

Agency Information

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FROM : SAC, NY
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

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SUBJECTS :

MR, INTV, PEDROSO, EMILIO ECHARTE, REL, ASSOC, TRA,
CUBAN INTEL ACT, US, MX

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF DATE
5-15-84~~

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-180256)

DATE: 4/25/69

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (105-95685) (P)

SUBJECT: CHANGED
EMILIO ECHARTE PEDROSO, aka
"POM", "POMPI"

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT. *Jm 9-3-97*

Title has been "Changed" to include the code names,
"POM" and "POMPI", which were briefly assigned to the subject
by Cuban intelligence.

ReNYairtels to the Bureau, 4/4/69 and 4/18/69.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 9 copies of an LHM dated and
captioned as above, setting forth results of 4/3/69 interview
of subject.

Along with the three copies of the LHM enclosed for
San Juan are two photographs, one each of the subject and his wife,
FIDELIA ABIGAIL BALSINDE y MOYA.

- 6-Bureau (Encls. 9) (RM)
 - (1-Legat, Mexico City) (105-7049)
 - (1-Legat, Ottawa) (105-3400)
 - (1-105-92239) (MIGUEL ROCHE MONROY)
 - (1-105-132914) (RAMON RODRIGUEZ, aka "POCHO")
- 4-Miami (105-15880) (Encls. 4) (RM)
 - (1-105-11814) (CARLOS FERRET)
 - (1-105-) (EDDIE SUAREZ)
- 1-New Haven (Encl. 1) (Info) (RM)
- 3-San Juan (105-11384) (Encls. 5) (RM)
 - (1-105-7247) (RAMON RODRIGUEZ, aka "POCHO")
- 2-Tampa (105-0) (Encls. 2) (Info) (RM)
 - (1-105-335) (FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ)
- 1-NY 39-396 (EMILIO ECHARTE)
- 1-NY 65-23342 (RAMON RODRIGUEZ, aka "POCHO")
- 1-NY 105-NEW (UNSUB; aka "TITO, The Barber")
- 2-NY 105-95685)

FILE:mfw
(21)

ENCLOSURE

[ICC LHM to CIA for info] [AHS/HLD/bhg. 5-5-69]

[ICC of LHM to Leg OFF for ACTION - 7/23/69] [AHS/bhg] [You MAY WISH to PASS copy to ReMP] [cc RAO/LS] [AHS/ch]

LATIN-AMERICAN

SIX

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

~~SECRET~~

REC-17
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

0-1 MM #2
7/3/69
JFK 8-1

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CLASSIFIED BY 56685ud/lec
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X (X) 1
5/21/98

Classified by 56883 fcl
Declassify on: OADR 7/84

105-180256-129

May 13 1969

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5/21/98



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NY 105-95685

The attached LHM has been classified "Secret" inasmuch as it contains admissions of a Cuban intelligence agent and in view of the [double agent potential] of subject. (S)

(u) The Bureau may wish to limit dissemination of the attached LHM to CIA only for the time being, inasmuch as previous LHMs setting forth statements made by the subject on 2/5 and 7/69, were thus limited in distribution.

It will be noted that the subject, whose current code name in Cuban intelligence is "POCHO", now states he was in Puerto Rico in about June 1964. This information relates very closely to the time that RAMON RODRIGUEZ, aka "POCHO", a Cuban intelligence agent still unidentified, came to the attention of the Bureau. (S)(u)

Investigation at San Juan, which is set forth in the attached LHM was conducted by SA VINCENT MILACCIO, JR.

REQUESTS OF THE BUREAU

Legat, Mexico City should be alerted that subject claims he telephonically contacted "MICKEY" (ENRIQUE MIGUEL CICARD LABRADA) at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City in about November or early December, 1967, again around the end of December, 1967, or early January, 1968, and then finally about February or March, 1968. In doing so, the subject used his code name "POCHO".
If Legat, Mexico City has sources through which these contacts could be confirmed, it should be done. (S)(u)

Legat, Mexico City should also note subject now states he was to meet Cuban G-2 agent "JACOBO" in Canada about October, 1967, and not at Mexico City as he previously stated. (S)(u)

CIA has advised that one CARLOS ENRIQUEZ RODRIGUEZ, aka "JACOBO", a high level DSE official, traveled to Mexico from Cuba on 4/1/67 and returned 4/3/67. If Legat, Mexico City can make available a photograph of CARLOS ENRIQUEZ RODRIGUEZ, it should be forwarded to NYO to be shown to the subject. (S)(u)

