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JFK Assassination System
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9 REC-89 105-72630 - 26

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(JFK)

Date: July 21, 1959
To: Office of Security
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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The subject is the former Cuban Air Force officer who recently arrived in the United States and is at the present time testifying before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security.

On July 15, 1959, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that one [Bill Atwood] who may be identical with an employee of [Look] magazine of the same name, conferred with Luis A. Baralt, Consul General of Cuba, New York City. According to our source, Atwood advised [Baralt] that the subject was hiding in Havana three days before he contacted the Americans and as a result of his getting out of Cuba, he is now testifying in order to justify his trip. [Atwood] was of the opinion that, while there is no doubt that there is communist infiltration taking place in Cuba, to call Castro a communist is fantastic.

[Baralt] advised [Atwood] that the subject's half brother, Sergio Diaz Bru, is a distant relative of his and the black sheep of the family. [Baralt] pointed out that when he met Sergio Diaz Bru in Washington, D. C., and was told by him that his brother, the subject, was bringing him into the Cuban Air Force, he, [Baralt] was amazed because he knew Sergio Diaz Bru had been wanted.

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ON 10-8-97 (JFK)

- Tolson _____
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- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

JFW:tw
(11)
SEE NOTE PAGE 3.
53 AUG 4 1959

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Office of Security
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by the police in Havana for about fifteen years since he was involved in a \$150,000 swindle concerning a shrimp deal. [Baralt] in referring to the subject's character pointed out that Sergio Diaz Bru, according to newspaper accounts, was sitting with the subject at the hearings of the above-mentioned Subcommittee. [X]

[Atwood] was of the opinion that the situation in Cuba will not be helped by the subject's testimony and that the thing to do is to get to Castro and calm him down. [Atwood] further pointed out that incidents similar to the subject's testifying arouse Castro and this gives ammunition to those around him who are trying to push him in the wrong direction. In commenting that fortunately people have not given up in Cuba [Atwood] advised [Baralt] that the United States Ambassador in Cuba was very good and that the Central Intelligence Agency had advised him that it is still trying to do something sensible. In addition, according to [Atwood] Carlos Franqui, who may be identical with the editor of the July 26 Movement newspaper "Revolution" and who once worked for the Communist Party publication "Hoy," can be very helpful. [X]

The foregoing is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated outside your agency.

- 1 - Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Attention: Deputy Director, Plans
- 1 - Immigration and Naturalization Service
- 1 - Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence
Department of the Army
Attention: Chief, Security Division
- 1 - Director of Naval Intelligence
- 1 - Office of Special Investigations
Air Force

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NOTE: Classified "~~Confidential~~" since its disclosure
may indicate our investigation of a foreign representative
to the United States, [Baralt] X

(S)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 15 1959

TELETYPE

125-77630

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

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URGENT 7-15-59 4-28 PM JLW

TO DIRECTOR 4

FROM SAC NEW YORK 4P (Foreign Political Matter)

PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ, FPM - CUBA. ON JULY ONE FIVE INSTANT, NY TWO
FOUR NINE FOUR DASH S ASTERISK, ADVISED THAT ONE BILLY ATWOOD PH/
CONTACTED LUIS A. BARALT, CONSUL GENERAL OF CUBA, NYC, AND ATTEMPTED TO
ARRANGE A LUNCHEON ENGAGEMENT. BARALT ADVISED THAT HE WAS HAVING LUNCH
WITH BOB TABOR /PH/, A NEWSPAPER MAN. ATWOOD STATED THAT HE KNEW TABOR.
ATWOOD THEN STATED QUOTE "I WAS INVOLVED IN THAT DIAZ LANZ THING TO
SOME EXTENT" UNQUOTE. BARALT THEN ASKED IF HE HAD FOUND OUT ANYTHING
ABOUT IT TO WHICH ATWOOD ANSWERED "YES, THIS IS QUITE A THING, HAS
A LOT BEHIND IT. IN A WAY HE IS SINGING FOR HIS SUPPER. HE WAS
HIDING IN HAVANA FOR THREE DAYS AND CONTACTED THE AMERICANS, I THINK
THE FBI GOT HIM OUT IN A BOAT, AND AS A RESULT I THINK HE IS KIND OF
SINGING FOR HIS SUPPER. I THINK THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS

END PAGE ONE

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Mr. Belmont

Ref to State REC-89
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7-20-5
J.F.W. 3/27/98

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NAT. INT. SEC.

