 unclass Re: Rorke
^{UNK} Miami
- FBI 8/26/63 unclass Re: Rorke
MM 2-346 Miami
- FBI 6/4/63 unclass Re: Rorke
UNK (Washington, DC)
- FBI 6/4/63 unclass Re: Rorke
97-4623 (NY)
- FBI 6/8/63 unclass Re: Rorke
97-4623 ~~SECRET~~ (Miami)
- FBI 10/1/59 unclass Re: For. pol. matters
case - # UNK

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①

Alexander Rorke

201-280990

VOL I -

1961-1963 (April) + '75 Doc.

- 1/17/75 review of 201 file -
most accurately ~~fit~~ categorized as "former
witting collaborator (relationship terminated
(signed Bender 3/4/76
- 1/29/63 047Z IN 57853 Cable
Info - Rorke bragged he will accompany Alpha 66
in raid on Cuba within week. Tanks in
Havana one of targets.
lectures in area, to be in Texas, Virginia
- Dispatch 12/4/62 UFKA-29 100-9-14
Info Rorke & crew of 5 arrive ^{11/25/62} on Key West
after so-called fishing & nature-taking vacation
to Anguilla Key & Cay Sal, B.W.I.
- Rpt 11/25/62 Blind
Indicates M/V Violin III under tow -
Master of vessel - Rorke
Comments: Rorke well known in Cuban
clandestine circles. Involved in most of
deals of Panague, Luis Diaz Lams (sic)
Sergio Rojas, now alleged to be working w/ State
Dept, studying ECO in Berlin, Germany, or Israel.

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(2)

Rorke has also had some dealings w/ Fulio Lobo, who is also alleged to have given financial assistance to Fiorini in amt of \$10,000⁰⁰ for baiter raid in Camaguey area sometime back) Rorke alleged. purchased Violin III (35 ft) o/bout August 1962.

DOB 8/19/26 NY, NY; resides 51 Chambers St, NY 7, NY. Head of U.S. Freedom fighters. PO Box 1812, Grand Central Station, NY.

Crew on board.

- ① Remegio Arce Pereda aka Coco. DPOB 6/19/19 Regla, Havana, Cuba. Navigator.
- ② Marion Donald Cardwell DPOB 5/31/31, Bronx, Student at Harvard Law.
- ③ William Smith DPOB 6/14/37, Canton, N.Y. Student at Harvard Law
- ④ Daniel Lowry DPOB 7/17/38 Lynn, Mass; Student at Harvard -
- ⑤ Nicholas Cardwell DPOB 10/18/34 NYC, NY Part-time instructor of accounting in Hartford.

0003701

Writer believes Rorke is the "front for so-called U.S. Freedom fighters & that there is big money behind this operation, possibly from Fulio Lobo."

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(3)

- News article 9/15/62 Shreveport Journal, Shreveport
Bossier City, La.

Re: flight of ^{Frank} ~~Bob~~ Swanner, Bill Johnson,
Fiorini - US freedom fighters.

- TFW/CI - 5874 9/13/62 Secret

Cable:

Info 8/13/62 Rorke, Sturges, & Oscar
Mestre Mascara, "were all set to do something."

Seeking boat; had aircraft

8/15/62 Rorke said he was thinking of
bombing Soviet ship off Camaguey.

9/8/62 Rorke said he had 3 boats;
Cuban & American crews and an aircraft
ready for raids against Cuba. In great
need of \$22,000 for guns and ammo
for raid on petroleum refinery.

9/8/62 Rorke reportedly met w/ ^{rep of} Amer. For.
power & light Co. - Considering monetary
assistance.

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8/29/62 info - Rorke working closely with
L. Batista Faka of MDC. Attempting to
get assistance or support of CIA.

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(4)

- Memo CIA to FBI - Papich 9/11/62
Re: Michael P. Malone, VP, of Czarnikow-Rionda Co, 106 Wall St, N, NY.
(reiterated info on Rorke, Sturgis & Mestre about to do "something".) Malone thought Rorke fishing for support to Rorke's activities.
- Memo by Rorke, undated
"Operation 'Beach Jumper'" -
Re: raids against C. S. Proposal for action - broadcasts off boats to Cuba, etc. ^{to set up "Phantom Cells" of counter-revolution in Cuba}
- News article 10/22/61 - "Castro Foes drop Leaflets in Cuba" -
- "Overthrowing the Red Castro Dictatorship"
Memo by Rorke - undated 15 pgs
plus 2 page pamphlet re: "Cubela Fantasma." "Fidel Fracaso" -
dropped by Rorke in raid on Camaguey.
- "Coordinators" named for use in Rorke's proposed operations: 0003703
Sergio Rojas Santamaria - "Cuban Coordinator"
Frank Fiorini - "Military Coordinator"
Fiorini & Diaz Lanz 1st 2 high
Castro officers in RAF to defect.