It is requested that Legat, Ottawa ascertain through the RCMP whether or not CARLOS ENRIQUEZ RODRIGUEZ, mentioned above, visited Canada any time around mid-October, 1967. If there is no (S)(u)

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NY 105-95685

record of any Canadian visit by this individual, then Legat, Ottawa, should ascertain if any Cuban official answering to the description of [Cuban G-2 agent, "JACOBO"^(S) a white male about age 34, 5' 9", 170 pounds, straight black hair) visited Canada about October, 1967. If so, obtain identity and forward photo, if available, to NYO for exhibition to the subject. ~~(S)~~

If either Legat Mexico City or Legat Ottawa have any other photographs of [suspected G-2 agents] which they would like to have shown to the subject for possible confirmation of [Cuban intelligence affiliation], forward same to NYO. ~~(S)~~

LEADS

Note that any pertinent information developed in connection with this case should be incorporated in an LHM with consideration given to classifying same as "Secret" and alerting the Bureau that limited dissemination may be desirable.

MIAMI

At Miami, Florida

Interview CARLOS FERRET and ascertain whether or not he ever traveled to Mexico with the subject. If so, obtain details of the trip and identification of contacts made during the trip. Refer to WFO airtel to the Bureau, 3/25/69 and exercise caution not to reveal that [MIGUEL ROCHE MONROY] disclosed that the subject told him he had traveled to Mexico with FERRET. ~~(S)~~

It is noted that PEDRO SANTIESTEBAN has advised Miami Office that one PEDRO MARTINEZ was one of the individuals who arrived in the boat, "Leda", with the subject. Attempt to locate and interview MARTINEZ concerning circumstances under which he happened to escape in the "Leda" and determine what he knows of subject's background and activities.

Consider obtaining through SANTIESTEBAN and PEDRO MARTINEZ the identities of other individuals who fled Cuba in the "Leda" and conducting similar interviews concerning their knowledge of subject's background and activities.

Subject stated in the interview of 4/3/69 that he had contacted SANTIESTEBAN almost immediately upon arrival in Miami and through him obtained a room in the building next to the garage where SANTIESTEBAN was working. Subject also said he remained in Miami 35 to 40 days and used the garage telephone for calls to

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activities were, what reasons he stated for being in Puerto Rico, and what personal data he revealed concerning himself, and also how she became acquainted with him.

Attempt to ascertain where HERMINIO CASANOVA MACHADO, aka "TITO, the Barber", had his barber shop in NYC and when he moved his residence and business to Puerto Rico.

Recontact PELAYO FRAGA SEOANE, of Maiz and Fraga, Stop 23 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Santurce, who is a cousin of MANUEL RODRIGUEZ SEOANE. Determine whether or not he and MANUEL RODRIGUEZ SEOANE are related to JORGE LUIS FRAGA y DE ARMAS, a long-time CASTRO sympathizer and SI subject of NYO who resides at 113 West 96th St., NYC, and is employed as a barber in the Majestic Barber Shop located at 2554 Broadway, NYC. If PELAYO FRAGA KNOWS this individual, also determine whether or not JORGE LUIS FRAGA was ever known by the nickname, "TITO". For your information, JOSE LUIS FRAGA was born on 10/7/23 at Serro, Havana, Cuba, and is married to ROSA VELASCO. He has refused to talk to Bureau Agents in the past and has referred them to his attorney.

TAMPA (INFO)

For the information of Tampa, subject now states that when MANUEL RODRIGUEZ SEOANE of Cuban G-2, mentioned "TITO, The Barber" (an unidentified Cuban G-2 agent) in late 1963 or early 1964, he said that "TITO, The Barber" was located in New York. Therefore if FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ was not in New York at that time (late 1963 or early 1964), he probably is not identical with "TITO, The Barber". In the event FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ was in New York at that time, so advise NYO and additional data concerning the subject will be furnished Tampa.