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PAGE TWO

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION TAKING PLACE, BUT TO MAKE THESE CHARGES OF CASTRO BEING A COMMUNIST AND ALL THAT IS JUST FANTASTIC. AND, WHAT HE IS DOING IS HE IS JUST JUSTIFYING HIS TRIP. AND THERE WAS A LOT OF SHENANIGANS IN THE AIR FORCE. HE, HIMSELF, WAS CONSIDERABLY INVOLVED IN NEPOTISM. THE AIR FORCE WAS SITTING DUCKS FOR ANY ATTACK. "

[BARALT]^(S) THEN ASKED " DO YOU REMEMBER THE STORY I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT HIS HALF-BROTHER WHO IS A DISTANT RELATIVE OF MINE... HE IS THE BLACK SHEEP OF THE FAMILY, AND IS CALLED SERGIO DIAZ BRU /PH/, AND I MET HIM IN WASHINGTON AND HE HAD TOLD ME THAT HIS BROTHER, DIAZ LANZ WAS BRINGING HIM INTO THE AIR FORCE, IN AN IMPORTANT POSITION THERE. WHEN I HEARD THAT, I SAID MY GOD, THE AIR FORCE IS GOING TO POT, BECAUSE THIS GUY, SERGIO DIAZ, COULD NOT EVEN GO TO HAVANA AS HE WAS WANTED BY THE POLICE FOR ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS.. NOT FOR POLITICAL REASONS, BUT BECAUSE HE HAD CHISELED ABOUT ONE FIVE ZERO THOUSAND DOLLARS IN A SHRIMP DEAL INVOLVING SOME INVESTORS I KNOW. ASIDE FROM

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THAT, HE HAD MANY OTHER DIRTY DEALS. YESTERDAY I READ IN THE NEWS THAT SERGIO WAS SITTING IN WITH DIAZ LANZ IN THIS INTERNAL SECURITY HEARING. SO, YOU CAN IMAGINE WHAT KIND OF A CHARACTER...". [ATWOOD]^(S) THEN STATED "I KNOW THE SITUATION THERE IS NOT GOING TO BE HELPED BY THIS TYPE OF THING AND THE ONLY WAY THEY CAN HELP THINGS DOWN THERE IS TO GET TO FIDEL AND CALM THINGS DOWN, AND THIS CAN BE DONE, BUT WHEN THINGS LIKE THIS HAPPEN HE FLARES UP AND THIS GIVES AMMUNITION TO THOSE AROUND HIM, WHO ARE TRYING TO PUSH HIM IN THE WRONG DIRECTION. FORTUNATELY PEOPLE HAVE NOT GIVEN UP DOWN THERE. OUR AMBASSADOR IS VERY GOOD AND CIA CALLED ME ABOUT IT AND THEY ARE STILL WORKING TRYING TO DO SOMETHING SENSIBLE. I HAD A VERY INTERESTING TIME WITH CARLOS FRANQUI TOO, WHOM I BELIEVE CAN BE VERY HELPFUL". [BARALT]^(S) ASKS IF [ATWOOD]^(S) SAW DE LA CARRERA /PH/ DOWN THERE /Q/ TO WHICH [ATWOOD]^(S) REPLIED THAT HE DID AND HE WENT OUT TO HIS HOUSE UNQUOTE. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT THE FILES OF THE NYO REFLECT THAT ON FEBRUARY SIX ONE NINE FIVE SEVEN, [NY ONE]^(S)]

END PAGE TWO ^{WO} ~~THREE~~

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~~PAGE THREE FIRST LINE SHOULD BE -PAGE THREE-~~

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[FIVE ONE NINE DASH ASTERISK] ADVISED THAT ONE [EDWARD WILLIAM STEVENS] CONTACTED A [BILL ATWOOD] AT THE OFFICES OF LOOK MAGAZINE FROM MOSCOW, USSR, REGARDING [STEVENS] PASSPORT. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT THE MAY, ONE NINE FIVE NINE ISSUE OF THE "NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN" REFLECTS THAT CARLOS FRANQUI IS EDITOR OF THE JULY TWENTY-SIXTH MOVEMENT NEWSPAPER, "REVOLUTION" AND ONCE WORKED FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN "HOY". THE ABOVE IS BEING FURNISHED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU.

END

WA R NY 4 DM

CC--MR. BELMONT

SECRET