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MANOLO RAY RIVERO File review, FBI, 3/17/78

File #65 - 76238

1. First telex dated June 1, 1977 to Director from San Juan
Marked "Secret"
Subject: Manuel Ray - Espionage - Cuba

On May 23, 1977, SOURCE advised that a known Cuban intelligence agent known as "CARLOS" stated that when _____ visited Puerto Rico in January 1977, she was told by Manuel Ray that he was interested in meeting with CUIS (Cuban Intelligence). RAY said he would send her a letter in Cuba for contact. "CARLOS" made it appear that CUIS did not want any connection between _____ and RAY. CUIS wants no third party involvement. Source says RAY's meeting with CUIS would be in the near future.

To date, RAY has not presented his permit to re-enter the United States for extension or reissue nor has any information been received as a result of the F1 stop placed with INS. Therefore, any foreign travel on RAY's part is not known. Subject has been observed at home and attempts being made to develop a neighborhood type source that can advise on his travel. CUIS could possibly contact RAY in the U.S. but that is not their usual method of operation.

Bureau requested to forward this information to Legats Mexico City, Caracas and CIA. (Penciled note here "Not necessary since covered in leads to Legats Mexico and Caracas and CIA S.J. tel dd 5/12/77).

2. Telex May 13, 1977 to Director from San Juan. Secret
Ref: Bureau teletype to San Juan dated 3/12/77 entitled "OCELOT"

On 4/6/77, _____ advised that during January 1977, _____ was visiting relatives in Puerto Rico. At the direction of a known Cuban Intelligence Service officer in Panama known as "The General", _____ contacted RAY. Source advised that RAY is a Cuban exile now living in Puerto Rico. In approximately 1974, RAY had a construction business in Jamacia but had to leave Jamacia due to visa reasons. Source believed Cuban government wanted RAY out of Jamacia. _____ told RAY that Cuban government wanted to help him get his business visa again in Jamacia. After the meeting with _____, RAY stated he would have to think about the Cuban offer.

Review of San Juan indices reflects RAY's involvement in anti-Castro activities in Puerto Rico and Miami -- was last affiliated with PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO del PUEBLO (PRP). File reflects that there were members of Cuban exile community who considered RAY as Pro-Castro. RAY denied this in FBI interview on 8/24/74. Said rumor based on his moderate stand that best way to get back into Cuba and to overthrow CASTRO was through negotiations with CASTRO.

_____ has been instructed to follow RAY's activities as closely as possible, consistent with appropriate security. San Juan feels that the investigation in this matter should, for the present, be extremely discreet, slow and low key. _____ FCI case progressing well, is of known quantity and has excellent potential in both pro and anti-Castro areas. Nothing should be done to jeopardize the _____ operation. If RAY finds out FBI interested in him, he will know his contact with CUIS has been blown and as a result the source of information could be traced back to _____ thereby ending the _____ usefulness to the Bureau.

Since FBI has not conducted an investigation on RAY for some time, San Juan feels that investigative technique now should be limited to contacts with established sources and record and agency checks that would not cause suspicion. Feels that surveillances, neighborhood sources, interview of RAY, mail cover, etc, would arouse suspicion and compromise _____. S. Juan feels if RAY cooperating with CUIS it will be a long going association allowing him to become more deeply involved.

Also, it is possible information on RAY was passed to _____ as a test of the _____ reliability. RAY may already have been cooperating with CUIS and therefore expected to report FBI interest in him, thereby implicating _____. The _____ FCI case which is too valuable an operation to loose, offers more potential than RAY. Even if he were eventually turned against CUIS, _____ is in a better position than RAY to infiltrate CORU for reasons set forth in their respective investigative files, and thereby enhance his work with CUIS.

San Juan feels that if for some reason the OCELOT case not successful, or start to sour, more overt techniques could be implemented in the Ray - aka Espionage Cuba, case.

