

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Cuba
REPORT NO. CS CI-3/781,989
SUBJECT (fnu) CHAIN, pseudonym "Agusto"
DATE DISTR. 26 June 1964
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REFERENCES

RETURN TO CIA
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DATE OF INFO. 1964

PLACE & DATE ACQ. Washington, D.C. May 1964

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: A former Cuban IS officer who served with the Cuban Intelligence Service until April 1964.

Headquarters Comment. The following report is one of a series containing personality information provided by the source and includes supplemental information from the records of this Agency.

(fnu) CHAIN, pseudonym "Agusto", resides in Cuba and is the Deputy Chief of the Direccion General de Inteligencia (DGI - General Directorate of Intelligence) under Manuel PINEIRO. CHAIN works out of "M" Headquarters and handles large expenditures for the DGI, approval of false passports for travelers and matters concerning South America. The title "inspector" is often used as a cover for travel of DGI and Departamento de Seguridad del Estado (DSE - Department of State Security) officers abroad. When PINEIRO is not in Cuba CHAIN handles all matters. 1,2,3,4,5,6

Headquarters Comments.

- 1. Source was questioned concerning the possibility of (fnu) CHAIN being identical with Carlos Sixto CHAIN Soler, but source did not know the name or if "Agusto" was ever assigned to the Cuban delegation to the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C. The subjects of the following name traces, therefore, may possibly be identical with (fnu) CHAIN, pseudonym "Agusto", of the above report.
2. In a document dated 15 September 1958 a fairly reliable source reported the following information on a Carlos CHAIN (Gustavo):

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

Table with columns: STATE, DIA, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, NSA, XXXXX, OCR, FBI 2. Row: REP CINCLANT, CINCSO # I&NS

(Note: Field distribution indicated by "#")

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

Table with columns: WH/SA/EOB, WE/5/R, CI/LIA, IE/CANADA, LX-1522, WH/SA/MOB, WE/MADR, CI/R&A, IE/BRITISH, NO PROJECT, WH/SA/R, RID/AN, (AMUG-1), WH/SA/CI, CSCI-3/781,989, WH/WAVE, COORDINATING RELEASING, TOTALS, WNK:LD

2/BR

CI 9781989

- a. On 30 August 1958 CHAIN, national coordinator of the 26th of July Revolutionary Movement and whose responsibility it was to effect unity among Cuban political opposition groups, was arrested at the Santiago central check point when a soldier identified him as a former rebel; he was returning from a meeting with Raul CASTRO. The Cuban army was unaware of CHAIN's connection with the 26th of July Movement.
 - b. On 11 September 1958, after prolonged interrogation by military authorities, CHAIN confessed he had been a commander in the forces of Raul CASTRO, but did not confess his connection with the rebel movement. Members of the 26th of July Movement feared CHAIN would be put to death by the authorities.
3. A usually reliable source in a report dated 8 January 1963 stated that Carlos CHAIN Soler departed Cuba by air for Mexico City on 22 February 1962.
 4. During a debriefing of a Cuban source on 19 December 1962 the following information was provided on Carlos CHAIN Soler, First Secretary of the Cuban delegation to the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C., until February 1962 when Cuba was expelled from the OAS:
 - a. CHAIN, who held the rank of captain, was a security officer (sic) from the Cuban Ministry of Interior. He acted as deputy to Carlos LECHUGA Hevia, the head of the Cuban delegation to the OAS. One of his duties involved the sending of messages from the Delegation to Cuba. Eugenio ESCARRA, a Third Secretary to the Delegation, was the code clerk who received his orders for sending messages from CHAIN.
 - b. CHAIN sent coded messages by teletype or by a machine at the Delegation which transmitted messages directly to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINREX) in Habana. Both open and coded messages were sent in this manner. Messages were also relayed through the Mackay radio system. A machine at the Delegation relayed the message to the Mackay radio system. CHAIN often sent messages via the Mackay radio which were not known to LECHUGA. ESCARRA told Source that the code systems used for MINREX messages and for the Presidential Palace messages were quite different. He said the Mackay radio system was a more secure system which the Soviets had assisted in providing and had also given the instructions for its use. CHAIN used the name "Augusto" in signing messages.

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- c. CHAIN was in con tact with an Australian (name unknown) in Washington, D.C., whose friend was allegedly the head of an anti-Castro organization. On one occasion in 1961 CHAIN gave Source \$100.00 to give to the Australian to travel to Coral Gables, Florida, to meet a contact reporting on anti-Castro activities. When the Australian returned to Washington, D.C., he gave Source a large envelope which Source turned over to CHAIN. The Australian turned over similar material to a contact in the Cuban Embassy.
- d. CHAIN worked closely with Jose MOLEON Carreras, the Cuban delegate to the Inter-American Defense Staff of the OAS in Washington, D.C. MOLEON was actively engaged in gathering information and in buying publications concerning southern U.S. ports, U.S. Defense Department books, etc. Source was not sure if MOLEON worked under the direction of CHAIN.
- e. Source recalled that CHAIN often appeared as though he were afraid of ESCARRA who was a "Vieja Guardia" (Old Guard Communist).. Source felt that CHAIN was not a member of the Party.
- f. CHAIN graduated from high school in Santiago de Cuba, and, although he entered the University there as an engineering student, he did not complete his studies. He worked in his father's grocery store in Palma Soriano, Oriente Province and was a school teacher at the Escuela de Cuadros Femeninos in Habana. In 1957 he was in the Sierra Maestra mountains as a captain in the Rebel Army. In 1958 he was in the Isle of Pines prison. In early 1959 he was appointed "Coordinator Provincial de Oriente." In this position he maltreated the people of Santiago de Cuba, and an appeal was made directly to Fidel CASTRO who made a trip to Santiago de Cuba to personally investigate the trouble. As a result of CASTRO's visit, CHAIN was transferred from Santiago de Cuba to a remote location in the eastern part of Oriente Province. The transfer was made only to appease the populace of Santiago de Cuba and did not mean that CHAIN claims to be close friends with Fidel CASTRO and Carlos Rafael RODRIGUEZ Rodriguez.

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- g. Source identified CHAIN as being born about 1933 in Palma Soriano, Oriente Province, Cuba, being five feet five inches tall, weighing about 124 - 130 pounds, having dark eyes and black hair and a slim build. CHAIN is married and has one child, a boy.
5. A usually reliable source in a report dated 5 June 1964 stated that (fnu) CHAIN worked for the Department of Regional Politics in the Foreign Office in 1962 and also worked with Cuban intelligence. Prior to 1962 he attended the Departamento de Seguridad del Estado (DSE - Department of State Security) training course. Source said that CHAIN was born about 1940.
6. A source with good access to travel information reported that one Carlos CHAIN Soler, carrying diplomatic passport number D/64/355, arrived in Mexico City on 1 June 1964 and was traveling as an inspector of Embassies. On 13 June 1964 he left Mexico City for Habana.