

Palmer  
8/13/78

Conte Aguero

Luis Conte Aguero - Six Volumes - DDO

Volume I - 201-278130

SECRET

Deletions - Sealed envelopes.

① St. Dept - 22 June 1949 # 486 - 837.008/6-2249

② FBI # 105-1598 (Miami) Sept 1960

③ State Dept - 4 April 1960 Subject: Conte Aguero.

Secret - Eyes Only

④ State Cable # 2708 7 Apr 1960

⑤ FBI 14 Apr 1960 # 105-86025 (Wash. D.C.)

⑥ FBI excerpts - 13 documents

⑦ FBI - 9 June 1960 # 105-40527 (New York)

⑧ FBI - 15 Aug 1960 - Subject: Alianza De Liberacion

⑨ FBI - 19 Sept 1960 # 105-1598 (Miami) + 14 Sept 1960,  
# 105-40527 (N.Y.)

⑩ FBI - 20 Dec 1960 # 105-86025 (Wash. D.C.)

⑪ FBI - 1 July 1960 - Subject: Luis Ernesto Conte Aguero (N.Y.)

①. Personality File Request.

Luis Conte Aguero - 201-278130 - Radio Commentator

0003451

② Domestic Asset Report - no date.

Affiliation: Consejo Revolucionario Cubano.

Subject: Aguero - brash, uncontrollable, rable-rousing  
radio announcer & leader of FAC (Frente Anti-Comunista

③ Cristiano.

Alpha pay Aguero \$3,000 monthly for his  
radio program. Heads propaganda branch of  
Dr. Mirra CRC. Future plans are to have him

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Conte Aguers

replaced by a propaganda man with his feet on the ground. He is irresponsible. Man is a liability.

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② Undated memo to Pierre Salinger, Presidential Press Secretary from: Richard Helms

FBI, CIA has an operational interest in Dr. Aguers, who is considered one of the outstanding personalities among Cuban exiles. He is a forceful & effective speaker.

③ Undated, rough draft memo prepared by Vidal. Writer met with Aguers on 15 April 1960 at the request of David Phillips, Chief of the Propaganda Section, JMARC project. Phillips desirous of establishing contact with Aguers immediately because of his possible value to JMARC in the propaganda field.

Prior to meeting, Vidal checked Aguers's branch file for derogatory reports ~~(#8)~~ & summarized FBI # 105-86025 alleging Aguers is not a bona fide refugee but in fact a Castro agent. Additionally, William Pawley submitted a memo of telephone conversation on 7 Apr. 1960 between William Pawley of Miami & L.D. Mallory of ARA (sic) indicating Pawley feels Aguers may be a counterespionage for Castro.

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Conte Aguero

④ Nov. 14, 1962

Dispatch to Task Force W. from COS/JMWAVE

Subject: Operational / Gyroser / Amstrut

Info. given to Amstrut 1 by Aguero  
Aguero says about 1 Oct he met with  
Purie Salinger & later in meeting Pres. Kennedy  
entered room & talked to them & told Aguero  
he should be confident that U.S. was doing  
something on the Cuban matter. Also said  
he had a meeting with Edwin Martin of  
the State Dept. Martin was mainly interested  
in learning what would happen in Cuba  
if Castro were killed. Aguero reported to  
Amstrut 1 he had received word from inside  
that an attempt was made on Castro's life  
and as a result, 70 persons were arrested.

⑤ Copy of Cable - Gerald Droller 12 May 1960 - Miami.

Please pass following from Bender via  
Amclatter to Amwail. "Further check on  
Conte Aguero shows he OK!"

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⑥ 18 May 1960

Memo to Chief, Security Support Division

Attn: Mr. Joseph Vidal, CI/Staff

From: Interrogation Research Division

Subject: (Blank) IRD # 40176 (presumably Aguero)

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Conte Agüero

Identifying Info: Subject is 35 yr old, married Cuban national presently residing NYC. Prior to arrival in U.S. was professionally occupied as a writer & radio commentator. Was contacted & debriefed by Joseph Vidal & being considered as a possible PP asset.

Polysgraph arranged on 12 May 1960, Test designed to determine subject's attitude toward Communism & if he is clandestinely connected with Castro govt. Subject's responses to test questions do not indicate deliberate attempts at deception.

② 2 June 1960

Memo for: Alien Affairs Staff O/S

From: Martha Sharpe

Subject: Luis Conte Agüero - Request for Transfer of Parole Status from N.Y. to Miami

Agüero needed in Miami about 15 June 1960 in connection with SMARC project. Plan to use him about 2 mos. & then send him to a LA country for service in SMARC activities.

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③ Message 16 Sept 1960 From: M. Taylor to: SMASST

In 15 Sept discussion Hqs with Agüero & Boneque, former indicated he an Alianza Cohorte fully informed mission, timing, purpose proposed. Nino Diaz op & stated categorically Nino will be

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Garner 8/31/28

Conte Aguero

fighting for Alianza. In view of obvious  
& political implications feel we must ~~give~~ have  
Diaz guarantee he will not go in representing  
Alianza.

