

DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System
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Date: 4/27/201

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TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

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FD-263 (2-12-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reporting Office MIAMI	Office of Origin MIAMI	Date DEC 18 1959	Investigative Period 10/7 - 11/23/59
TITLE OF CASE MANUEL CALIXTO ROJAS DIAZ APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF <i>Krus</i> DATE <i>12-12-85</i>		Report made by ROBERT JAMES DWYER	Typed By: RJD:bna
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA <i>216326</i> Classified by <i>SP8Mack/et</i> Declassify on: <i>OADR</i>	

Synopsis:

REFERENCE: Report of SA ROBERT JAMES DWYER, Miami, 10/6/59.
Bureau letter to Department 10/19/59.
Bureau airtel to Miami 11/23/59.
Miami airtels to Bureau 11/25/59 and 11/29/59.



NO CONNECTION TO
...
IN THIS DOCUMENT.
MIAMI:
10-24-59
SLD/KSR
1-16-98
(JFK)

-P- DECLASSIFIED BY *SP8Mack/et*
ON *7/25/94* ... *(JFK)*

LEADS

CO TO: *USCIB*
REG. REC'D *7-16-62*
JAN 25 1962
ANS
BY: *W. J. ...*

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

1. Will follow and report prosecutive action against subject by U. S. Customs.

077 to Miami
Synopsis, info. re. charge of justice -
VMA/et
12/30/59

copies made *of Serial*
2/19/78 JSG
for review at FBIHQ by
HSCA re 12/22/77 Reg
de Rothman

Approved: *[Signature]* Special Agent In Charge

- Copies made:
- 11 - Bureau (97-3726)(RM)
 - 1 - INS, Miami (RM)
 - 1 - U. S. Customs, Miami (RM)
 - 1 - U. S. Border Patrol, Tampa, Fla. (RM)
 - 3 - Miami (105-1791)

Do not write in spaces below

97-3726-29
DEC 21 1959

REC-94
EX-136

100
FAA
6/14/60
WTH
NAT. IMPREC.

20 copies
DEC 30 1959

AGENCY IS - *Div State CIA (C), ONI, OS, (105-1791)*
REQ. REPLY *Customs Bureau (105-1791)*
DATE FORW. *12/30/59*
HOW FORW. *ALS*
BY *WTH/et*
CONFIDENTIAL
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

MM 105-1791

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- 2. Will maintain contact with Immigration and Naturalization Service, U. S. Customs and U. S. Border Patrol regarding activities of subject.
- 3. Will recontact LYNN BAIR for further coverage of subject.
- 4. Will report all details of subject's flight to Aruba, Dutch West Indies, and any administrative action taken against him by Immigration and Naturalization Service, Miami.

INFORMANTS

IDENTITY

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL INFORMATION

MM T-1 is LESTER BRUCE THRON, PSI	134-373-Sub A-3,7
MM T-2 is General MANUEL BENITEZ, 60 Palermo, Coral Gables, Florida (By request)	Instant report, pages 1,6,7
MM T-3 is Dr. ALCIDES DE LOS REYES, 1674 Southwest 8th Street, Miami, Florida (By request)	Instant report, pages 1,7,9
MM T-4 is CHARLES WILLIAM HORMEL, PCI	134-92
MM T-5 is GEORGE RICHARDSON FRANKLIN, 1762 S. W. 14th Terrace, Miami (By request)	Instant report, pages 2,10,11
MM T-6 is [MM 639-S] (mi)	Instant report, pages 2,12.

-B-

- COVER PAGE -

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300-10008

DATE: 11-14-2017

FD-204 (Rev. 9-28-82)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - INS, Miami (RM)
1 - U. S. Customs, Miami (RM)
1 - U. S. Border Patrol, Tampa, Fla. (RM)

Report of: SA ROBERT JAMES DWYER Office: MIAMI
Date: DEC 18 1959

File Number: 105-1791 BUREAU FILE 97-3726

Title: MANUEL CALIXTO ROJAS DIAZ

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED #211,326
DATE 1/29/85 BY SP6BJR/BCL

Synopsis:

