
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10201-10359

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 92-2781-1ST NR 1203

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : HALL, WENDELL W. JR.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 05/31/1967
PAGES : 70

SUBJECTS :
LST, ASSOC, BKG, GAMBLING ACT, RES

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4; 11(a)
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 10/21/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS :

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act of
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW
68262 Date: 09-22-2022

MM 162-633

ADMINISTRATIVE

An information copy of this report is being furnished to San Juan since they have conducted investigation in the past concerning an active associate of the subject.

Additional copies of this report are being furnished the Bureau and Tampa files of SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. because of the close relationship between EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL with TRAFFICANTE.

The investigative period of this report contains investigation conducted by auxiliary offices prior to the date of referenced Miami report which was not available at the time of the dictation of referenced report. The period of this report is extensive but all leads have been set out by the means of interoffice communications and no leads for other offices are being set forth in this report but will be set forth by appropriate communications as the leads arise.

On March 17, 1967, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Intelligence Agent TOM MENNITT advised that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL had filed income tax returns in 1964 [redacted] and in 1965 [redacted]. The returns were filed jointly with EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL and his wife, RITA. [redacted]

JFK Law 11(a)

INFORMANTS

All informants mentioned herein, unless specifically designated as being contacted by another Agent, were contacted by SA WENDELL W. HALL, JR.

REVIEWED BY ~~SA~~ JFK TASK FORCE

ON 7/22/98 *DRS* *slk*

- C -
COVER PAGE

- RELEASE IN FULL
- RELEASE IN PART
- TOTAL DENIAL

92-7781-

MM 162-633

MM T-1 is MM 883-C contacted by SA FRANCIS J. DUFFIN.

MM T-2 is RICARDO GONZALEZ ASENJO, Miami, Florida,
(protect by request).

MM T-3 is MM 1150-PC.

MM T-4 is MM 1181-PC contacted by SA FRANCIS J. DUFFIN.

MM T-5 is MM 1165-C.

MM T-6 is HAMLETO BATTISTI LORA, PCI.

MM T-7 is MIGUEL PEREZ PITA (protect by request).

MM T-8 is MM 869-PC contacted by SA WILLIAM F. HEIST.

MM T-9 is MANUEL MENENDEZ, PCI.

MM T-10 is EDWIN MARGER, Miami Beach, Florida,
(protect by request).

MM T-11 is MM 974-S contacted by SA WILLIAM MAYO
DREW, JR.

MM T-12 is MM 847-S contacted by SA WILLIAM MAYO
DREW, JR.

MM T-13 is TOM MENNITT, IRS Intelligence Unit,
Miami.

MM T-14 is RALPH CASTILLO, Hialeah, Florida
(protect by request).

MM T-15 is MANUEL RODRIGUEZ CRUZ, Miami, Florida
(protect by request).

--D* -

COVER PAGE

MM 162-633

On March 10, 1967, MM T-9 advised that JIMMY DUCA is no longer in the bolita business in Miami and he has been a lifelong friend of SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. HANLETO BATTISTI was closely associated with TRAFFICANTE in Cuba. CARLOS FERNANDEZ, a former city judge, represents most of the small bolita bankers in town but to the knowledge of the source has no connection with TRAFFICANTE.

On March 10, 1967, a 1960 Chevrolet, two-door, bearing 1966 Florida license 1-142160 was observed at the residence of GARCIA during the late evening hours. This car is registered to CANDIDO CALDERIN, 3501 Southwest 16th Street, Miami, telephone 448-3820.

On March 14, 1967, a 1966 tan Ford, 1966 Florida license 1E-10659 was observed at the GARCIA residence at noon. This car was leased by Luby Leasing to HENRY H. BRADLEY, 69 Northeast 48th Street, Miami.

On March 13, 1967, Agent JOHN WESTER, Alcohol Tobacco Tax, advised that he had heard recently that two shots had been fired through the front door of the GARCIA residence at 4001 Southwest 5th Street, Miami. According to a neighbor, GARCIA always carries a gun wrapped in a magazine or in a bag under his arm when he carries money with him.

On March 14, 1967, at 9:15 A. M., a man was observed walking from the east into the GARCIA residence. One block away it was noted there was an automobile as previously identified being registered to GABRIEL PIEDRA, a known associate of GARCIA.

On March 15, 1967, MM T-10 advised that WHITEY ECKHARDT, the owner of Florida Air Motors, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Airport, leases his airplanes to ALBERTO NAYOR, a GARCIA associate in Puerto Rico.

On March 17, 1967, MM T-13 advised that a check of the subject's activities reflected that he drove late

-46-

MM 162-633

one evening to the Avila Market, Southwest 8th Street and 36th Avenue, where he met with an unknown male in a white car. They spoke for a few moments and GARCIA returned to his residence.

This unknown male is probably MIGUEL FOX who has met with GARCIA at almost the same location on a previous occasion.

On March 20, 1967, MM T-11 stated that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL is one of the leading bolita bankers in Miami and that reportedly CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, former Cuban President, and his brother, ANTONIO PRIO have backed GARCIA from time to time.

