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5/25/77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-152711)

FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN ^(S) (65-514) (P)

SUBJECT: [OCELOT] (S)
IS-CUBA

Re San Juan teletype to Bureau [May 24,] 1977. [S]

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an FD-302 reflecting interview of [the subject on May 23,] 1977. [S]

Bureau is requested to forward two copies to SAC, Miami.

When no response to questions [asked by CUIS in video- [S] tape session is furnished, source] answered with generalities, as in questions about life in Cuba under Batista, [or with specific information previously furnished to CUIS, such as participation in 1971 assassination attempt in Cuba.] [S]

2- Bureau (Encls. 5)
(Miami 2)

2- San Juan

HBB:maw

(4)

8/20/98
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REASON: 1.5 (C,d)
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Searched [65-514-118] (S)
Serialized my
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x

5/25/77

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Searched (65-514-118) (S)
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

May 24, 1977

Date of transcription

On May 23, 1977, a confidential source, who has provided reliable information in the past was interviewed by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and he advised that on May 18, 1977, he made a telephone call from Puerto Rico to the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico, and asked for the Vice Counsel. Source used a previously arranged statement concerning the status of a visa to signal the Embassy that he would be traveling to Mexico City. Source stated that the secretary who handled the call in the Cuban Embassy appeared not to recognize the signal and she simply told him that the Vice Council was not in the Embassy.

On May 19, 1977, the source traveled from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Miami, Florida, via Eastern Airlines Flight Number 938. Source arrived in Miami at approximately 10 a.m. and was met by his business partner, ANTONIO VECIANA. Source advised VECIANA that he was going to Mexico City to meet Cuban Intelligence Service (CUIS) Agents and VECIANA gave him copies of "Replica" and "La Verdad" newspapers to furnish to the CUIS. Source and VECIANA traveled to the "Replica" newspaper office in Miami and there the source met an individual by the name of ALDEREGUIA, who VECIANA had earlier reported to the source to be working for Cuban Intelligence. Source advised that VECIANA now states that ALDEREGUIA is currently working for the Panamanian Government Intelligence. While at the "Replica" office, the source met with MAX LESNIK and ROGER REDONDO, who according to the source are both employees of "Replica" newspaper.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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 Exempt from GDS, Categories 2, 3 and 4.
 Date of declassification Indefinite.

8/20/98
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Interviewed on 5/23/77 Dorado, Puerto Rico File # SJ 65-514-117
 by SA HARRY B. BRANDON, III; SA STUART M. HOYT, JR.; SA HALL M. BRUSH PMR:maw Date dictated 5/24/77

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While at the "Replica" newspaper office, (the source (S) was told) that one BERNARDO VELEZ, who is reportedly "one of JIMMY CARTER's people," told MAX LESNIK that he had been told in Washington that ALDEREGUIA was working for the Cuban Government. (Source stated that) it appeared that ROGER REDONDO had (S) told (VECIANA) about ALDEREGUIA's connection with the Panamanian Government. (Source stated that) REDONDO was at one time a (S) Captain in an anti-Batista organization known as the Segunda Frente (Second Front). (Source learned that) ALDEREGUIA is (S) almost always present at the "Replica" newspaper office in Miami, Florida.

(VECIANA requested that the source) tell the CUIS in (S) (Mexico City) that members of the Coordinación de Organizaciones Revolucionarias Unidas (Coordination of United Revolutionary Organizations) (CORU) frequently come to "The Little Havana" Welfare Office in Miami and that it is believed that CORU gets money from that office. (Source stated that) one RAFAEL (S) VILLAVARDE is currently in charge of that office. (VECIANA (S) stated that) CORU members LEDO, CASTILLO, GASPAR JIMENEZ and OROZCO have been seen at that office. (VECIANA requested (S) that the source also) tell the CUIS that he had heard that ALDEREGUIA is currently working for the Panamanian Government. (In addition, VECIANA asked the source to advise) CUIS that (S) recently ORLANDO BOSCH was interviewed on a radio program and he was encouraging action against the Venezuelan Government. (Source was to further) advise the CUIS that BOSCH, who (S) desired a speedy trial in Venezuela, had gotten word to CORU that if he did not get a trial soon that CORU would take action and place a bomb against some Venezuelan property. This bomb would be designed to cause very little damage and no injury to anyone. If the Venezuelan Government did not act with dispatch regarding a speedy trial for BOSCH, a second bomb would be placed by CORU which would cause considerable damage to Venezuelan property. (Source stated that VECIANA (S) felt that) in light of the BOSCH trial matter, the Cubans might attempt to get the Venezuelan Government to expedite that trial.