Subject reported to appear person in charge of Cuban Department of Logistics in Miami in early 1959. U. S. Border Patrol reported subject, on 9/23/59, left Nassau, BWI, with passenger and arrived in Miami alone. On 9/24/59, subject offered a person \$25.00 to return a rented airplane which he reportedly used to smuggle alien into U. S. On 9/25/59, subject reportedly flew guns from Ft. Pierce, Fla., to Cuba. MM T-2 also reported subject flew guns to Cuba on week-end of 9/26/59. MM T-3, in September, 1959, advised subject has been flying guns to Cuba. MM T-1, in October, 1959, advised subject was flying for former Cuban Senator ROLANDO MASFERRER and was interested in going to Dominican Republic. MM T-3, in October, 1959, said some anti-CASTRO leaders considered subject unreliable and dishonest, and that FREDESVINDO BOSQUE, representative of General PEDRAZA, was checking on subject. On 10/17/59, subject telephonically contacted Miami Office and said his life had been threatened, and that he wanted protection. On 10/20/59, subject again contacted Miami Office and said he intended to object to U. S. Department of ~~State~~^{JUSTICE} request that he register as agent of foreign principal. MM T-4 advised that subject is an associate of ORLANDO PIEDRA, former head of Cuban Military Intelligence. In June, 1959, PIEDRA asked MM T-4 to join subject in smuggling aliens into U. S. and to point out various air strips in southern

*mmw
11/24/69*

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Florida to subject. MM T-5, on 11/4/59, said he went to Nassau with subject a few weeks previously in Cessna airplane. In Nassau subject met with RAMIRO RANGEL, Cuban counterfeiter, and "MIKE" ARRUTIA, former Dominican Consul in Nassau. They discussed plan to counterfeit Cuban pesos, U. S. notes and British pounds. Prior to this ROJAS met with NORMAN ROTHMAN, Miami Beach hoodlum, concerning making counterfeit money. By letter dated 10/15/59, the U. S. Department of Justice advised that subject was required to register under Foreign Agents Registration Act. On 11/21/59, U. S. Border Patrol advised they received information that subject rented airplane and flew it to Dominican Republic. In Dominican Republic subject loaded plane with anti-BETANCOURT pamphlets to drop over Venezuela. Subject converted this plane in Dominican Republic, attempted to fly to Venezuela, became lost, landed in Aruba, Dutch West Indies, and was arrested. MM T-6 advised that an article appeared in a Spanish newspaper stating that subject had been fined \$200.00 by authorities in Aruba.

-P-

DETAILS:

On September 24, 1959, LYNN BAIR, Green Mansions Motel, Miami Springs, Florida, advised he was an employed pilot and knew the subject. BAIR explained that he came to know the subject while working as a flight instructor, and that he taught the subject how to fly.

BAIR advised that ROJAS was at his apartment that morning and wanted BAIR to return a rented plane to DuPont Air Interests, Miami International Airport, Miami. The plane had been returned by BOB OVERLY, and was flown by ROJAS, who, when he returned, hit a rock and damaged the plane. ROJAS offered BAIR \$25.00 to return the plane to DuPont Air Interests, to which BAIR refused. BAIR said the plane was a Cessna 172, and had been used by ROJAS for two days. ROJAS left this plane at Regina Aviation Company, Miami International Airport. ROJAS had only four or five hours logged on the airplane's tachometer, had used it two days and had brought an alien into the United States in this airplane.

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REVIEWED BY USSS JFK TASK FORCE

ON 9-19-97 *del*

- RELEASE IN FULL
- RELEASE IN PART
- TOTAL DENIAL

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BARRINAT said that during the early part of 1959, MANUEL ROJAS informed him that the Cuban Government had formed a Department of Logistics under the command of Captain GASPAR GONZALEZ LANUZA. BARRINAT was told by ROJAS that the Department of Logistics would have persons in the Cuba United States who would try to obtain information about arms shipments to Cuba, and that this information would be turned over to the United States and Cuban authorities so that they would be able to seize these arms.

BARRINAT said that ROJAS appeared to be the person in charge of the Department of Logistics' activities in Miami, and was the person who handled correspondence with Captain GONZALEZ LANUZA in Cuba. BARRINAT said that the only other person known to him to be connected with the Department of Logistics was FRANK PEREZ PEREZ, a Cuban National residing in Miami. Fla. Cuba

MM T-1, on September 25, 1959, advised that on September 24, 1959, early in the morning, MANUEL ROJAS returned from a flight to Nassau in a Piper Apache airplane and landed at Tamiami Airport, Miami.