On March 21, 1967, RICARDO FRANKLIN CUEVAS, owner, American gasoline station, 1390 Northwest 27th Avenue, Miami, advised he formerly was the owner of the A and R American station formerly located at 12th Street and Northwest 27th Avenue where he was in partnership with ALBERTO NAYOR. NAYOR never worked at the station, simply invested his money. He originally met NAYOR and LAZARO MILIAN in Cuba when NAYOR and MILIAN worked at the Capri Casino. NAYOR lives in Puerto Rico. He is also a well-known jewelry appraiser and jeweler.

On March 22, 1967, MM T-8 advised that practically all of the Cuban bolita operators are connected in some manner with SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. Source explained that when OSCAR ECHEMENDIA died, EVARISTO GARCIA took over most of ECHEMENDIA's business and that GARCIA is financed by TRAFFICANTE. Source stated that ALBERTO ARDURA also obtained a smaller share of this business and he believes that he likewise has some financial arrangement with TRAFFICANTE, possibly through GARCIA.

-47-

92-2781-

MM 162-633

On March 23, 1967, at 9:15 A. M., a black over white Chevrolet, 1966 Florida license 3E4573 and a red, two-door Mustang, 1966 Virginia license A377949 were observed at the GARCIA residence.

On March 24, 1967, the records of the Coral Gables First National Bank as reviewed by Special Agent ROBERT W. CLARKE contained no identifiable reference to EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL or his family.

On March 27, 1967, MM T-14 that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL had been subpoenaed to the Dade County Federal Grand Jury on March 23, 1967. He was represented by his attorney, OAKLEY SMITH, who also represented SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR. At the time of the subpoena GARCIA mentioned that his laundry business was doing well.

On March 28, 1967, EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL was observed in the office of the Capriss Cleaners at 12:00 noon.

On March 28, 1967, MM T-6 advised that EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL had received a subpoena to the Dade County Federal Grand Jury and appeared on March 23, 1967.

On March 29, 1967, MIKE ROMANO, U. S. Customs Agent, advised that trucks from the Capriss Cleaners for sometime had been observed picking up laundry from the cruise ships arriving in Miami and that Customs has felt that this may be a potential smuggling operation.

On March 29, 1967, MM T-13 advised that during the late evening of March 28, 1967, EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL drove in a roundabout manner to a residence at 3638 Southwest 26th Terrace and entered the residence. He remained inside until 1:50 A.M. on March 29, 1967, when an unknown male drove up in a 1965 Chevrolet bearing 1966 Florida license 1W-172961. This man was carrying a gray bag and entered the same house. About ten minutes later, the unknown male exited the house followed by GARCIA who was carrying a bank deposit bag in one hand and a rolled up magazine under his arm.

52

92-2181-

MM 162-633

GARCIA entered his car and proceeded to his residence but not in a direct route. Source stated that the above automobile is registered to HERIBERTO W. NEGRIN, 1800 Southwest 22nd Avenue, Apartment 2, Miami.

On March 29, 1967, MM T-13 advised that he had noticed the following automobiles at the residence of GARCIA: 1963 Ford Falcon, four-door, 1966 Florida license 1D-39796, registered to SOLOMON SHERMAN, 2538 Southwest 11th Street, Miami, and a 1965 Comet, two-door, 1966 Florida license 1-111132 registered to IVA R. BONNESS, 8420 Southwest 32nd Terrace.

On March 31, 1967, MM T-1 advised that GARCIA appears to be getting stronger daily and that it is rumored he is the contact who handles the protection money with the authorities in the Miami area. Recently GARCIA has been in the First National Bank in the company of a short Cuban male, about 19-20 years old, 5 feet 6 inches, 150 pounds.

On April 7, 1967, source heard that HUMBERTO TRUEBA and GARCIA had an argument over their intended business venture in Santo Domingo and were made at each other.

On April 2, 1967, the following cars were observed at the residence of GARCIA at 4:45 P. M.:

A Chevrolet, two-door, bearing 1966 Florida license 1-71238 registered to MANUEL RODRIGUEZ, 2400 Northwest 27th Avenue, Miami.

A Comet, two-door, bearing 1966 Florida license 6-6602.

On April 3, 1967, MM T-12 advised that among the Cubans involved in bolita in Miami:

-53-

MM 162-633

On April 15, 1967, at 9:45 P. M., the following automobiles were noted at the GARCIA residence: A red Volkswagen bearing 1966 Florida license 68D-3970 and a 1965 Comet bearing 1966 Florida license 6-6602. The Comet is registered to JULIO CARLOS PEREZ PEREZ, a Cuban from New York City living in Palm Beach and an active member in the Cuban Nationalists Party, in which the son of GARCIA is actively involved.

On April 10, 1967, MM T-13 advised that on March 31, 1967, GARCIA left his residence and went to the residence of TERESA LEAL after 11:00 P. M. at night and then proceeded to the 100 block of Maderia Street, Coral Gables, Florida, where he entered house number 27.