The longer RAY goes without detection the harder it will be for him to pinpoint source of information should he detect FBI interest in him.

4. Teletype July 27, 1977 to San Juan from Director indicates a request is pending with CIA concerning RAY's foreign travel and also attempting to verify RAY's contacts with Jamician authorities.

5. Teletype Sept. 28, 1977, to Director from San Juan. Re: August 30, 1977 and September 2, 1977.

On September 14, 1977 (3rd agency foreign deletions - 18 lines)

Re: Telephone # 305,226-4478, a confidential source who has supplied reliable information in past advised that suscriber is MIRTA RAY, 9411 S.W. 4th Street, Apt. 405, Miami. Miami indices negative re: MIRTA RAY.

Manuel Ray review, 3/17/78

In a December 5, 1975 (?) FBI interview, RAY said he had a contact in Mexico that provided him with information from Cuba -- identified as JOSE MARMOL DIAZ, Doctor of Commercial Sciences, Roma IS, Dept. 201, Conia Juez, Mexico City. RAY said MARMOL may have G-2 connections and feeding false information to him.

On May 18, 1977, RAY's INS file reviewed in San Juan. (1 1/2 page deletion, File #A7-056-497). ----- Also, if the CIA can with due caution determine if visa work permit or similar document was revoked and then reissued by Jamician authorities.

Bureau is requested to contact their cources in Cuban exile community to get information on RAY's current activities. Miami asked to review pertinent files on RAY and forward information to San Juan.

San Juan will contact its cources and conduct an appropriate investigation to determine subject's current activities and contacts. San Juan wishes to eventually interview RAY with goal of recruiting him as an Operation Asset directed against CUIS.

Interview being held in abeyance pending further investigation. Interview premature now as not enough information available to conduct a thorough and probing interview nor is there enough material to confront subject with.

San Juan feels that this case offers excellent potential for a double agent operation targeted against CUIS.

San Juan aware careful planning necessary to protect _____ and its valuable source.

3. July 6, 1977, San Juan to Director. Secret. Ref. San Juan teletype to Director June 1, 1977.
San Juan has evaluated this matter and makes following observations.

The initial allegation concerning RAY was made by _____ who learned of CUIS interest in RAY from CUIS itself, and from _____. In addition, _____ reported that RAY consented to meet with CUIS. Apart from CUIS, there are no other individuals known to be aware of CUIS interest in RAY other than the individuals referred to above. Accordingly, the allegation concerning RAY is singular in nature and therefore an investigation of RAY be extremely discreet. _____ reported on 6/2/77 RAY indicated interest in participation in CORU. This indicated RAY acting under direction of CUIS as he has not been active in anti-Castro movement in last two years.

Manolo Ray:

October 12, 1964 memo from San Juan, marked Secret.
Subject: JURE

States that another government agency furnished information that RAY was friendly with members of Puerto Rican group which plotted to assassinate President Truman. RAY is a good friend of Puerto Rican Communist PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS. When the White House was being renovated, RAY had contact with Puerto Ricans engaged in that work. He made many phone calls to the United States (particularly Washington, D. C.) while he still lived in Cuba. Made calls from home of CARLOS GOVANTES who is an architect and may now be living in Kansas City, Missouri and probably employed by Klipper Company. Carlos has a brother Henry in Silver Springs, Md.

RAY has many enemies in Cuba who know him as a Communist. Some of his supporters are working for Communists in Cuba.

A file summary on Ray states as follows:

Resume of RAY received by Bureau 6/22/64. RAY was an architect in Ministry of Public Works during Batista regime and at same time traitorously Chief of July 26 Movement in Havana; great friend of Engineer (FNU) ARROYO, Minister of Public Works under Castro; sanctioned as Minister, the Ten Laws of President MANUEL URRUTIA, which led to communization of Cuba; denied refuge to his brother, Rene, which resulted in the latter's being killed; and continued as Minister and a friend of Castro after his brother's death.