MM T-1 said that on September 24, 1959, ROJAS and EVELIO ALPIZAR took a twin-engine Beechcraft airplane from St. Lucie County Airport, Fort Pierce, Florida, and flew over the B and L Farms near Homestead, Florida, did not land, and returned to Tamiami Airport where the plane was left during the night.

MM T-1 advised that the plane was originally flown to Ft. Pierce by three Americans, a man named LES THORN, a woman named VIRGINIA (last name unknown), and another person named WILLIAM SERGALIS. Fla.

MM T-1 advised that these three persons apparently had nothing to do with the use of the plane, and that the plane was to be returned to Fort Pierce, Florida, on the evening of September 25, 1959.

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On October 9, 1959, MM T-1 advised that LES THORN had been offered, and accepted, a job as maintenance man and part-time pilot for Compania Dominicana de Avacion Airlines, Dominican Republic, and would leave for that country to take that position.

MM T-1 said that THORN had talked this over with ROJAS, who stated that he, too, was interested in obtaining such a job in the Dominican Republic. ROJAS advised MM T-1 that on ROJAS' authorization, EVELIO ALPIZAR paid \$50.00 to THORN for past services performed. MM T-1 said that ROJAS is flying for ROLANDO MASFERRER, and that LYNN BAIR, an American pilot, planned to see ROLANDO MASFERRER the following Monday concerning some deal that ROJAS is setting up with MASFERRER and BAIR. MM T-1 said it was undoubtedly concerning arrangements to make some illegal flight out of the United States for MASFERRER by BAIR.

MM T-3, on October 13, 1959, advised that some anti-FIDEL CASTRO leaders in Miami feel that MANUEL ROJAS and certain other individuals are unreliable and dishonest in their dealings with the anti-CASTRO movement, and that these individuals have been known to collect money to carry out anti-CASTRO activities, but have been using a portion of the collected funds for their own personal benefit.

Fla
MM T-3 stated that on October 12, 1959, FREDESVINDO BOSQUE, a representative of General JOSE PEDRAZA, stated he was checking on ROJAS concerning his reliability and loyalty to the anti-CASTRO movement.

MM T-3 explained that General JOSE PEDRAZA is a former Cuban General in exile in the Dominican Republic, and considered the military leader of the anti-CASTRO movement.

On October 17, 1959, MANUEL ROJAS telephonically contacted the Miami Office and advised SA WILLIAM P. KELLY that in the morning of that day he had received a telephone call from an unidentified male Cuban, who threatened his life. Then later during the morning

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he received another phone call from an unidentified female Cuban who asked to meet him at 220 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach. ROJAS stated he declined this invitation. ROJAS said that during the early evening of October 17, 1959, he received another telephone call from the same woman who asked ROJAS to meet her at the Toledo Restaurant in downtown Miami at about 9:00 P.M.

ROJAS stated he was very nervous about the possibility of an attempt made on his life. He desired the FBI to protect him. ROJAS stated that although he was very much afraid he might be assassinated, he did not wish to notify local police authorities, and he had no intention of meeting the unidentified Cuban woman at the Toledo Restaurant.

On October 20, 1959, ROJAS telephonically contacted SA WILLIAM P. KELLY, and stated he had received a letter from the United States Department of Justice, dated October 15, 1959, requesting him to register under the provisions of the Registration Act. ROJAS stated that he intended to contact the Department of Justice and object to this request that he register.

On October 25, 1959, MM T-4 advised that ROJAS was an associate of ~~ORLANDO PIEDRA~~, a Cuban exile residing in Miami, who was formerly the Chief of the Cuban Military Intelligence Service, and (first name unknown) MEDINA, brother, former Cuban Consul General, Miami, ANTONIO MEDINA. *Cuba Fla.*

MM T-4 said that in June, 1959, PIEDRA asked MM T-4 to join ROJAS in flying unidentified persons out of Cuba into the United States and also to point out to ROJAS the various airfields and airstrips located in South Florida that could be used for such an operation.

MM T-5, on November 4, 1959, advised that a few weeks prior to that date ROJAS asked MM T-5 to fly to NASSAU, which they did, together in a Cessna 172 airplane, and while in Nassau, ROJAS met with RAMIRO RANGEL, an ex-Cuban politician and counterfeiter, and with "MIKE" ARRUTIA, former Dominican Consul in Nassau, and that these three men discussed a plot to counterfeit Cuban pesos, United States notes and British pounds. *Cuba Fla. Dominican Republic*