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MEMORANDUM

FROM: Chief, Inspection and Review Staff
SUBJECT: Alleged Indiscernable of

Chief of Station, Ciudad Trujillo,
Dominican Republic.

I. Introduction:

1. This is a report of an inquiry into alleged indiscernible

of

Chief of Station, Ciudad Trujillo.

2. This inquiry was conducted in Ciudad Trujillo between the
dates of 11 and 15 March 1957, by representatives of the IDB Staff
and WH Division.

II. Allegations of Mr. William PAULY, former U.S. Ambassador.

3. On 25 February 1957, Mr. William PAULY, former U.S. Am-

assador to Brazil, in conversation with the Director, had stated,
in part, that...somebody and an extremely
concissed boy...he wants to be in the middle of everything and he
talks to everybody in the world...he is always trying to talk to me
for information because he says I am from the government and he is
trying to get information out of me...I have seen few people who
are less discreet...I believe that he is not a man who can evaluate
a situation on its merits...not only the Dominicans are scared
to death of him but all the Americans are scared of him...I am scared
of him, and I am afraid to talk to the guy and that isn't the type
of man you want in CIA.

III. Ambassador PHILLIP's conversation with Foreign Minister of

the Dominican Republic.

4. In addition to Mr. PAULY's statement, the WH Division has
copies of Embassy dispatches No. 164 and 165 of 9 and 11 February
1957 entitled, "The MURPHY and de la TRA case" which report Am-
bassador W.A. PHILLIP's conversation with the Dominican Republic's
Foreign Minister, "DE LA TRA." The Foreign Minister, in conversation
with the Ambassador, had informally complained of the "disrespect and
impudence" of U.S. Charge d'Affaires, Richard H. STEPHENS and the
alleged "inrudescence" of Mr. BENNY questioning the veracity of official
Dominican statements pertaining to the death of a Dominican national,
de la TRA. From his conversation with the Foreign Minister, the
Ambassador reported that the Foreign Minister went on to say that
the attitudes of STEPHENS and BENNY indicated they harbored hostility
to his country, causing the Dominican government to question whether the presence in the Dominican Republic of DEFEAT and BMAT was desirable. The Foreign Minister further informed the Ambassador that the Dominican Republic was not in a position to enforce Serrano's personal persona non grata but if they persisted in their attitude of "hospitality", he would be compelled to make further representations in the premises.

5. The Ambassador's dispatches to the Department of State indicated that he did not share the views of the Foreign Minister. The dispatches, however, reveal the extent to which the Dominican Republic would apparently pursue a course of action against U.S. personnel when they considered unsympathetic to the present Dominican regime.

IV. Liaison Relations in the Dominican Republic.

6. Since the unsuccessful attempt to bribe BMAT made by the Chief of Dominican Republic Intelligence Service about a year ago, and since the disappearance of Jesus Maria de CALLEÑEZ, an alleged Pasqua Intelligence agent, a marked coolness has developed in BMAT's liaison relations with the Dominicans. Newspaper and magazine reports in the United States on the political atmosphere in the Dominican Republic (such as those shown in the attachments) and on the mysterious disappearance of a U.S. citizen, Gerald BURG, coupled with BMAT's participation in that case, appear further to have impaired the liaison relationship. These developments have been previously reported to the NC Division by BMAT in detailed dispatches.

V. Results of Interviews with Embassy Personnel.

7. In order to determine whether or not BMAT has been indirect as alleged, the following officers of the U.S. Embassy in Ciudad Trujillo were interviewed:

William T. PHILLIPS, Ambassador
Francis L. SPAULDING, Counsellor of Embassy and First Secretary
Robert K. WALKER, Second Secretary
Harry K. LOTH, Second Secretary and Consul
Richard H. STEPHENS, Second Secretary for Economic Affairs
Commander Ralph E. BISCO, U.S. Naval Attache

8. These officers, without exception speak highly of BMAT and of his integrity, loyalty, cooperation and capability. They stated that he was energetic, he had extensive contacts and sources, and he maintained a wide coverage of the local police. None of the persons interviewed recalled any incident which would indicate that BMAT was indirect. Several officers mentioned that BMAT has an incessant talker and that he has annoyed people with seemingly inescapable accounts of history and social science.
history and social sciences has long been a hobby with BENT."

The Naval Attaché stated that the extensive knowledge of history by
BENT probably was above the comprehension of some of the Report
Service officers, and he soon easily understand their amazement as he,
in conversations with BENT, has had to plead ignorance of some
of the fine points to which BENT addressed himself.

9. On the other hand, Embassy officials have found BENT to be
"secretive." His reluctance to reveal sources of information was
annoying to Embassy officers. Intelligence which BENT obtained fre-
quently was found to be valuable and timely. The reluctance of BENT
to reveal his sources, although admitted to be within his rights
to withhold such sensitive data, did cause misunderstanding among
some officials as to his service for the Embassy.

10. Except as noted above BENT was held in high esteem by his
associates. They felt that in his discussions with Americans and
Dominicans he was discreet.

11. The Ambassador was particularly high in his praise of
BENT. He stated that BENT was an asset to the Embassy and that
he (the Ambassador) really used BENT as an Special Assistant in
both social and official functions. He states that "If Allen
BULLES gave me the pick of his shop, I would choose Homer BENT."