On April 11, 1967, the automobile of HERIBERTO NEGRIN, 1966 Florida license 1W-172961, was observed at the Capriss Cleaners.

On April 17, 1967, EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL was observed in his automobile at 1:00 P. M. proceeding to the house of HUMBERTO TRUEBA on Northwest 13th Street. Prior to entering the driveway of the TRUEBA house, he stopped to speak to a man in the street who then left and entered an automobile bearing 1966 Florida license 1W-130245. At 1:13 P. M. GARCIA left the TRUEBA residence and was observed at his residence at 120 P. M. The 1966 Florida license 1W-130245 is a 1963 Buick registered to SALVATORE DOMENICO, 6701 Southwest 75th Terrace.

At the residence of TRUEBA at the same time as GARCIA was a 1961 Oldsmobile, four-door bearing 1966 Florida license 1W-135584, registered to FEDERICO DE LA TORRE, 550 Northwest 56th Street, Miami.

57-

92-2786

MM 162-633

On April 18, 1967, MM T-13 advised

VFK Law 11(a)

On April 18, 1967, MM T-1 advised as follows:

GARCIA VIDAL advised the source that he had been talking with ALBERTO ARDURA recently. ARDURA told him that everything was going well and that possibly they would join forces in their bolita operation in a limited way. The source believed that VIDAL meant "layoff" operation.

GARCIA VIDAL mentioned that he was quite upset over the fact that the FBI had been surveilling and interviewing his son EVARISTICO in connection with a Revolutionary plot to bomb some embassy in Canada. He mentioned that he had no problems in his bolita operation since he was well protected from local police action.

GARCIA mentioned that he had cemented relations with friends in New York in order to obtain the lottery tickets for the New York lottery, which begins in June, 1967. GARCIA VIDAL asked the source to join him and work for him in the New York lottery ticket operation.

GARCIA told the source that he closes his "bolita bank" at midnight every Tuesday and Friday. The Tuesday closing is connected with bolita writing for the drawing of the "Puerto Rican." The Friday night closing is connected with the Saturday night drawing of the "Cuba" bolita. He told the source that he does not permit the bolita writer to make bets after midnight on these days although he himself, since he is the boss, would take a bet after midnight if it were from a friend of his.

-60-

MM 162-633

When GARCIA VIDAL came to the United States from Cuba, he had previously sent out approximately \$500,000 to a close associate in Miami, MIGUEL PEREZ PITA. PEREZ PITA had a safe deposit box in the First National Bank of Miami for EVARISTO. PEREZ PITA still has the confidence of EVARISTO and recommends people to GARCIA for loans. If PEREZ PITA recommends a man, GARCIA will loan the money.

EVARISTO used to go to the First National Bank on a daily basis and could be seen any day between 11:00 and 12 noon. He used to have a special bank officer, an American, whom he contacted to handle his business personally. This man has changed jobs and is now new business manager of a mercantile bank located on 57th Avenue and Southwest 9th Street. With this man at the other bank, source feels that EVARISTO has changed his operation to this bank.

Source has known TRAFFICANTE personally for years. He has been in personal contact during the past four years on numerous occasions asking for loans and advice. Each time he would contact TRAFFICANTE, he would do so through MACHO GENER who would arrange the meeting. GENER was formerly a representative in Cuba and was employed by TRAFFICANTE at \$100 a week to take any calls, make appointments and generally be the "arranger." GENER no longer has this position and now if source wants to contact TRAFFICANTE, he must do so through GARCIA VIDAL.

RAUL GONZALEZ JEREZ, formerly of the Club Intimo, was very close to SANTO in Cuba and presumably is a close friend. He is not connected to the bolita activities in Miami.

SANTO once mentioned to source that EVARISTO had given him \$20,000 that he needed.

Source has met with SANTO after the appointments made by GENER at the Doral Beach Hotel, Sonny's Restaurant in Miami Beach on several occasions and also several times at the Mayflower Restaurant on Northwest 36th Street and Miami Avenue.

-63-

92-2781-

MM 162-633

EVARISTO mentioned to source on one occasion that SANTO had made a lot of money in the exporting of TV and small appliances from Tampa.

SAM MONDELLO, a long time associate of TRAFFICANTE from Tampa, has recently moved into Key West and set up a gambling operation there.

On May 1, 1967, MM T-11 advised that he had learned that a Cuban named "EL CHINO" was selling Puerto Rican lottery tickets which had been brought to Miami by EVARISTO GARCIA VIDAL by means of a pilot for Dominican Aviation.

On May 5, 1967, MM T-13 advised

JFK Law 11(a)

On May 5, 1967, at 12:00 midnight, a 1966 Ford Falcon, four-door, was observed at the GARCIA residence bearing 1967 Florida license 1-46967. This car is registered to HILDA RODRIGUEZ, 1550 Zaragoza, Coral Gables, Florida.

On May 10, 1967, MM T-13 advised

64-

92-2781