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② Volume II - Aguero

Deletions - sealed envelopes

① FBI, 2/2/61 - New York

② " 2/15/61 - Miami

③ State, 5/26/61 - Memo of Conversation

Subj: Views of well-known Cuban exile

④ FBI - 9/15/61 - Wash, DC. Anti Fidel Castro Activities

① Request for Approval or Investigative Action

6 April 1961

Subject: Luis Ernesto Conte Aguero

Request Provisional Operational Approval for use  
in South America & Caribbean area.

② 22 June 1961

Memo for Chief/W44/4 from David A. Phillips

Subject: Luis Conte Aguero

Because of uncertainty of Radio Swan, Phillips  
requests use of Conte for broadcasts over station  
WGBS at a salary of \$600 per month. Conte  
is not a member of CRE but gets along  
with them.

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Conte Aguero

③ Volume III.

Deletions - sealed envelopes

① FBI 10/13/61 Revolutionary Council (N.Y.)

② FBI 7/10/62 - #105-3196 (Miami) Christian  
Anti-Communist Front

① 3 Nov 1961

Memo for Record - E. J. Harrison

Subject: Serwitz contact with Conte Aguero

Servitz tries to persuade Conte to join CRE  
as propaganda chief.

② Dispatch 12 Feb. 1962 To: COS/SMWAUE from: Chief, WHH

Conte selected to produce & voice a 30 minute, daily  
program over station WRU - cost of operation is  
\$11,000 monthly. Agreement made in Sept 1961.

Some months later, Conte joined CRE as  
propaganda Director but neither he or  
Mr. [unclear] are pleased with arrangement.

(Note: resignation accepted 15 Feb.)

③

③ 14 June 1962

Dispatch to Chief: Task Force W from COS/Miami

Radio Americas

SM.HOPE Program director, William S. Wilbald

To send in monthly reports on Conte's broadcasts

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Conte Aguerro

Volume IV

Deletions - sealed envelopes

① FBI 26 Feb. 1963 #105-116790

Subj: Sergio Martin Vidal

② FBI 28 Oct. 1963 Miami Subj: Festivals of Liberty

③ FBI 19 Dec 1963 - (Kansas City) Subj: Mario L. Brito,  
aka Pedro Fuentes, El Inglesiot - Information  
Concerning

① 15 Feb. 1963 Dispatch to Chief, Special Affairs Staff  
from COS/JMWAVE

Subj: Progress Report for Jan 1963.

Indicates CIA funded publication of Conte  
book "Identity" & unknown to CIA, Conte  
had back cover changed to carry picture  
of Conte & Pres. Kennedy together.

② 18 April 1963 Cable IN 20433

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DIR CITE WAVE 7266

Conte reads letter to Pres. Kennedy at a  
Cuban Lions Club mtg on 14 April. Letter  
calls for Invasion of Cuba by U.S., Cubans in  
spite & Latin American armies. Questions  
credibility U.S. assurances communism will  
not be permitted to arise in other LA countries.

Conte seems to be taking stronger Anti-U.S.  
stand. (Pencilled note: John - Per our discussion:  
We are watching this closely. If Conte pulls too far  
away, we must take action.)

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Conte Aguard

CITE DIR 62418

③ 15 Aug. 1963 To JMWAUE from Director ~~#77754~~  
CIA's only interest in Conte is receiving good  
one-hour program daily in return monthly payment  
\$3,000 made via WRUL.

④ 24 Oct. 1963 IN 46330

To: Director from JMWAUE

Conte advised a (FNU) Knowland <sup>& Ruiz Williams</sup> helping him  
set up appointment with R.F. Kennedy. Conte  
to appeal for funds for "Action" by Conte  
"Sentinels of Liberty" (Note: Sentinels are individuals  
in Cuba who listen to Conte's program & mail  
him information on activities in Cuba - all  
of which is passed to CIA for interpretation.)

⑤ 29 Oct. 1963 To JMWAUE from Director # 78906

RFK Office & Crammins briefed by hdqtrs  
on purpose of Conte's visit. In both cases,  
Conte given a polite hearing but told to  
discuss his plans with CIA handlers. Went to  
impress on him his end runs in Wash. D.C.  
will not succeed in changing U.S. policy being  
executed by CIA.

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⑥ 25 Nov. 1963. IN 6770

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Conte left for Wash. D.C. on 24 Nov - unannounced  
trip. He was upset that his tribute to  
Pres. Kennedy was not broadcast. Info received



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Conte Aguirre

from AMCOUP-1 that Conte had strongly ~~but~~ criticized President's IAPA address of 18 Nov. & cut Conte off the air to insure no embarrassing statement made during Presidential mourning. Further check by Walsbald disclosed between 18 & 22 Nov., Conte had supported small exile group publicizing theme President not implementing liberation promise.

