
Agency Information

AGENCY : HSCA
RECORD NUMBER : 180-10142-10319
RECORD SERIES : CIA SEGREGATED COLLECTION
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 24-03-15

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : HSCA
FROM : CIA
TO :

TITLE :

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act of
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW
66000 Date: 11-04-2021

DATE : 03/02/1978
PAGES : 13

SUBJECTS :
ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES
ROTHMAN, NORMAN
CIA, OPERATIONS

DOCUMENT TYPE : NOTES
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 1A; 1B
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/08/1995

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS : Box 14

GIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECISION TO
RELEASE INFORMATION
A) R. O. A. C. T. R. O.

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Summary written
3/2/78

11110673

Norman Rothman 201

inclusive dates 1951-1975

- 1 - categorize 201 file on Rothman - as "former willing collaborator (relationship terminated). OI code A3"
(As of 17 ? 1975)

From back of file

- 2 - ~~Three~~ Four pages of legal pad notes - hand written - no date or author given
Appears to be notes from an interview, but it is not labeled re who is being interviewed. It could be Rothman or David M. McConnell. The first entry ~~is~~ is
"1. David M. McConnell Ed. 38716
Charlotte, N.C.
2727-POB"

The second entry is "Norman Rothman
American citizen - DPOB NYC 2? Dec 1914
Runs Bar Bel-Air hotel
Owner Sans Souci, night club, Havana
Dispute with brother-in-law of
Batista. Moved to province Union 6-4030
425 Surfside Blvd."

Sounds like it's an interview with Rothman.

The third entry is labelled "Items" and lists several points.

Item a - "Cardenas plantation - ammo dump
Roth. claims able blow up if w/ permission FBI
R. will assemble operators for pb."

Item B - "Can set up bases in Yucatan - \$50-100,000 cost +
stripes for B-26 / napalm - get FC
Arango boys to staff deal." ~~SECRET~~

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Item C - "Assign R sub targets - can handle w/
Latin friends

Congo Flap cutting into recruit pool."

D - "claims analysis Invasion flap"

E - "claims know Prio, Betancourt"

F - "claims his contacts can get into Chinese Commie groups"

G - "suspects Patrick op as being funny and ill-advised"

page 2⁴ - labeled "R" lists a-h

a - "425 Surfside Blvd; Belair Bar - Cubans frequent -
ex-invadors; Batistianos"

b - "Francisco - friend - executed; Rogelio Gonzalez - "Francisco"
war name; Sori Marion (sp?) - business acquaintance
E. Figenio Fernandez (Dr) - associate

bkgnd

c - "Aristi (Peru) group - contacts

Mexico - Cardenas - contacts; opposed Frente;

story re camps - malcontents/shootings; Cardenas -

commo via Mexi friends. Last contact 4-5 months ago

@ Mexi friends in contact with friends; has met;

Last met 2 yrs ago Acapulco; Has visited farm after

Acapulco; Has been in Yucatan; Last there 1959 - two days.

claims Indian friends.

Saabhez Arango:

Has met; Last met six weeks ago

In last year - ca 20-25 times

R knows friends: "Garcia" and "Tito"

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d- Re Sub-Targets:

FC Target:

Invasion (Congo) Flyers names _____

Base low air target - Mexico

2 B-26's / Gas / Bombs.
2 P-51's

Monroe Am Emb checked out R on previous charge

claims airstrip in existence (Austin Young - R "personal pilot")

e- Chinese Commie Group

"claims groups Chinese commies going into Canada from Cuba. Grps in Peru / Lima - ca 2 yrs ago"

f- Cuban Assets

"How many agents? How many sent last yr?"

At date - ca. 6 who in Travel business?
Export Business

Nature of Ops - Coast Guard asked R re infiltrations / exfiltrations at Bel Air interview; also re shipments. Also asked re Puerto Rico. Capability re Black market money exchange - thru G."

g- Dominican Republic

"Last visit - 1959. Purpose - Batista. Commo to assets / contacts. John Abbes asked R do job."

h- Gun-running

"claims same people / houses used by CIA in those jobs for which R prosecuted. Claims ship^{ped} 40 ships for

Frente - CIA trucked the stuff up - he (R) loaded

Purchase 20 ft "Reeter" - pilot boat to underground."