(Source) traveled from Miami, Florida, to (Mexico City, (S)) Mexico, via (Aeronaves) Airlines Flight #411 on May 19, 1977, (S) leaving Miami at 3 p.m. and arriving at (Mexico City) at 5 p.m. (S) (Source) was met by no one at the airport and went to his room, #503, at the (El Diplomatico) Hotel in (Mexico City). At 7:20 p.m. (S) (source) took one taxi to the middle of town and then another to the assigned meeting place with the CUIS. (Source) stated that this was a maneuver to avoid easy detection of where he was destined. (He stated that he) went to the Metro Stop, (Xola,) and (S) saw people across the street. (He stated that he) walked through (S) a tunnel and then returned to the center of the sidewalk where he was met by CARLOS, (whom he had previously met,) and another (S) Cuban individual. (Source) stated that CARLOS was wearing a (S) dark jacket, a blue T-shirt under the jacket, dark pants and carrying a small handbag in which there was a gun. Source (S) stated that the other Cuban was a white male, approximately 28 years old, weighing 150, 5'8" tall, and having black hair (worn medium length and parted on the right side which was combed down. This individual who was referred to as RAUL, had no sideburns, no mustache and was wearing white-rimmed glasses. He was dressed with a light jacket, white shirt with a collar, and dark pants. RAUL, although he did not smoke, often had a black cigarette holder in his mouth. He carried nothing in his hands. (Source) believed that CARLOS was the apparent leader (S) of the two.

(Source) advised that his sister from Cuba, AMALIA, did (S) not travel to (Mexico City) to be with the CUIS during their meet with (S) (the source). Source was told by CARLOS that they did not want (S) his sister involved in his affairs with the CUIS and, therefore, she did not come to meet him as was previously arranged. (S)

(S) [Source advised that] RAUL left CARLOS (and the source) (S) and went to pick up an apparently rented car a short distance away. (Source stated that) this car was a 1975 light green two-door Valiant. (Source noted what appeared to be) car rental papers in RAUL's pocket, with the words "Puerto Rico" as part of the rental firm's name. (Upon entering the car, CARLOS stated (S) that they did not want to use a Cuban Embassy Car for these meets for identification reasons. Source stated that they traveled in the automobile for approximately one and one-half hours and went to a Hotel San Miguel in Puebla City. (S) He stated that they traveled out of Mexico City on the Expressway (S) and in Puebla, went off at Reforma Avenue, proceeded two (S) blocks and then right for two blocks. (Source stated that (S) the Hotel San Miguel appeared very run down and third class. (S) He stated that the CUIS had apparently rented two rooms (S) one on the ground floor and the other on the first floor, Room #102. (S)

Upon entering the San Miguel Hotel, (the source) met (S) a white Cuban male who was introduced to him as HECTOR. (S) HECTOR was approximately 45 years of age, 5'6" tall, weighing 185 pounds, having dark eyes and slightly grey, black hair, which was combed straight back. HECTOR wore no glasses and had no mustache nor beard. (Source understood HECTOR to be) a television and videotape technician. (CARLOS told source that) HECTOR came (S) from Cuba and worked with the CUIS in Cuba. (Upon entering the ground floor room, the source noted an automatic pistol lying on the bed and he understood that this pistol belonged to HECTOR. (S)