- ⑦ 11 Dec. 1963 Dispatch to Chief: Special Affairs Staff. from COS/WAVE indicates Conte preoccupied with enlargement of "Sentinels of Liberty" and was away from Florida for extended periods in November (N.Y. & Wash. D.C.)
- X

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Vol. II

Third agency deletions - sealed envelopes

- ① FBI 7 Apr 1965 #105-8145 (Miami)  
Sentinels of Liberty
- ② FBI 24 June 1965 Chicago - Plot to  
Assassinate Premier Fidel Castro during  
October Holidays 1965
- ③ Dept Justice - 1 Nov 1965 Re: Sentinels of Liberty
- ④ " " - 23 Feb 1966 - Sentinels of Liberty
- ⑤ FBI - 24 Jan 1967 (Wash. DC) Luis Conte Aguirre

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Conte Aguero

① 2 Sept 1965

Memo for Chief / WH

Subject: Meeting with Luis Conte Aguero.

2 Sept 1965. ~~Case Officer: Stephen J.~~

~~Chacon~~

Indicates Conte continuing to receive \$3000 monthly for radio program.

② Undated memo for Chief / WH

Subject: Request for Letter of Commendation for Conte.

Role played by Conte in Dom. Rep. in helping bring about resignation of General Imbert was highly effective.

③ Teletype 28 Dec 1967 to Chief Station / SAMWAVE from Chief / WH.

Conte says he was notified 30 Dec. his broadcasts would be terminated.

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Vol. VI

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Deletions - sealed envelopes.

① FBI Cable 23 Aug 1974: Subj: Luis Ernesto

Conte Aguero; Alleged Threat Against the President.

② Diplomatic passport - Luis Conte Aguero.

① Cable 19 April 1969 IN 39915

Director

TYPIC - AMSTAY

Conte amicably terminated 17 April 1969

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Conte Agüero

② 12 Feb - 1975

Subject: Whereabouts & Current Activities of Luis Conte Agüero  
Has been a car salesman for Abraham Agency  
in Miami. Writes occasionally for "Diario  
de las Americas"

ff

8/4/78 - Continued

Additional files -

DCD - 2 files

Loose documents - 1 file

CI/OA - 1 file

DCD - No notes. 1 document 7 Feb 77  
indicating Bernard Barker's attorney wished  
to question Conte (among others) to establish  
their relationship to CIA in 1960's.

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DCD -

② 25 April 1963 Memo to Chief / Contact Div.  
from: Chief, Miami Field Office

Cubans, because of the sorry spectacle of the  
CRC, feel they must reorganize & avoid getting  
involved in matters conflicting with U.S. policy.  
Dr. Ricardo Rafael Sardenias and Juan Amador Rodriguez  
wish to discuss new organization with  
John Crimmence. Said following individuals  
have indicated a desire to cooperate in  
effort to unite Cubans in exile.

Valencia, (12)  
8/4/78

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Conte Aguers

- |                             |                                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Antonio Varona              | Pascasio Lemerica                 |
| Dr. Julio Garceran          | Orlando Cuervo Galano             |
| Dr. Carlos Prio             | Jose Ignacio Rasco                |
| Dr. Carlos Marquez Sterling | Mario Cobas Reyes                 |
| Carlos Devia                | Hermenio Portell Vila             |
| Jose Ignacio Rivero         | Justavo Cuervo Reubio             |
| Jose Alvarez Diaz           | Lomberto Diaz                     |
| Paul Menocal                | Santiago Alvarez                  |
| Quiriano Sanchez Orango     | Ruben de Leon                     |
| Luis Conte Aguers           | General Generoso Campos Marquetti |
| Manuel Artime               | Jacundo Pomares                   |
| Eusebio Miyal               |                                   |

Dr. Prio stated they wished to include Felipe Pozo, Rufo Lopez Mequest, Paul Chibas & even controversial Manolo Bay as this will increase the chances of defection by members of the Cuban Armed Forces.

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Loose documents

- Third Agency deletions - 2 sealed envelopes
- ① FBI 14 Dec 1961 # 105-1998 (Miami)  
Subject: Cuban Intelligence Activities in the U.S.
- ② FBI 4 Jan. 1956 (New York)  
Subj: Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz
- ③ FBI 13 Feb 1960 - # 105-2053 (Miami)  
Subj: Frente Anti-Comunista Criticario (FAC)

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Conte Aguero

① Classified Message. 18 March 1961

To: Bell From: [Montevideo] IN 3998

Conte Aguero speaks to rally in Montevideo. He is considered best Cuban exile to come to Montevideo so far. Showed extraordinary courage in facing hostile crowd 16 March & message had terrific impact on Uruguayan population due to his eloquence & excellent prose.

//

CI/OA - # [C-278130] Luis Ernesto Conte Aguero

Third agency - one sealed envelope - Quotations from FBI reports in 201 files and polygraph report - Office of Security. 1968 - ~~present~~ 2 Dec 1975

~~Letter~~ memo in unsealed envelope dtd 16 Dec 1975

For: CI/OPS/OSG/OC

Reference Subject: Request for [POA] dated 28 Oct 1975

Subject: Luis Conte Aguero

Gives background info on Conte. No indication in file if he was [reactivated]. Mentions threat to President 23 Aug 1974.

Signed Edward Jones. Dep Dir Security

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