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

- (1) Will recontact Warden's Office at FCI, Danbury, Connecticut, for polygraph testing of subject, and will advise Bureau of any change in administrative policy in this regard.
- (2) Will give consideration to another interview of subject.
- (3) Will consider interviewing subject's wife.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York, New York
April 25, 1969

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1/7/98
CLASSIFIED BY 5668-SID/mde
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X (D) (JFK)

~~SECRET~~

#24,326
Classified by SP8 BTX/ced
Declassify on: OADR 5/1/84
(SP8 mde/ced)
(JFK) mde

Emilio Echarte Pedroso
Internal Security - Cuba;
Falsely Claiming Citizenship

On February 20 and 24, 1969, a check of the records of the Holiday Inn, Isla Verde, San Juan, Puerto Rico, for guests registered during 1967 disclosed no registration record in subject's true name or known aliases.

On February 24, 1969, the records of the San Jeronimo Hotel, Condado Beach, San Juan, were similarly searched. The records indicated that Emilio Echarte, 3300 16th Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., registered at that hotel on October 13, 1967. He was accompanied by another person who was not identified on the registration card. They departed the hotel on October 16, 1967. The bill indicated that Echarte was registered in Room 307. Two local telephone calls were charged to this room, but no record was made of the numbers called. On October 14, 1967, a long distance call was charged to Room 307 at a cost of \$14.50. On October 15, 1967, a long distance call costing \$7.50 was charged to the room. The hotel records indicate that the October 14, 1967 call was placed by Mrs. Echarte at 1:35 p.m. to telephone number 462-8916, Washington, D. C. There is no record of the October 15, 1967 telephone call.

The hotel records further indicated that on October 14, 1967, Mrs. Echarte sent a 21 word RCA cablegram to Juana Maria Pedroso, Havana, Cuba. The charge for this cablegram was \$4.41. There is no additional information available regarding this cablegram.

Copy to NSA(P-2) Attain Thomas Sharp
by routing slip for
info action
date 4/4/73
by HLD/zy

(S) (u)

Rev NSA
letter 2/27/98
mde.

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Group 1
Excluded from
automatic downgrading
and declassification

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105-180256-129

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

Emilio Echarte Pedroso

Date 4/15/69

On April 3, 1969, EMILIO ECHARTE-PEDROSO read and signed a Rights Waiver form printed in Spanish. He was then interviewed in English by Special Agents FRANCIS I. LUNDQUIST and JOSEPH T. CORRIGAN who identified themselves to him as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). ECHARTE then voluntarily furnished the following information:

After ECHARTE and his companions fled Cuba in the boat, "Leda", they encountered an English ship about 27 miles off the Florida coast. They were taken aboard this vessel and the United States Coast Guard was notified. Soon thereafter, the United States Coast Guard removed ECHARTE and his companions and took them ashore. ECHARTE's boat, "Leda", was towed into Key West, Florida, and ECHARTE subsequently sold it for \$1,000. *7ea Cuba*

Almost immediately after ECHARTE arrived in Miami, he placed a telephone call to PEDRO SANTIESTEBAN who was then working in a garage. The garage telephone number was located through a telephone directory. ECHARTE took a taxi to the garage, business name unrecalled, and SANTIESTEBAN took ECHARTE to the building next door which was 729½ North Miami Avenue, and assisted ECHARTE in arranging to rent a room in that building.

Cuba Shortly thereafter, ECHARTE telephoned his mother and OLGA PEREZ VALLE, his mistress, in Cuba, and advised them of the address he was rooming at in Miami. He informed his mistress that he would call her at a specific time on a later date, and that she was to have MANUEL RODRIGUEZ SEANE (hereinafter referred to as MRS. SEANE) who was ECHARTE's superior in Cuban G-2 *76* at her residence when he next called, so that he could speak to MRS. ECHARTE did make the scheduled call from the garage where SANTIESTEBAN was employed and was thereby able to speak to MRS. without placing a direct call to him. He believes he repeated this procedure a second time while in Miami and thus kept in contact with MRS. *78*

On 4/3/69 at Federal Correctional Institution Danbury, Connecticut File # _____

by SAS JOSEPH T. CORRIGAN and FRANCIS I. LUNDQUIST/mfw Date dictated 4/9/69

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Emilio Echarte Pedroso

ECHARTE said he wrote two letters while he was in Miami to his mistress which she in turn carried to ~~MRS~~ ~~X~~ These letters were intended to keep ~~MRS~~ ~~X~~ informed of his (ECHARTE's) whereabouts and his progress with his assignment to assassinate MANOLO RAY. ECHARTE said that neither ~~secret inks~~ ~~X~~ nor ~~code~~ ~~X~~ were used in these letters. Instead, he conveyed his messages through the use of double-meaning phrases. ~~(S)~~ ~~X~~

