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Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI  
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10292-10321  
  
RECORD SERIES : HQ  
  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 64-29479-11

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Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : DIRECTOR, FBI  
TO :

TITLE :

DATE : 05/07/1969  
PAGES : 37

SUBJECTS :

MTP, CORRELATION SUMMARY, SEE REFERENCES, AKA,  
REL, RES, MEMBER, CP, ASSOC, TRA, EMP, ARREST

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : Secret  
RESTRICTIONS : 1B; 1C; 4  
CURRENT STATUS : Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 06/22/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF CIA

COMMENTS :

CORRELATION SUMMARY

**SECRET**

Main File No: 64-29479

Date: 5/7/69

Subject: Maria Teresa Proenza Y Proenza

Date Searched: 9/9/68

All logical variations of subject's name and aliases were searched and identical references were found as:

~~Maria Teresa Proenza Proenza~~  
~~Teresa Proenza Proenza~~  
~~Teresa Proentza~~  
~~Maria Teresa Proenza~~  
~~Maria Theresa Proenza~~

*SUMMARY*

~~Teresa Proenza~~  
~~Teresa Proenza Proenza~~  
~~Teressa Proenza~~  
~~Teressa Proenza Proenza~~  
~~Theresa Proenza~~  
~~Teresa Prohnza~~

This is a summary of information obtained from a review of all "see" references to the subject in Bureau files under the names and aliases listed above. All references under the above names containing data identical with the subject have been included except any indicated at the end of this summary under the heading REFERENCES NOT INCLUDED IN THIS SUMMARY.

THIS SUMMARY HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR USE AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AND IS NOT SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION. IT IS DESIGNED TO FURNISH A SYNOPSIS OF THE INFORMATION SET OUT IN EACH REFERENCE, AND IN MANY CASES THE ORIGINAL SERIAL WILL CONTAIN THE INFORMATION IN MORE DETAIL.

Analyst

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HC:rat

5-17-95  
Classified by 56682/ndc  
Declassify on: OADR (JFK)

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ENCLOSURE  
ENCH. BEHIND FILE ONLY  
SEARCH SLIPS

REC-75  
75  
64-29479-11

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ABBREVIATIONS

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Add. info.....Additional information appearing in this reference which pertains to Maria Teresa Proenza Y Proenza can be found in the main file or elsewhere in this summary.

PCM.....Partido Comunista Mexicano (Mexican Communist Party)

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GLOSSARY

Diego Rivera

Mexican Communist artist

[ Jose Antonio Portuondo Valdor

Cuban Ambassador to Mexico ](S)

\*\*\*\*\*

RELATIVES WHO HAVE BUREAU MAIN FILES

The relationship, biographical data and CP activities of Teresa Proenza Proenza were set forth in the serials of the main files on her relatives as follows:

| NAME                           | RELATIONSHIP             | REFERENCE         | SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Guillermo Rafael Rojas Mendoza | Brother-in-law of sister | 140-34505-4 p.2,3 | (18)                    |

(continued)

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(continued)

**SECRET**

| NAME                                 | RELATIONSHIP   | REFERENCE   | SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER                         |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---|---|
| Jorge Rojas<br>Mendoza               | Brother-in-law | 105-115365-2 p.2<br>-4 p.1<br>-6 encl. p.1<br>-23 p.1<br>-25 p.1<br>-26 encl. p.2 | (29,30)<br>(27)<br>(14)<br>(14)<br>(14)<br>(14) |
| Alvaro Estanislao<br>Proenza Proenza | Brother        | 105-135744-1 p.1<br>-9 encl. p.9<br>-11 encl. p.1                                 | (27)<br>(15,23)<br>(15,23)                      |

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The Bureau, in keeping with a request from San Juan on 8/14/41, furnished a translation from Spanish of material addressed to Esteemed Comrade, and signed Sanchez. Letter contained an enclosure, page nine of the "Revista del Hogar" publication headed "Message From the Intellectuals of Russia." Listed among those sending greetings to Russia was Teresa Proenza.

Copy of translation set forth. (Source not given.)