11110681

3 DBF 35028 15 Oct 59 -

"New Anti-Castro organization with hqs. in Miami at Biltmore Terrace Hotel, managed by subj (Rothman) who is supposed to provide source thru U.S. gangsters for guns and other weapons."

19 Oct 59 - under indictment Pittsburgh - Interstate Transportation of stolen arms.

10 Dec 59 - "Going to Yucatan Mexico to seek a site for a base of operations against the Castro govt."

21 Dec 59 - Subj after returning from Mexico City, reportedly remarked that "We have a strip" "A compatriot of subj, Eduardo Whitehouse, is later said to remark that "We have the planes." "Believed that both subj and Whitehouse are acquiring planes for purpose of setting up base of operations in Yucatan Peninsula for anti-Castro group headed by Col. Orlando Piedra and Roberto Fernandez Miranda."

23 June 1960 - convicted of interstate transp. of firearms stolen from Nat'l Guard Armory - Canton, Ohio, sentence: 5 yrs., and \$10,000 fine

5 Feb 1960 - subj released from Allegheny County Jail - appeal after bond posted

27 Sept 1960 - "Approach made by subj. who is hood indicted for gun running and stolen bond currently out on \$50,000 bond. FBI contact felt subj. interest straight profit motive or hope favorable treatment re above rap. Also believe in spite of derog info subj. could probably produce two Mig aircraft which would be brought to states by one Czech and one Cuban pilot."

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11110682

DOB 14 March 1914

4- Whitehouse Insua, Eduardo Julio aka "Teddy"

compatriot of Rothman -

5 April 1960 - report - subj (Whitehouse) lost U.S. citizenship by voting in Cuba. He & Elliot Spinning intended to take B-26

to Vera Cruz. Sam Rubin (believed to be identical @

Sam "Stretch" Rubin - chief doorman at Biltmore Terrace Hotel)

reported owner of B-26 Reg # N32446.

31 Dec 1959 - U.S. customs seized B-26 at Miami & another

(N28816) B26 at Vera Beach, when Whitehouse & Spinning attempted to move

12 Dec 1960 - Whitehouse - pilot who in 1960^{early} - responsible for setting fire to sugar crops from air.

Asked by Alberto Fernandez for help - Fernandez has set up a guerrilla organization for ex-employees.

- Whitehouse formerly head of Cuban Civil Aeronautics Administration.

13 Feb 1961 - According to Alexander I. Rorke, Jr., Whitehouse has 70 pilots available & ready to take drastic action against Castro. & have worked out a "definite plan of action" to accomplish "Castro's overthrow."

5- Orlando Piedra - 261-247879 - formerly in charge of Dept. of Investigations, Cuban National Police, under Batista.

8 Jan 1960

According to Enrique Fernandez Parajon, both he & subj (Piedra) are heading the "military section" of the counterrevolutionary group which is receiving monetary support from Batista.

4 Mar 1960 - subj met or planned to meet @ Gen. Jose

Pedraza during the latter's visit to Washington.

Report on subj. by special agent (on 27 Mar 1961) of the N.O. FBI office who handled local Cuban matters

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-6-

11110583

- member of BRAC
- fled Cuba 1 Jan 1959
- ~~late Sep 195~~ 2 Oct 1959 - received orders from Batista by Jose Suarez Nunez to immediately attempt to consolidate whatever anti-Castro forces he is able for a move against Castro with a particular cited condition,

6- Miranda Fernandez -

8 March 1961

Admitted in 1959 & 1960 had furnished aid directly to Rolando Masferrer. Now providing aid & assistance to his former military regiment who are still in Cuba working against Castro. He thinks group is associated @ FRD.

X 7- ~~Dispatch to Chief, EOR From C/S Pretoria~~

Cable to Director From [] 0828

Sept 27, 1960

"1. FBI has advised of approach made to Frank Fiorini for procurement of two MIG aircraft which would be brought to states by one Czech and one Cuban pilot. Approach made by Norman Rothman who is hood indicted for gun running and stolen bonds currently out on \$50,000 bond." 2. "FBI contact felt Rothman interest was straight profit motive or hope for favorable treatment re above rap. Contact stated no chance whatever latter and that had advised Fiorini that FBI could not handle such a deal but would pass to other

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