ECHARTE remained in Miami about 35 to 40 days before proceeding to Washington, D. C. During this time he made a number of trips to Key West while trying to sell the "Leda". He believes he made the flight to Washington D. C. via Eastern Air Lines and upon arrival in Washington, D. C., he moved in with his wife in a first floor apartment at 3648 16th Street, Northwest. His wife was then working as a domestic for a Mrs. MAHAM (phonetic). ECHARTE, while in Washington, D. C., worked for a few days as a laborer with a construction company, name now unrecalled. He said that he placed one telephone call from his wife's telephone to his mother in Cuba, but that he made no telephone calls to his mistress while he was in Washington, D. C.

ECHARTE stayed in Washington, D. C. for approximately 20 to 30 days, then took a one-way flight from National Airport to San Juan via Eastern Air Lines, he believes. In Puerto-Rico, he resided in a rented room in Santurce, Puerto Rico. He is uncertain of the exact street address there, but believes it was Monserrate #702. He obtained these accommodations in Santurce by walking the streets looking for a rental, without help from anyone. He said he had made no arrangements to make any intelligence meet in Puerto Rico and did not meet anyone for this purpose. However, in Puerto Rico, he met two former Cuban acquaintances, CARLOS CRUZ and JORGE (last name unknown). CRUZ was encountered on a bus, and ECHARTE met JORGE (last name unknown) by chance on the street.

ECHARTE knew that ~~MANOLO RAY~~ ^{P.R.} was then employed as an engineer in one of the departments of MUNOZ MARIN's Government. He did ascertain through a telephone directory that RAY was then residing at Urbanization Roosevelt in Rio Piedras, and one day he did walk through this area hoping to see RAY and to observe the specific area. However, he did not see RAY that day, never made any further attempt to locate RAY, and never actually saw RAY at any time while he was in Puerto Rico.

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Emilio Echarte Pedroso

While ECHARTE was in Puerto Rico, he wrote one or two letters to his mistress who, he knew, would transmit them to ~~MRS~~ ~~(S)~~. In the letters he indicated he was proceeding with his assignment in Puerto Rico, although this was actually untrue. ~~No~~ code or secret inks were used in his letters, only ~~[~~ double-meaning phrases. ~~](S)~~

ECHARTE said that in one of his letters to his mistress, he indicated, for the information of ~~MRS~~ ~~(S)~~ that the mission (the plot to assassinate MANOLO RAY) was impossible, and he was abandoning it. He said he subsequently told ~~MRS~~ ~~(S)~~ via telephone that every time he saw RAY at his residence, RAY had his children with him, and he could not assassinate RAY without killing the children, and he did not want to do this, as it would adversely arouse public opinion. ECHARTE said that although he used this excuse to ~~MRS~~ ~~(S)~~ it was completely false, and that when he left Cuba he had no intention of assassinating RAY. He insists he only accepted the assignment as a means of getting out of Cuba.

~~(S)~~ ECHARTE stated he received no phone calls or letters back from his mistress or ~~MRS~~ ~~(S)~~ while he was in Puerto Rico. He also asserted he had no contact with anyone from the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) or any other Puerto Rican independence organization. After 20 to 25 days in Puerto Rico, he returned to Washington via Eastern Air Lines on a one way ticket purchased in Puerto Rico.

In about June, 1964, he returned to Puerto Rico and registered at the Americana Hotel. The purpose of this trip, he said, was to spend time with a Dominican woman in whom he had become romantically interested during his first trip to Puerto Rico. He identified the woman as DULCE MARIA PINEDA who resided in the vicinity of Fernandez Juncos and 11th Street, Santurce, Puerto Rico. He stated he was unable to recall this woman's exact address and insists that his contacts with her had nothing whatsoever to do with Cuban intelligence.

ECHARTE remained in Puerto Rico about 45 days on this occasion. He said he neither received nor sent any messages during this stay in Puerto Rico, and made no Cuban intelligence contacts with either Cubans or Puerto Rican Independists. He believes he traveled via Eastern Air Lines both ways between Washington, D. C. and Puerto Rico.

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Emilio Echarte Pedroso

According to ECHARTE, "JACOBO" impressed him as being a peasant or hillbilly type who had advanced rapidly to high responsibility in the revolutionary government. He described ~~JACOBO~~ as a white male, about age 34, 5' 9", 170 pounds, with straight black hair. ECHARTE presumes that "JACOBO" was either a nickname or a code name, and insists he does not know this individual's true full name. "JACOBO" was dressed in civilian clothes on both occasions ECHARTE met this individual.