64-200-48-33 p.5  
(2)

This reference set out a synopsis of a letter dated 5/11/42, from "Elena," Lima, Peru, to Senorita Teresa Proenza, San Lazaro 304, Habana, Cuba, which letter was intercepted by the British Censorship at Jamaica. (protect identity). The writer, probably Elena Vazquez Gomez of the Mexican Embassy at Lima commented on the help which was given by Cuba to the democratic cause and, incidentally, to the CP with which she had obviously strong sympathies. (5)

64-1604-D-5 p.1 encl. p.1  
(5)

-3-

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Conf. Inft. 304-6 made available a letter dated 10/14/43 which the organization committee for the First National Youth Congress (64-22380) conference sent to the American countries in the Southern Zone, asking for their support of a conference to be held in Montevideo, Uruguay. This letter included the names of the organizations and persons which had already stated their willingness to act as sponsors for the meeting. From Cuba, among the names and organization listed was that of Teresa Proenza, National Anti-Fascist Council of Cuba.

64-22380-35 p.5  
(5)

The CP of Cuba, through its front organizations, carried on a propaganda campaign to free Luis Carlos Prestes (64-27707), the well known Brazilian revolutionary and radical, who was imprisoned in Brazil. On 11/18/43, a commission composed of Teresa Proenza, and two others was granted an audience with the Brazilian Ambassador to Cuba Mario Savard De Saint Brisson Marques, (place not stated) who listened to the petition drawn up by the Comité Pro-Libertad De Luis Carlos Prestes and promised to send this petition to his country. (Source not clear, possibly Confidential Informant J. S. who was known to the Bureau).

64-27707-4 p.7  
(5)

The following references in the file captioned "Communist Activities in Cuba" contain information pertaining to the activities of Teresa Proenza in Cuba from 12/22/42 to 1/31/44. Proenza, a CP member, was a member of the advisory council of Frente Nacional Anti-Fascista and a member of Union Revolucionario Comunista. She contributed articles to a CP front organization magazine and was on the staff of a monthly bulletin. Publications included articles of great interest to women and articles and pictures on the war.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

64-1200-D-94 p.5  
-123 p.70  
-162 p.17,23,33

(4)  
(4)  
(4)

-5-  
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Conf. Inft. 339-12 advised that on 3/9/45, the Comite Pro Libertad De Luis Carlos Prestes sponsored a meeting at the former headquarters of the Frente Nacional Antifascista (64-29352) at Prado #405, Havana. Many former members of the Frente took part in this meeting including Teresa Proenza.

64-29352-5 p.1

~~(6)~~

This reference in the file captioned "Alto Case" (65-43302) set forth information concerning the activities and contacts of Teresa Proenza in Havana, Cuba and Mexico. Proenza was associated with Jacob Landau, Managing Editor of "Overseas News Agency" (ONA), publication of the Overseas News Agency Organization, with the main office in NYC, as an ONA representative in Havana. She resigned this position on 12/12/44. Proenza wrote letters, made phone calls and assisted Landau, when requested, in obtaining his Cuban visa to visit Havana 3/1-25/45. It was ascertained that Proenza, was a member of the CP of Cuba, and active in CP front organizations. Proenza made a trip to Mexico and while there she spoke with the former Soviet Ambassador, Constantin Oumansky.

65-43302-5654 p.9, 11,12,14,15

~~(6,29)~~

A Legat summary report made at Havana, Cuba, dated 5/14/45, contained a summary of current information obtained and reported during the period of February, March, and April, 1945, concerning the general trends of Communist activities in Cuba. Among the personality summaries reported was that of Maria Teresa Proenza Y. Proenza. Proenza and family were active revolutionaries. Reliable sources disagreed on whether she was a CP member, [but all sources agreed that she was in close contact with the Russian Diplomatic Mission in Havana. After the departure of Nora P. Chegodaeva, former Press Attache, Proenza's contacts at the Russian Legation ceased but she continued to contact many prominent CP members.] Proenza's employment record was set forth. (Sources not given). (u)

64-200-210-206 p.1,20

~~(2,28,30)~~

The following references in the file captioned "Jacob Landau" contain information pertaining to contacts, of Teresa Proenza with Landau

(continued)

-7-

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(continued)

from 12/1/44 to 7/9/45, in Havana, Cuba. Proenza assisted Landau in obtaining his Cuban visa for his trip to Cuba. Business letters were exchanged between Proenza and Landau.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