VI. Interviews with personnel outside the Embassy.

12. In addition to Embassy personnel, Mr. Roger RIGG, Manager
of the Tryzco Company in Ciudad Trujillo, the has formerly been
cleared by CIA, and his wife, Stephanie, a former CIA employee were
interviewed independently of each other. Mr. RIGG said that BENT
was highly regarded in the American business community and that no
one had any fear of being in his company. RIGG stated that he
played golf with the members of the American business community
and had never heard BENT's name mentioned as a person to avoid.
Stephanie, RIGG teaches at the American School and spends consider-
able time playing bridge with the wives of American businessmen.
She said that apart from a dislike which some people have for
BENT because of the amount of talking that he does about history
and related subjects, he was well liked in the community and she has
never heard it said that he was incorrect or a person to be avoided.

VII. Briefing of Ambassador PEREIRA following the interviews.

13. Following the above interviews the Ambassador was informed
that the inquiry produced no evidence of misdirection on the part of
BENT. He stated that he was very pleased to hear this and that he
had hoped that such an inquiry would clear him. The Ambassador was

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informed that all of his officers had stated that DENT appeared to be too secretive in not revealing his sources of information. The Ambassador commented that he himself had personally asked several occasions, for sources without any success. He did this without expectation of learning the sources but merely to test DENT's security. The Ambassador stated that he is completely satisfied with the work of DENT and added, "you tell Allen DENT that if he writes a letter from an Airbor, I shall be glad to send it to him."

III. Interview with Dwt. DENT, Chief of Station.

14. DENT was interviewed regarding his knowledge of any incident which might have led to allegations or information on his part. He said that possibly Mr. Richard STEPHEN, at the time the latter was Charge d'Affaires, had singled him out as the "fall guy" for several of STEPHEN's actions in the MURPHY case. He said that he and STEPHEN often do not see eye to eye in their work on the MURPHY case. (This belief appears to be contrary to STEPHEN's statements made earlier to representatives of JAB and HE Division. STEPHEN had stated unequivocally that DENT was highly regarded by the Embassy staff and by himself personally in his high praise of DENT. STEPHEN volunteered to put into writing the above statement.)

15. Further, DENT said that the Dominican's displeasure of him was probably due to his assignment to the MURPHY case by STEPHEN, then Charge d'Affaires, after it was taken out of the hands of the Consul. According to DENT, inquiry into the MURPHY case, in collaboration with and at the behest of STEPHEN, probably precipitated the informal action taken by the Dominican Foreign Minister which was reported by Ambassador PIMIENTE. In addition, an order from STEPHEN, DENT had accompanied Sally CARES (the "Cisma" of MURPHY) from Ciudad Trujillo to Miami after obtaining permission to do so from Headquarters. It was DENT's belief that this was an additional factor in the Dominican Republic's displeasure with him.

II. Discussions with Mr. PALM.

16. According to and other Embassy officials, there are many U.S. citizens who have vested interests in the Dominican Republic, among whom several are mentioned as apologists for the Dominicans for business reasons, two of whom frequently mentioned during the course of this inquiry were Mr. Robert GRANDFATHER, a former Foreign Service officer, and Mr. William PALM, a former U.S. Ambassador. In particularly aware of the latter's close associates to General Trujillo. stated that he had discussed with PALM on a number of occasion some of the implications of revolutions in Latin America. This was done because believed that
PATEL's long service in the U.S. government and known position justified confidence in him. So far as I was aware, he believed that he gave no cause for Mr. PATEL to label him either for

of PATEL as a former U.S. Ambassador, believes he leaned over backwards in not presenting an anti-PATEL position because he was aware of PATEL's close ties with THOMAS.

17. _______ did state that at one time be asked PATEL for information on the CALDEREZ case. In that particular conversation, when he interjected and "quite strongly" requested this information, Mr. PATEL stated that he did not mix business and politics, and that in the Dominican Republic he was in business. _______ stated that in view of the answer he received he wished he had not asked the question.

18. In the opinion of the NI and SI representatives it is a moot question whether or not that question posed to PATEL was indirect. Regarded after the event, it probably was indirect. But regarded in the light of Mr. PATEL's previous sensitive employment and status in the U.S. government and previous relations with _______ it was a question which probably could have been asked by the most discreet U.S. employee in similar circumstances.


X. Conclusions.

19. On the basis of the foregoing, it is concluded that:

a. There was no serious evidence that the Chief of Staff on Honor DEF still was indirect in the conduct of his office.

b. The Ambassador and other Embassy officials highly praised DEF for his industry and dedication to duty.

c. Interviews, both within and without the Embassy indicated that the American business community in general regard DEF highly.

d. DEF is an intensely gregarious person who has assumed Embassy officials, at social and political functions and elsewhere the Embassy with his amateur discussion of history and social science. These same officials have been equally annoyed at what they regard as a "causal and dagger" air on his part. None of these personal characteristics, however, seem to have seriously impaired his usefulness with other present conditions is limited.
II. Recommendations.

20. It is recommended that:

a. Army BRTF complete his present tour of duty which will expire on 30 September 1957.

b. CIA evaluate the necessity for maintaining representation in the Dominican Republic.

c. The question of BRTF's future assignment be evaluated and resolved by Chief, US Division on the basis of overall performance.

D. DuANE S. LINDSAY
Chief, Inspection and Review Staff

Distribution:

Original: Addresses
1. Chief, US Division
1. EAS Subject File
1. EAS Chrono File

Attachments:

The Director:

In view of your decision to continue CIA representation in the Dominican Republic, our evaluation will be directed at whether or not a new man should be identified to the Dominican authorities as Brett was.

/A/ R. H.