After ECHARTE had received telephonic instructions from MRS to meet with "JACOBO" in Canada, ECHARTE then went to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) office in Washington, D. C. to arrange for a re-entry permit so that he could return to the United States after this proposed meet with "JACOBO". When ECHARTE was unable to make the necessary arrangements with INS, he placed another telephone call from Washington, D. C. to MRS in Cuba. He informed MRS he was unable to make the trip to Canada in time to meet "JACOBO".

ECHARTE then suggested to MRS that he might be able to travel to Mexico within a month or two. MRS indicated this would be satisfactory, and that when ECHARTE arrived there, he should contact "MICKEY" at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. MRS indicated that "MICKEY" would be alerted to expect a contact from "POCHO" (Cuban G-2 code name for ECHARTE). MRS told ECHARTE that "MICKEY" was a former acquaintance of ECHARTE, and furnished sufficient information so that ECHARTE was able to recall "MICKEY" as the former bodyguard of MANUEL PINEIRO LOSADA, also known as "Red Beard". (S)

In about November or early December, 1967, ECHARTE placed a telephone call from Washington, D. C. to "MICKEY" at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. ECHARTE identified himself as "POCHO" in making this call, and indicated he would soon make personal contact in Mexico City. "MICKEY" did not seem surprised to receive this phone call and was apparently expecting contact from "POCHO".

"ECHARTE said he was not surprised to learn that an official of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City was a Cuban G-2 agent. To the contrary, he stated, he would really be surprised to find that any official assigned to any Cuban Embassy was not a Cuban G-2 agent. He said it was the policy of the Cuban Government to send Cuban G-2 agents to official Cuban establishments outside of Cuba and this included those individuals who were assigned to the official establishments as porters, handymen, and chauffeurs.

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Emilio Echarte Pedroso

When ECHARTE and YURI arrived in Los Angeles shortly before Christmas, they found that ECHARTE's wife and child had already arrived by air. They all spent Christmas day, December 25, 1967, in an unrecalled hotel in the Los Angeles area. A total of about four days were spent in Los Angeles, and shortly after Christmas, they all departed in ECHARTE's car for Mexico City. ECHARTE insists he made no intelligence contact with anyone in California, and that the entire stay there was spent shopping and having fun.

2.1.68
ECHARTE said he traveled to Mexico City by Mexico Route #1 and passed through Tijuana and Mexicali. He asserted that he and his wife used their own true names in crossing the border, and that he did not, at that time, have the identification papers of LUIS MARRERO. He and his wife claimed birth in Puerto Rico.

In Mexico City, ECHARTE and his companions registered at the Maria Isabel Hotel, and shortly after arrival, ECHARTE, using his code name, "POCHO", telephonically contacted "MICKEY" to let him know he had arrived in Mexico City. ECHARTE recalls that he and his companions spent New Year's Eve, December 31, 1967, at the Maria Isabel Hotel. ECHARTE conferred with "MICKEY" on about three occasions at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City, and met him once or twice on the street at the Maria Isabel Hotel. YURI happened to appear one time when ECHARTE was talking with "MICKEY" on the street at the hotel, and ECHARTE introduced them to each other simply as "MICKEY" and "EDDIE". *Cuba Mexico*

ECHARTE identified a photograph of ENRIQUE CICARD LABRADA (S) as being identical with "MICKEY", and stated he believes "MICKEY" had the rank of Lieutenant in Cuban G-2. ECHARTE said his wife never met "MICKEY".

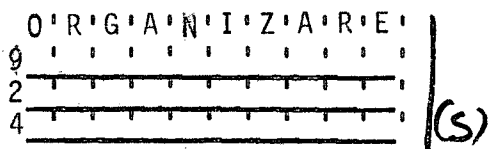
Cuba
ECHARTE estimated that he and his companions stayed in Mexico City about 7 to 10 days. During this period, "MICKEY" informed ECHARTE that Cuban G-2 headquarters wanted him to assassinate FELIPE RIVERO, leader of the Cuban Nationalist Movement, an anti-CASTRO organization. ECHARTE insists that "MICKEY" gave him no money and passed him no messages to deliver to anyone in the United States. However, ECHARTE gave "MICKEY" a pistol he was carrying and which ECHARTE claims he had "bought on the street" months earlier, from an acquaintance, name unknown, in Washington, D. C. He described this gun as a Japanese-made PPK 9mm. pistol.