- 100-335487-75 p.1
- 80 p.1
- 166 p.1 encl. p.1
- 168 encl. p.1

~~(7,29)~~  
~~(8)~~  
~~(8)~~  
~~(8)~~

CIA reported that the Spanish exiles of Marxist affiliation in Mexico convened on 11/2-4/51, in Mexico City at the Spanish Congress for Peace sessions. The National Movement of the Partisans for Peace sent to this congress as its delegates and representatives individuals that included Teresa Proenza. (S)(u)

64-2701-1653 p.4  
(5)

CIA (protect identity) [redacted] (S) advised on 8/12/52, that Teresa Proenza Proenza, pro-Communist active in the Mexican peace movement, reportedly stated that the Polish Legation in Mexico had been used as the principal means of communication in Mexico by the Mexican Peace Movement and that General Heriberto Jara's (105-98107) correspondence was being carried on by a Polish diplomatic courier. (S)

Add. info.

105-98107-I p.2,14  
(13,22)

CIA advised by report dated 6/5/53, that Teresa Proenza, Secretary of the Editorial Staff of "Paz" magazine of the Consejo Nacional de Partidarios de la Paz, reportedly stated the World Peace Congress (100-361031), first scheduled to be held in Budapest in April, 1953, was postponed until June 1953. Proenza also stated that a national peace conference originally scheduled to be held in Mexico City, in late May 1953, had been postponed until after the Congress in (S)(u)

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CIA (protect identity) advised on 11/28/55, that Clara Guerrero was a close personal friend of Teresa Proenza, a Mexican Communist who had been employed by Diego Rivera in Mexico. (X)(u)

100-350549-9 p.6,10

(8)

SI 100-405136-11 p.6,10

(9)

The CIA (protect identity) [redacted] (S) advised that on 12/23/55, Teresa Proenza, a Mexican CP member and close associate of Diego Rivera, obtained from Xavier Guerrero, Mexican Communist artist, the information that one Harry Ming (100-422226) resided at 315 East 57th Street, NYC. It appeared that Proenza and Guerrero were both acquainted with Ming, but the basis of this acquaintance was not known. (X)

100-422226-1 p.1

(10)

SI 100-422226-2 p.1

(10)

CIA reported that during February 1956, in Mexico City, contact between Czech Legation personnel and Mexican Communists or leftists increased. There were at least twenty of these contacts mainly with Karel Starecky, Charge d' Affaires. Among those contacts was Teresa Proenza. (X)(u)

100-348756-27 p.1

(8)

SI 100-348756-30 p.1A

(8)

CIA reported that around May 5, 1956, Yuri Paporov, cultural and intelligence officer, Soviet Embassy, Mexico City, and his wife planned to go to Acapulco, to visit Diego Rivera. Among those they planned to go with was Dolores Olmedo de Phillips, an art lover, Teresa Proenza, housekeeper of Rivera, and possibly Elena Vasquez Gomez, Communist in the Mexican Foreign Ministry. The trip was postponed until 5/11-14/56. (X)(u)

64-211-221-1302 p.3

(4)

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On 1/27/61, Maria Del Carmen Rodriguez Casanova (105-94630), in West Palm Beach, Florida, made available an official Cuban Government document entitled "List of Cuban Foreign Service Officers Abroad" dated June, 1960. The document revealed that Teresa Proenza Proenza was assigned to the Cuban Consulate in Mexico City as Foreign Service Assistant, Third Class.

105-94630-6 encl. p.23  
(12,22)

CIA advised that, on 7/25/60, Conchita Rojas, wife of Jorge Rojas, manager of "Cubana de Aviacion" in Mexico City, reportedly requested Jose Antonio Portuondo Valdor to authorize a free trip to Cuba for Merle Simmons (105-90148) so that Simmons could celebrate July 26 in Cuba. It was indicated that Simmons was probably married to the sister of Conchita Rojas. A third sister was reported to be Teresa Proenza, an outspoken Mexican Marxist who was employed at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. ~~(S)~~ (u)

105-90148-1 p.1  
(12)