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(5)

~~Admiral~~

Rex. Rorke "Intelligence Coordinator."

- Memo 2/23/61 Internal
re: Contact w/Rorke by []⁰³
Rorke said he willing to act as liaison
betw. FRD an "Comde Evelio Dugue"
of 2nd Frente. Thinks Dugue was name
of personal friend.
Assessment: believes nothing to be gained
from further contact w/Rorke.

- Memo 2/13/61 Internal
re: Contact w/Rorke 2/12/61 by []
[] at Rorke's request
Rorke advised Eduardo (Reddy)
Whitehouse 119 Salamanca, Coral Gables,
Fla, Highland B- 2304, formerly 1st
of Cub. Civil Aeronautics Administrator,
had group of 70 pilots avail. & ready
for drastic action against Fidel in Cuba.
Whitehouse alleg. knows of 6 B-26 air
craft in good cond. After purchase
to be flown to Norman Cay (owned by
Peter Bethell, Bethell Liquors, Bahamas)
Could fly sorties to Cuba.

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R. Impressed []⁰³ as "young handsome

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(6)

adventurer who has combined his spirit for adventure with radio, television, & newspaper work in order to provide himself w/an interesting life. He seemed intelligent, not exp. mature and seasoned, and with considerable enthusiasm to put himself into positions of danger. He did not seem highly motivated by patriotism or political principles.

Memo internal 7/12/60

Re contact w/ Porter by ~~F. E. King~~ 03
"tall, slender, personable man". "somewhat garrulous". "did not appear to be a sharp operator". Supports Diaz Lanz strongly.
"Known to impersonate ~~FBI~~ ^{Federal} agents."

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- Memo 6/19/75 Secret
Internal

Re: Rorke & Sullivan.

attached: ① Letter to CIA from Cong. Ronald
A. Sarasin, Conn., 6/11/75

② Letter from Mrs. Cara Sullivan 4/15/75

Sers. C. Sullivan inquiring as to whether Rorke
or Sullivan worked for CIA at time of
disappearance.

Internal CIA memo indicates neither were
ever employed by CIA, however, Army
may have had interest in Rorke at one
time.

- Trace 019-006-063/04 WAVE 01667
9/11/64

poss. contact w/ Rorke by 201-750169 in
Cuba, missing since 9/24/63 after leaving
Broward Intl Airport in Twin Beechcraft
6795T.

- Memo 4/1/64 NY-12804 (CO-A(S) 3,297,303)
Re: Rorke.

0003706

Argosy asked for info re: Rorke
rec'd reply from Floyd Park, Alamo, TX
1/22/64 in which he reports having seen

Rorke the day after he was reported missing
letter from Park attached

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1111050

⑧

"I am sure I saw them and a small man probably a Cuban come into Stanley Field at Belize, B.H. on about the 25th of Sept. ~~as~~ ... they said they were headed for Tegucigalpa

- message 1/10/64 File # 101438Z
101315Z IN 31290

Info from Ricardo Morales Navarrette:

① 1/9/64 indicates rumor in Miami re: Comando Libres contemplating raid on Cuba.

② 1/7/64 Batista Faller on vessel accompanied by another vessel mission unk.

Comment Batista Faller recently assoc. w/Rorke.

- letter 11/26/63 from Alexander I. Rorke, Sr. to Mitchell Krauss, Radio New York World Wide ^{Rented plane 9/24/63 at Broward} re: Rorke disappearance
Plane flew to Cozumel. On Sept 25, refueled and left for Panama Canal Zone
Request assistance

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(1)

- Message Secret 11/9/63 WAVE 7317

Rumor. DC-3 owned by Charles E. Bush, Dania, Fla, departed Broward Intl Airport 2 Nov with Bush & 6 other friends. To proceed to Nevada, Mexico hoping to find significant records which might give them lead to Rorke's fate. Intended to proceed southward on route poss. used by Rorke.