SECRET

Emilio Echarte Pedroso

(S) ECHARTE insisted that he never utilized radio in communicating with Cuban G-2 in Haiti. He said that prior to his departure from Cuba, he was told to buy a well-made five band radio, no specific brand, but he never did. (S)

He also divulged he never used secret inks or codes in any of his messages. He attempted to explain the code he had been taught but was unable to recall it in detail. He indicated it was a five digital cipher system by which each letter of a message to be enciphered is converted by substitution into one and two digit numbers. He said the key word he was given was ORGANIZARE, but that to the best of his recollection, he was to use only the first seven letters of this word. He could only recall the basic format used which, he said, he believed looked as follows: (S)



He said he distinctly recalled that the word ORGANIZARE was placed across the top and that there were three numerals on the left side. He believed these numerals were 9 2 and 4, and they appeared in the order indicated above. He insisted that he never encoded any message after he completed his training, and that consequently he cannot now recall the steps to be taken in developing the numerical substitution necessary to encipher a message. (S)

ECHARTE identified a photograph of MRS taken in 1960 as being identical with MRS who was his superior in Cuban G-2. (S)

ECHARTE was asked if he knew or had heard of any other agents sent to the United States by Cuban G-2. He denied knowing the identity of any such agent, but said he had no doubt that some Cuban agents had been infiltrated into the United States under the guise of refugees. He said he would be most suspicious of able-bodied males of military age who had been granted permits to leave Cuba. He added he also suspected that he was not the only G-2 agent who had ever "escaped" from Cuba by boat. When ECHARTE and MRS were developing plans for ECHARTE's "escape", the guidance furnished by MRS led ECHARTE to believe that this was not the first time MRS had helped evolve such plans, and that probably such arrangements had been made on previous occasions to infiltrate G-2 agents into the United States. (S)

702 1930

~~SECRET~~

Emilio Echarte Pedroso

ECHARTE said that many personal associations in the Cuban Revolutionary Government are based on old friendships just as his former working relationships with SEGUNDO PEREZ and MRS. [redacted] Cuban G-2 were based on his prior friendship with them. He said he believed that even today, were he not incarcerated, he could re-establish telephonic contact with MRS. [redacted] and re-establish himself with Cuban G-2. He was unable to name anyone else in Cuban G-2 that he could effectively contact today other than possibly "MICKEY" in the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. *Carl*

With regard to the Cuban establishments in Canada and the Cuban Mission to the United Nations in New York, ECHARTE stated that there was no doubt in his mind that the personnel assigned to these establishments are Cuban G-2 agents, but he said he never knew any of them in Cuba and that, therefore, this was his opinion and he was not in a position to prove it to be a fact. He indicated that had he known anyone at the Cuban Mission to the United Nations in New York, he would not have traveled to Canada and had he any previous relationship with anyone in the Canadian establishments, he probably would not have had to return to the United States.

Carl
With regard to DAVID LEE in Washington, D. C., ECHARTE said he used to frequent LEE's restaurant because LEE had a Spanish group of musical entertainers. ECHARTE enjoyed their music and as often as twice a week went to the restaurant to eat, drink and to hear the Spanish group play. LEE recognized ECHARTE as a fairly steady customer and apparently was friendly with ECHARTE to encourage his business. ECHARTE claims he has known LEE about two years, and that their relationship was never more than customer-owner friendliness.)

Carl
DC
ECHARTE said that LEE had indicated he had been to Cuba as a tourist prior to CASTRO's advent to power. However, his conversations with LEE never disclosed any mutual Cuban friends. He also said that he could not recall ever introducing any of his acquaintances, such as EDDIE SUAREZ, CARLOS FERRET, EDDIE YURI, or anyone else to LEE. He added that he had never met anyone through LEE.

ECHARTE stated LEE impressed him as a successful, well-to-do capitalist who would have no time for Castroism or Communism. He stated that if LEE made money in any way other than through his restaurant business, illegally or otherwise, he was not aware of it. ECHARTE repeated that his wife did not borrow money from LEE to post his bond with INS in 1968. He said this was fabricated so that INS would not become aware of his resources and make the bail considerably higher.

~~SECRET~~

232-1000