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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET /1501 00589 1501

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FROM:					DOCUMENT NUMBER	HDCA-00589.	
R/L/W					DOCUMENT DATE	70 Aug 56	
TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS NOTE: If a copy or attachments are removed from the attached document, note the location of the copy and/or attachment hereon. If this RECORD COPY is to be retained in the Files at the Desk, call the Central File Section for permanent loan. Copy Detached		
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2.	3/ Rom Rep	6	SEP 6	W			
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6.	Int.-R.C.		7 Sep 7	W			
7.	Cuba			W			
8.							
9.	Rom. Rep.-R.C.	10	SEP 10	W			
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					FILE TITLE	OMAS FERRER, ROLANDO	
					FILE NUMBER	201 4267	
					ENCLOSURE	R/W	
					DATE PROCESSED	1956	
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26 Aug 56

VIA: A I R
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA ROUTE)

DISPATCH NO. (HDCA-589)

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, WHD

DATE 26 August 1956

FROM : Chief of Station, Ciudad Trujillo

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational

SPECIFIC— Cuban - Dominican Relations: Rolando MASFERRER

REF: ODACID Ciudad Trujillo Despatch No. 53, dated July 23, 1956, and its attachment Memorandum of July 13, 1956, concerning Senator Rolando MASFERRER and his newspaper Tiempo en Cuba

1. The Chief of Station invites Headquarters' close scrutiny of the attachment to reference concerning Senator Rolando Masferrer of Cuba and his newspaper Tiempo en Cuba.

2. The impression COS has derived of Senator Rolando Masferrer from referenced reports is that there is a strong possibility that he is a "Trojan Horse" for the extreme left and probably the Communists, despite the fact that his trouble-making periodical (subsidized by the Cuban Government) may be "a heavy user of USIS material".

3. Where and when was opportunist Rolando Masferrer willing to risk his career for an "ideal"? According to reference it was as a Communist fighting for the so-called "Loyalist" cause in Spain. Does it necessarily mean anything that Masferrer now professes anti-Communism with a vengeance? Is Masferrer a broad-minded, level-headed, and judicious "Whig"? Certainly he does not appear to be such from the account of him given in reference. He would appear to be anything but a well-balanced, conservative, Republican (in the technical and non-partisan sense of the word).

4. Masferrer appears to COS to be a Jacobin, a demagog, a tyrant, and an extremist—and probably a leftist extremist—who is attempting to sway the course of BATISTA's policies.

5. It is of importance to note that as of 13 July 1956 it was reported in reference that Masferrer "currently is attempting to gain control of Cuban labor". Were Senator Masferrer to obtain such control, COS feels he would be a definite danger in Cuba and possibly in the Caribbean.

6. Were COS convinced that Masferrer is merely an opportunist, he would not have bothered to write this dispatch. COS is of the studied opinion that Masferrer has adopted the anti-Communist line solely for the purpose of staying

/on the battleground

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on the battleground until it suits his purposes to desert the anti-Communist cause at the most critical moment possible. Until anti-Communism became popular about 1950 and 1951, Senator Masferrer, as indicated by reference, enjoyed reviling the United States, its people, and its policies.

7. What are Generalissimo TRUJILLO's attitudes toward Masferrer, Batista, and Cuba? Trujillo's thought processes lead him to the philosophy that "if you are not with us you are against us". Since Trujillo's line, simply, is this: Catholicism, nationalism, aryanism, conservatism, hispanicism, traditionalism, anti-Communism, and cooperation, generally, with a United States which recognizes the sovereignty and culture of hispanic-american nations, Trujillo resents Batista's tolerating the enemies of his ideal. Trujillo has hoped to enlist Batista in the "Concert of the Caribbean" and to have him squelch the Dominican exiles and the Communists. If Trujillo did attempt to win over Masferrer, he was probably misled by Masferrer's use of anti-Communism and possibly hoped to use him as an influence upon Batista's policies. It is hard to believe that Generalissimo Trujillo would be likely to team up with a Carlos PRIO Socarras. Is there definite evidence that he has in the past?

8. Possibly Trujillo blundered in his approach to Masferrer. He often blunders because he is susceptible to flattery in regard to his grand schemes. Could it be possible that Masferrer initiated the Trujillo action through his adopting the anti-Communist position? That position attracts Trujillo like a bee to honey. Trujillo, like Bolivar, loves the role of a Defender of America. Despite his many weaknesses, he is often sincere in taking such position. Some persons call it megalomania. However, megalomania in itself is not always bad. It can be used to advantage by a United States seeking unity, peace, and cooperation on its southern marches. Trujillo has many faults, but he is a partisan of order and he hates chaos. Trujillo hates leftism because it brings chaos and makes the task of conscientious leaders, at times, impossible.


DEXTER B. HARPOLE

24 August 1956

Distribution:

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