Mission (1 Nov return) totally unproductive

BPHOmming member of group expense borne by family Rorke

- 10/18/63 Rk # 181522Z Cable Secret

181440Z 27764

16-13

[] unable to develop any info re: Rorke.

0003708

- 10/1/63 Message - Secret 10/1/63
WAVE 5226

Geoffrey Francis Sullivan, 86 Lexington Ave, Waverbury Conn.

Customs investigating Rorke re: crack down of raids on Cuba

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Orl Palmer ②
8/7/78

Max Lesnick - 201-209,258

DDO - Two Volumes

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Volume I

Deletions - sealed envelopes -

- ① St. Dept. 22 June 1949, # 486, American Embassy, Havana
Subj: Proposed Cuban National Congress for Peace & Democracy
- ② FBI - 23 Nov. 1955 - no file #, Subj: Carlos Rafael
Rodríguez Rodríguez
- ③ FBI - 21 Sept 1961, #105-3492 (Miami) Subj: Max
Edgardo Lesnick Menendez
FBI - 30 March 1961, #105-2124 (San Antonio) Subj: Same as above
- ④ FBI - 29 Jan 1965 - #105-6243 (Miami) Subj: SF NE
- ⑤ FBI - 18 Aug 1966 - #105-10748 (Miami) Subj: Partido de la
Revolución (PR)
- ⑥ FBI - 25 Sept 1969, #2-156 (Miami) Subj: Rolando Arcadio
Masferrer Rojas
FBI - 15 Oct 1968 - #105-16515 (Miami) Subj: Unknown
Subject, AKA Committee of Cubans for the defense
of the Unity of the Isle.
- ⑦ FBI - 26 June 1973 - #105-2856 (Miami) Subj: Orlando Rosel Avila
FBI - 27 April 1973 - #105-2856 (Miami) Subj: Same as above.

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On
Palmer (2)
8/7/78
Lesnick

⑧ FBI - 27 Sept 1973, #105-20202 (Miami) Subj: Directorio
Revolucionario (DR)

FBI - 8 Nov. 1973 - #103-20202^(sic) - Subj: DR

⑨ FBI - #105-3492 (Miami) Subject: Max Lesnick

Volume I - 22 June 1949 - December 1973

⑩ Personality (201) File Request - 29 Nov. 1957

Comments: IS (Cuban Communist Youth Organization)
Leader of Orthodox Ortodoxo party.

⑪ Jan 28, 1952 Memo to: The Ambassador From: E.T. O'Brien
Subj: Dr. Portell Vila warns Embassy that Ortodoxo
left-wingers are trying to bring Communists into the
party.

Portell says Lesnick & others trying to get communists
to join Ortodoxo party - specifically Salvador Garcia
Aguero whom they are encouraging to run for
Senator.

⑫ Request for Security Information: 10/4/57

Max Lesnick y Menendez - DOB Sept 8, 1960,

Mueltas, Las Villas, Cuba.

Reason for request: Visa - Security Case. Urgent: To
attend inter-American press association, 10/12/57
Washington, D.C. via New York.

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Dr
Palmer 8/7/58 (4)
Lernick

STATE

(4) Copy - [ODACID] Cable WIRO M 200, 2 Oct 1957.

Subject is Max Lernick - President of Juventud Ortodoxa & Orthodoxo party leader in opposition to Batista. Currently in hiding from police. Referred to as a Communist sympathizer. Security checks show no indications of collaboration with Communists.

(5) 3 Jan. 1959 Cable to Director from Havana IN 43772
DA. Source Max Lernick

On 2 Jan about 2,000 SFNE troops under Major Gutierrez Menoyo & Armando Aleites arrived in Havana. Headquarters in Charge of Max Lernick, Chief SFNE Rear Guard. Troops well armed, uniformed & disciplined. Number of troops not confirmed - about 100 seen at Hdqtrs. SFNE attempting to counterbalance 26 of July monopoly power.

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Posada 1

1 2/21/63
Chief of Contact Service
requests FBI approval
to contact Posada
urgent request - deadline
2/26/63 - to be interrogated
under "Cuban Refugee
Program. (Brigade 25/60)
reply directed to Mrs.
Virginia Thorne
Indices check NR.

2 8/9/63 - clearance for
interrogation granted.

3 4/5/65
project JMAZE
201-300 985
name ck / index request
for use as a "training
instructor"

4 4/1/65 PRQ Part I.
occ.: auto body repairman
750 N.W. 15th Street

5 4/4/65 search
A 319 235 TYPE O.