On 9/7/60, Teresa Proenza complained that Humberto Garcia Moreira and Ernesto Rodriguez, Cuban Embassy employees arrived at the airport in Mexico City before Jorge Rojas, manager of Cubana airlines in Mexico, and took all copies of the "Revolucion," Cuban newspaper. Proenza stated Rojas usually picked up eleven copies for the Libreria Londres (bookstore). On 9/8/60, Proenza told one Gama, of Liberia Londres, that she also sent copies of the "Revolucion" to Mercado del Libro, Indice and Liberia Madero. Gama told Proenza that she had increasing demands for the paper and needed 20 or 25 more copies. (CIA). ~~(S)~~ (u)

64-45716-151 p.2  
(6)

CIA reported that on 10/24/60, Teresa Proenza, attache of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico, told Manuel Marcue, director-general of the "Politica" magazine, that Jose Antonio Portuondo, had returned to Mexico from his visit to Cuba with a great many things which he would probably turn over to Marcue. She said Portuondo wanted to see Marcue. ~~(S)~~ (u)

64-47255-16 p.3  
(6)

SI [ ] ("Diario Oficial") 10/1/60  
(12,22) (S)

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~~(S)~~ (u)  
(MEX-197) advised on 12/11/62, that Teresa Proenza and Eusebio Azcue of the Cuban Embassy and Jorge Rojas Mendoza, Manager of the Compania Cubana de Aviacion (CCA), Mexico City, stated that, contrary to the impression they tried to make, the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City obtained all of the airplane and automobile parts it could handle. These parts were obtained in California and imported to legitimate parts dealers in Mexico City, then purchased by Cuban Embassy representatives and were shipped to Cuba via CCA planes.

110-6-210-947 encl. p.1

~~(18)~~

By letter dated 12/12/62, the WFO enclosed copies of a summary translation in English of a file containing newspapers, newspaper clippings and pamphlets in Spanish regarding CP activities in Mexico. A Castroite propaganda center was waging a vigorous campaign in Mexico under the guise of cultural conferences given at the Institute for Cuban-Mexican Cultural Relations located at 63 Tokyo Street in the Colonia Juarez, Mexico. Dr. Fernando Casillas Lumpuy, President of the Anti-Castro Action Group, stated that the cultural activities were very limited and merely served as a cover for the subversive activities that were being carried on by well known communists including Teresa Proenza.

64-200-221-3657 encl. p.5

~~(3)~~

On 1/25/63, Carlos Solorzano, reportedly, contacted Teresa Proenza of the Cuban Embassy, Mexico City, to arrange a trip to Cuba to observe the Cuban theatre before going to Europe to give lectures. Proenza expressed interest in Solorzano's plan. Proenza stated she was leaving for Havana on 1/28/63, and would check into the matter and write Solorzano from Havana. Source reported that Proenza had left for Havana on 1/28/63. ~~(S)~~ (u)

[Field Comment: Solorzano may be identical with Carlos Solorzano Fernandez, brother of Alfonso Solorzano Fernandez, a Guatemalan communist in Mexico.

CIA ~~(S)~~ (u)

109-576-288 p.1

~~(17,25)~~

**SECRET**

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(continued)

attempting to travel to Cuba. These four individuals were to perfect travel arrangements through one of their group who would visit the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City (CIA). (S)(u)

100-21964-135X p.1

(7)

In July 1963, Elizabeth Catlett Mora (100-395934) entertained Teresa Proenza, Cultural Attache of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City, at her home. Proenza was Mora's principal contact at the Cuban Embassy and Proenza was also Mora's close personal friend. According to Mora, Proenza supported Mora's husband, Francisco Mora, who was at odds with the Cuban Embassy over the granting of scholarships to artists whom he considered unworthy. On 2/6/64, Mora was extremely disturbed by the fact that Proenza had gone back to Cuba for conferences, and Proenza might not be stationed in Mexico much longer in view of her trip back to Cuba (MEX-18 and MEX 19). (S)(u)

100-395934-78 p.21,22,27

(9)

The following references in the file captioned "Political Matters-Cuba" (109-12-210) set forth information concerning Teresa Proenza Y Proenza, Cultural Attache at the Cuban Embassy, Mexico City. Information is briefly described as follows:

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE AND SEARCH SLIP  
PAGE NUMBER

