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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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Report of: SA THOMAS H. ERRION Office: MIAMI
Date: FEB 19 1959

File Number: MIAMI 105-1684 BUREAU 105-74151

Title: ALBERTO BLANCO ROMARIZ;
OSVALDO ANTONIO CASTELL y VALDEZ;
ALBERTO CRESCENCIO de la CRUZ MENENDEZ OLITE

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

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Synopsis:

[The Cuban Nationals who, in October, 1958, reportedly identified themselves to the Jamaica Constabulary, Cayman Island, British West Indies (BWI) as ALBERTO BLANCO and ANTONIO GUZMAN, were subsequently identified as ALBERTO CRESCENCIO de la CRUZ MENENDEZ OLITE and OSVALDO ANTONIO CASTELL y VALDEZ. They, along with ALBERTO BLANCO ROMARIZ, also a Cuban National, were passengers in the airplane flown by CHARLES WILLIAM HORMEL, an American, on 10/26/58, from Florida to Cayman Island, BWI, in an attempt to fly a load of guns to Cuba.] (S) MENENDEZ and CASTELL were left at Cayman Island while BLANCO returned with HORMEL to Florida. No charges placed by U. S. Customs against Cubans. ALBERTO BLANCO ROMARIZ now captain in the Directorio Revolucionario (DR), a Cuban revolutionary organization, and assigned to Havana, Cuba. MENENDEZ deported from U. S. to Mexico 12/30/58. Father of CASTELL reported son not in U. S. in November, 1958.

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DETAILS:

-C- AGENCY: 100, Lab. 660, State, CIA,
RE: C-2, OTE 105, Havana
DATE FORW: 3/6/59
HOW FORW: Customs
BY: [Signature]

On November 28, 1958, MM T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised that two individuals, who originally gave their names as ALBERTO BLANCO and ANTONIO GUZMAN, arrived in Cayman Island, BWI, on October 26, 1958, as passengers in the airplane piloted by an American named CHARLES WILLIAM HORMEL. Those two individuals were left (S)

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behind when HORMEL and a third passenger departed Cayman Island. The source stated that the correct names of the above two individuals, as ascertained by source, were ALBERTO CRESCENDO de le CRUZ MENENDEZ and OSWALDO ANTONIO CASTELL y VALDES. The name of the third passenger on the plane was said to be ALBERTO (LNU), and no further details concerning him were known to the source. (S)

MM T-1 also stated that MENENDEZ furnished his address as 1920 Michigan Avenue, Miami, Florida, and CASTELL's address was 1918 Southwest 3rd Avenue, Miami, Florida. (S)

The source stated that subsequent to the departure of CHARLES WILLIAM HORMEL and his third passenger, ALBERTO (LNU), a cache of arms was found near the air-strip in Cayman Island. Source said that MENENDEZ and CASTELL admitted they had unloaded the arms from HORMEL's plane, hidden them, and intended to move them on to Cuba. (S)

The "Miami Daily News", a Miami newspaper, in its May 31, 1957 issue, contained an article reflecting that ALBERTO BLANCO, of 1019 Southwest 24th Road, Miami, was one of those arrested by the Miami Police for their part in the demonstration connected with an attempt to march on the Cuban Consulate in Miami, Florida, on May 31, 1957.

The "Diario Las Americas", a Spanish Language newspaper published daily in Miami, Florida, contained in its issue of June 7, 1957, a photograph of ALBERTO BLANCO, and the caption indicated that he was fined \$150.00 for participating in a demonstration in an attempt to march on the Cuban Consulate in Miami.

MM T-2, on February 10, 1958, advised that information from Cuban sources reflected that 25 members of the Directorio Revolucionario (DR), under the leadership of FAURE CHOMON, left Florida aboard an unknown vessel. ALBERTO BLANCO, according to T-2, reportedly participated in this expedition.

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