Source advised that up to this point in conversation with RAUL, the latter had talked a lot about the good times that he recently had on a trip to the Soviet Union when he accompanied FIDEL CASTRO there. He stated that the Cuban delegation enjoyed many big parties in Russia and there was an abundance of beer, vodka and Russian women. RAUL felt that the Russian people loved FIDEL CASTRO. Source stated that while enroute to the San Miguel Hotel, CARLOS advised the source that JORGE sends his regards to the source. Source stated that JORGE is "The General," who has previously met with the source on recent meets. (S)

In the ground floor room of the hotel, the source met another Cuban who was introduced to him as SANTANA. Source described him as a Mulatto, who had Negro features. He is 5'8" tall, weighing approximately 160 pounds, 40 years of age and has black kinky hair. Source stated that SANTANA works for the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. (S)

(While enroute to the San Miguel Hotel, CARLOS (S) mentioned to the source that the CUIS had wanted to make a videotape of a contact with the source and to later show this only to FIDEL CASTRO and other high-ranking Cuban Government officials. Source agreed to this. Source noted in the room that a videotape camera, which appeared to be a Sony product, was mounted on a tripod on a table and a microphone placed just off to the side of the table. Source stated that the video machine was black and white in color and that he understood the filming would also be in black and white. (S)

(Prior to the videotaping of the source, there had been conversation concerning MANOLO RAY. Source advised that CARLOS told him that while the source's sister was recently in Puerto Rico during January, 1977, RAY had told her that he was interested in meeting the CUIS. RAY had stated at that time that he would be sending a letter to the source's sister in Cuba. Source understood that RAY would be making a meet with the CUIS in the near future. Source stated that it appeared that the CUIS wanted no connection between the source's sister and RAY. Also, in conversation prior to the videotaping, CARLOS advised the source that he had come from Cuba to Mexico City on the evening of May 18, 1977, arriving very late. (S) (S)

Source advised that prior to the videotaping, RAUL and SANTANA left the room and apparently went upstairs to Room 102 to sleep. Source stated that he sat alone at the table upon which the videotape machine was mounted and CARLOS asked him a list of questions. This taping, in which three reels were used, took one hour and 25 minutes. Source was asked about his family situation in Cuba before FIDEL CASTRO took over. He was asked about his thoughts on the Batista Regime in Cuba. He was asked to comment about his present family situation in and out of Cuba. He was asked about what political movements he had been a member of, and he responded with Alpha 66 and Escambrey. (When questioned about Alpha 66, the source told the interviewer that in 1964 he had helped Cuban exiles and arms to pass through Puerto Rico to Santo Domingo to be used against Cuba. (He stated that during that year he had helped approximately 28 individuals and that all but four of those individuals had returned. He stated that the other four who made it to Cuba were now in Cuban prisons. Source was asked to give comments about his participation in an assassination attempt of FIDEL CASTRO in Chile in 1971, and the source did. He was asked to comment on the assassination of JOHN F. KENNEDY in 1963 and about his contacts and knowledge of ANTONIO VECIANA. The interviewer wanted to know VECIANA's position with the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia in 1971. (He was asked to comment about a Mr. BLAIR and Mr. KAIL, who were reportedly employees of the U.S. Embassy in Cuba during the takeover of the Cuban Government by FIDEL CASTRO. The CUIS suspected these individuals of being associated with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and asked the source that if he knew where they are now and if he had ever contacted them at the U.S. Embassy. Source was questioned about his participation in another assassination attempt of FIDEL CASTRO which took place in 1961 in Havana, Cuba. Source stated that at that time, VECIANA, BERNARDO PRADRERES (and he) tried to kill FIDEL CASTRO with a Bazooka. (He stated that an apartment was rented on Mission Street in Havana, Cuba, by VECIANA's mother-in-law. Source stated that they waited nine months for FIDEL CASTRO to appear at a public gathering at the Cuban capitol which was only one block away, but their operation had no success. (He stated that PRADRERES had hired two others to fire the Bazooka and later they reported that it was too old and not functional. Source stated that this Bazooka, which was used against BATISTA, had been hidden until the time of the