On 1/29/60, Proenza, a member of the Mexican CP, arrived in Mexico City, from Havana to become an employee at the Cuban Embassy. Proenza was a former secretary and housekeeper to Diego Rivera Barrientos. (CIA) (S)(u)

109-12-210-1342 p.1  
(16)

Proenza was a Cuban Embassy employee in Mexico City. Proenza, a convinced Communist was engaged in propaganda work. She was a Cuban national and entered Mexico in 1934 as a political refugee. She worked for the Mexican Ministry of

109-12-210-1919 p.2,3  
(16,23)  
SI paragraph 2  
109-12-210-1767 p.2  
(16)

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SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE AND SEARCH  
SLIP PAGE NUMBER

Education as a teacher. She was active in the Mexican Peace Movement.

Jorge Tamayo Castillejos, Director, Circle of Mexican Studies, Communist front Cultural Group, told Proenza that they should co-ordinate activities for the 6/9/60 visit of President Osvaldo Dorticos of Cuba to Mexico.

[redacted] PSI (protect [X] (u) identity) advised that on 1/3/61, he attended a reception at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City in celebration of the anniversary of the Cuban revolution. Many Mexican students were present and cheered Fidel Castro (not further identified) and made derogatory remarks about the "Yankees". Source stated that Proenza remarked that she did not know how to keep the youths quiet but evidently she made no efforts to restrain them. She complained of their attitude in view of the fact newspapermen were present.

109-12-210-2602 p.1  
(16)

A person with good connections in the Cuban Embassy stated that on 3/10/61, Proenza contacted Miguel Rios and asked him to print the note of Raul Roa Garcia, Cuban Foreign Minister, to Latin American Foreign Ministers and ordered about 500 copies of the leaflet containing the note. On 3/20/61, Proenza told Jose Antonio Portuondo Valdor she was leaving that night for Veracruz to visit General Heriberto Jara Corona, Mexican leftist, and would take 500 copies of the leaflet to the Consul in Veracruz and to other people, for distribution. (X) (u)

[CIA] (X) (u)  
109-12-210-2976 p.1 (16, 23)  
SI 100-339130-12 p.2  
(8, 33)

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SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE AND SEARCH  
SLIP PAGE NUMBER

Source Commented that Rios told Proenza he was selling his printing shop and would charge her only for the paper, not his work. ~~(S)~~(u)

On 4/12/61, at a staff meeting at the Cuban Embassy, Jose Antonio Valdor, reportedly reviewed the duties of the officers of the embassy. Press activities were listed for Teresa Proenza Proenza and Marta Proenza, niece of Teresa (CIA). ~~(S)~~(u)

109-12210-2993 p.1  
~~(16,23)~~

On 4/19/61, one Salgado, Revolutionary Worker Federation, reportedly told Proenza that the Union had received a cable from the Cuban Confederation of Workers asking for solidarity with Cuba (CIA). ~~(S)~~(u)

109-12-210-2969 p.2  
~~(16,23)~~

PSI (protect identity) advised that on 5/2/61, Proenza consulted Jorge Rojas, manager of Cubana de Aviacion in Mexico City regarding sending some important correspondence to Havana by CMA airlines. Rojas recommended that the correspondence be sent out on 5/5/61, on a Cuban flight out of Mexico City. ~~(S)~~(u)

109-12-210-3008 p.1a  
~~(16)~~

This reference dated 12/19/61, set out information regarding Cuban Embassy personnel, Cuban propaganda and intelligence activities and pro-Castro and anti-Castro groups and activities in Mexico. Proenza, was notoriously active in promoting the interests of the Pro-Castro regime in Cuba among Mexican students and intellectuals. The Cuban Embassy in Mexico was the center of espionage and Proenza was one of those involved. ~~(S)~~(u)

109-12-210-3430 p.4,5,10  
~~(16,24)~~

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SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE AND SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

MEX-168, on 2/28/62 advised that the Cuban Embassy in Mexico used various pro-communist groups in promoting activities in favor of the current regime in Cuba. Proenza maintained relations with all the women's groups from the various pro-communist organizations. Among the employees assigned to the Cuban Embassy listed in the 5/2/62 issue of "Dairio Oficial," official publication of the Government of Mexico was Proenza.