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Posada 2.

6. Attachment to PRQ I

① 63-64 { received training in
Santamala for invasion

- Chief 2nd Platoon, Co. B,
15th Battalion, 29th Inf.,
Brigade 197.

- Chief, weapons platoon

63-64 { Chief Instructor JURE
Camp for 3 months

EXPERIENCE: explosives,
maps, metascopes,
Boston Whalers.

7. PRQ Part I.

① 64 Mexico 2/25/61 polit. asyln
in Argentine Embassy.

① 64 2/28/61 arrives U.S.

① 64 4/61 - Santamala

64-65 64-65 - Santo Domingo.

① 64 63-64 Military Service from 63 to 64.
9/64 working for Pan Am
Exterminating Co.

275 SW 6th St, Miami

→ 3/63-3/64 U.S. Army.

① 64 10/61-10/63 - Firestone Rubber,
Akron, Ohio.

POSA DA - 3

divorced Maria Concepcion
CASTANEDA Napoles on 6/23/63
in Chicago

POOB 1931, Cardenas, Matanzas
Cuba.

married 1955-

address 6540 Beville St, Apt. C
Huntington Park, Ca.

close associate: Jorge MAS
CANOSA.

8. name ck.

9. " "

10. 4/19/65 Bio Data.

11+12 4/15/65 name ck.

positive results from
FBI, ONI, ACST, I+N.
AGO. Army COS Intell.
ADJUT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

13. Personal Secur. dno Release

14. Cancellation of files 8/16/67.
Secur. inves. complete.

Pos. 7

39 letter re SSC request

40. 1/26/77 memo says
FBI has info that he
was involved in a plot
65 to kill Fidel in 1965.

41. 4/8/77 memo + attach

29

42. 1/5/78 memo -
combined 2 covert
volumes @ one overt.
2 leftover file holders
destroyed "but no
documents from the
files were destroyed"

43. envelope:

Pers. Sec. info

1965 background & invs.

1968 FBI ck.

1972 ACSI report

44. envelope:

polygraphs from:

11/27/71, 6/7/68, 4/22/66,
4/15/65, 6/29/73.

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Pos 4

15 2/2/68 NAME CK req. assigned Venezuela
 as a [redacted]
 "sign. info. in CI/OA."

16. BIO update.
 assigned 3/26/65 as
 65 → training instructor JMWAVE
 67 used as informant, JMWAVE,
 until 7/11/67.
 "contacts: Miami, 'Lefty'
 Rosenthal, well known
 gangster."

current occ: DIGEPOL
 employee, Minis. of
 Interior, Caracas.

17. computer printout

18. BIO.

19. 2/12/68 Sec Inves. Pending.

20. PRQ I.

②64 64- was in Domin. Rep. for
 JURE - "riles affaire"

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POS 5

~~60~~ Frente Revolucionario Jose A.

6/26/65 Echevarria - 1960 in Cuba

⑤ 63-64 1963-1964 JURE

67 1967 - "Rec" Cuban Representation in Exile.

* special skills: "Hunting (good shot)"

Friend: Augusto Val Des
Micanda

21 Nams ck.

2/19/72 - Assignment
Venezuela

24

22 request search for FBI files

33. 1/21/72 BIO DATA.

* AKAS: Luis Clemente Carriles

Bambi Posada "

Bambi "

Julian Posada "

Julian "

* references: Carlos Porro,
395 E. Tallmadge, Akron

Antonio Garcia, 3604 SW

26th Terr. Miami

Segundo Ortes, 685 Carnegie
Ave, Akron

Dick Patterson, FBI, Akron

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0002002

POS. 6.

Roberto Isalloro - Cuban

* 35 # 265-72-1343-

US Army # C-2312445

34 PRQ PART I (1972)

photo attached
working for VEN. police
MRI

signed by "

06

list of travel up to '71
- does not include Chile.

35. 4/5/72

* Army records

Dossier 265-72-1343-

application for Army

66. reserve - approved in '66

36. name ok.

37. All "Alien Affairs"
material removed 1/31/75
by Mr. Frederick F Bucci.
would now be in DPO.

38. letter from Senate Select.
Com

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VH/

0002384

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Pos 8
45. ENV. FBI report 12/17/64
Anti-Tidel Castro Act.
109-584.

46. ENV. FBI Reports.

47. ENV - Nat. Agency chks
1963.

PRQ Part II should be in DDO.
End.

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