109-12-210-3635 p.2,5  
(16,24)

On 8/1/62, Charles Von Schwanitz, a reporter for "Tampa Times," Tampa, Florida, furnished a summary of information regarding the manner by which he secured his visa for the trip to Cuba. His contacts concerning his visa and his observations regarding conditions in Cuba were set forth. On 7/23/62, Schwanitz contacted the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City and received his visa through Proenza. She suggested that in order to expedite his passage he should contact her brother-in-law, Jorge Rojas, Manager of Cubana Airlines facility in Mexico City.

109-12-210-3697 encl. p.2,3  
(17)

MEX-197 furnished the following information he received from Jorge Rojas, Manager, Cuban Aviation Company, Mexico, DF, and his wife, Caridad Proenza De Rojas. On the evening of 7/28/62, in Mexico City, Teresa Proenza Proenza, sister of Mrs. Rojas, reportedly after boarding a cab, was beaten and robbed of her valuables and a bag containing documents of the Cuban Embassy.

109-12-210-3696 encl. p.1,2  
(17,24)

Julio Bidopia, organizer for the Latin American University of Games, reportedly arrived in Mexico from Havana on 8/24/62.

109-12-210-3728 p.1  
(17,24)

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SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE AND SEARCH  
SLIP PAGE NUMBER

on his way to Brazil in connection with the recruitment of athletes to participate in Latin American University games in Havana. Games to be held in Havana on 10/7-14/62, were sponsored by International Federation of University Sports. He left Proenza and Manuel Vega Perez, Diplomatic Attache, in charge of getting the recruitment program underway in Mexico. (CIA). (S) (u)

On 1/4/63, MEX-197 advised that Teresa Proenza and her brother Alvaro Proenza Proenza, Assistant to the Cuban Minister of Industry complained that they were unable to accumulate funds outside Cuba for use in the event the Castro regime fell. Teresa criticized Jorge Rojas Mendoza the manager of the Cuban Aviation Company, in Mexico City, for not taking advantage of his opportunities in money transactions on behalf of the Cuban Government. (S) (u)

109-12-210-3985 e.p.1  
(17,24)

CIA advised that the Bureau memorandum dated 1/7/63, entitled "Military and Economic Conditions in Cuba" referred to Theresa Proenza, Cuban Embassy employee in Mexico City, who had been of interest to CIA for sometime. CIA's interest in Proenza concerned a possible recruitment approach by CIA. In keeping with this interest, CIA requested the Bureau for any information it might have or develop concerning Proenza's social or political activities, interests, character, et cetera. (S) (u)

109-12-210-4043 p.1  
(27,31)

CIA reported on 10/10/63, that according to Proenza, a committee to aid Cuba in aftermath of hurricane "Flora" was scheduled to be formed by the Mexican Institute of Cultural Relations. This organization was to control all activities of this committee. (S) (u)

109-12-210-4589 p.1  
(17,24)

(continued)

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connected with Cuban intelligence activity in Cuba. This album listed photo #535 as that of Teresa Proenza Proenza. (X)(u)

[Album enclosed] (X)(u)  
65-63987-210-1050 encl. p.31  
(1,19)

On 6/7/68, Gustavo Proenza (105-171688) 210 West 10th Street, NYC, furnished information regarding his ten day visit to Cuba that began 2/9/68, his contacts and activities in Cuba and his purpose for making the trip. He also gave background information regarding himself and his family. Proenza advised that no one in his family worked for the Cuban Government nor were they pro-Castro or Communists and advised that he had no sister by the name of Teresa Proenza Proenza and could furnish no information regarding her.

105-171688-7 encl. p.3  
(15,23)

Correlators Note: A review of serial five of this file revealed that CIA requested the Bureau to interview Gustavo to determine whether or not he was related to Teresa, former Cuban diplomat stationed in Mexico City who was arrested in the fall of 1964 and had been held under some form of house arrest or surveillance ever since. (X)(u)

The following references on Teresa Proenza Proenza located in files maintained in the Special File Room of the Records, Files and Communications Division, were reviewed and found to be identical with the subject of this summary; however the information contained therein has not been included:

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

[ 64-330-210-1190  
-2143  
-2681  
64-330-221 -2626 ] (S)

(21)  
(4)  
(4,21)  
(4,21)

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