

DATE: 11-14-2017

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REC-37  
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REPORTING OFFICE <b>MEXICO, D. F.</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>BUREAU</b>	DATE <b>8/10/64</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>2/27/63 - 6/29/64</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>ELIZABETH CATLETT MORA, aka</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>NATHAN L. FERRIS</b>	TYPE <b>rjb</b>
<del>Classified by [redacted]</del> <del>Declassify on: OADR</del>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SM - C; IS - MEXICO</b>	

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CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT  
 KP 5-18-98  
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### SYNOPSIS:

Subject and husband, FRANCISCO MORA, continue to reside at Calle del Pino #273, Apt. 16, Mexico, D. F. Subject continues as instructor in San Carlos art school. Certificate of loss of American citizenship issued in view of subject's naturalization as Mexican citizen. Subject reportedly member of PCM and of so-called Leadership Branch. Continues making collections for PCM, obtaining money from ACGM, claiming to collect 2000 to 3000 pesos (\$160 to \$240 U.S.) per month for PCM. Subject continues to maintain contact with ACGM and visitors from U. S. who contact ACGM. Continues to maintain interest re matters in U.S.: in showing film "The Sobell Story", vice-president of League for Defense of Negroes, collecting money for telegrams to U. S. supporting March on Washington, in U. S. racial matters involving movement headed by MALCOLM X, and reportedly with husband operated mail drop box for exchange of mail between correspondents in China, Cuba, and U. S. Also continues interest in Cuban matters and served on Disaster Committee to raise funds for Cuba after hurricane. Subject pro-Chinese in Sino-Soviet split and temporarily suspended

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APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 12 - Bureau (100-395934) (1 - Liaison Section) (1 - New York, 100-112556) 1 - U. S. Embassy and CIA, Mexico City (CIRCULATION) 1 - Mexico City (100-939) cc NY by RJS for info 8-18-64 FFF/any		100-395934-78 17 AUG 14 1964 DECLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSC ON 5-23-98 (JFK)
Dissemination Record of Attached Report Agency: CIA, State, RAO Request Recd.: Date Fwd.: 8-18-64 By Fwd.: RJS FFF/any		Notations CLASSIFIED BY 2042 PWT/AG DECLASSIFIED ON: 8-2-1602 OADR NAT. INT. SEC.

AUG 21 1964

313-10008

AUG 27 1964

AUG 25 1964

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CC TO:	<i>Sec Sec</i>
REQ. REC'D	<i>2-2</i>
APR 21 1969	
ANS.	
BY:	<i>BUR SAC</i>

*Memo*

CC TO:	<i>Mr. Tolson</i>
REQ. REC'D	<i>9/18/64</i>
SEP 21 1964	
ANS.	<i>RAM</i>
BY:	<i>RAM</i>

*Elizabeth Catlett  
de Marco  
discussed with  
RAM*

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by the subject which was raffled and won by a friend of COLEMAN's in Detroit. It appeared that the statue had been involved in a railroad accident and had been shipped back to Mexico by mistake. COLEMAN wanted KARZMAN to pick it up and return it to Detroit and furnished KARZMAN the name of CHARLES SMALL for assistance. The source was unable to further identify KARZMAN but indicated that he had been involved in a recent "big demonstration" which SMALL described as the "biggest thing that hit the U. S. by far", (the source was unable to further identify that demonstration). It was also indicated that SMALL and KARZMAN both knew GEORGE CROCKETT of Detroit (Bufile 100-367743) and BART VAN DER SCHELLING (Bufile 100-367251) who had been in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain with KARZMAN. SMALL described ELIZABETH MORA as an American who married a Mexican and was "one of the few completely integrated into Mexican life." (u)

(On July 18, 1963, MEX-18 and MEX-19 advised that ELIZABETH MORA had stated that some tourists had arrived from Detroit and had visited her house the day before. MORA stated that they had said her statue, which was raffled, was won by a ROBERT and MARY MONTGOMERY, apparently wealthy people from Detroit, Michigan. She stated the visitors were going to deliver the statue to Detroit.) (u)

On August 5, 1963, ALBERT MALTZ (Bufile 100-7646) contacted BERTHE SMALL (Bufile 100-421747), at which time MALTZ indicated he would be seeing ELIZABETH MORA the following Thursday. SMALL requested MALTZ to give the subject a message to call ALBINA BRINTON at the Hotel Tejas and indicated that BRINTON was some type of museum director in California, and she had contacted SMALL only because she was looking for the subject. On August 14, 1963, Mrs. BRINTON contacted BERTHE SMALL and stated she had been in touch with the subject and her husband, FRANCISCO MORA, and commented that the MORAS had been very good to her, indicating that they had introduced her to several artists. (u)

On October 3, 1963, SIG WENGER (Bufile 100-21415) contacted CHARLES SMALL regarding his efforts to get in touch with the subject. SMALL suggested he contact the subject at San Carlos Art Academy. (u)

On October 6, 1963, the subject contacted BERTHE. (u)

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especially people who are working in the Negro movement. She said that she had thought of someone in SNCC but did not have the name or address. SMALL asked if she meant she wanted to send material to SNCC and she stated she did not, but that she desired some names and addresses from SMALL for the Academy ~~(u)~~

MORA stated that the Congress was to be a large world-wide affair and that the President of Mexico would open it. MORA stated that if SMALL knew of any "progressive" teachers, organizations, or student organizations, or prominent cultural figures that he thought would be good at such a Congress, she would like to have their names and addresses. She claimed that she was also making up a list and that any list SMALL might provide could overlap but that she wanted to have a very good list. She added that persons attending the Congress would have to pay their own transportation but that their hotel and all expenses would be paid for during the duration of the Congress. MORA cited as example of persons she had in mind were one MARGARET (LNU) who has a small museum in New York and Chicago and works with the Southside Community Art Center (apparently in Chicago) and was very active in the National Negro Art Movement, and LINUS PAULING (Bufile 100-353404) but that PAULING had just recently been in Mexico. ~~(u)~~ SMALL stated that he was thinking of a youth group such as the one of his son, ABBOT SMALL (Bufile 100-441277), which he said was composed of "very good kids" and that they were very active. SMALL promised to assist MORA in this matter. ~~(u)~~

The above ends the information received from [CIA] ~~(u)~~

The following information was received from ~~(u)~~ MEX-18 and MEX-19, and is being reported in the administrative section of this report rather than in the dissemination portion as it is delicate and shows a close relationship which would tend to identify the source and in addition, some of the information has been reported in separate cases for dissemination without mentioning the subject as the source. ~~(u)~~

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In May and June, 1963, the source advised that, according to MORA, the communist revolution in Mexico is no longer a wild dream. She claimed that the PCM had concocted a feasible plan calling for taking over in Mexico within ten years. She claimed that the revolution would necessitate bloodshed and that trained soldiers would be necessary. She stated that leaders, both Mexican and foreign, had been trained to set up small units similar to the ones operating in Venezuela and many of their skirmishes never reached the newspapers. She also stated that the PCM, within the previous year, had operated a school in Mexico to train leaders for that revolution. She stated that when the revolution comes, it will need outside help which has been promised from Cuba although Cuba will not necessarily be the country of origin. She implied that financial support would come from the Russians or, more probably, the Chinese. The PCM will have a support function providing assistance and an underground, as well as food, shelter, and men when possible. She claimed the PCM could provide cover temporarily and finally furnish provisional local government in areas which are taken over. It was expected that fighting men would be recruited from among the controlled PCM farmers' organizations. (X)(u)

On September 17, 1963, MEX-18 advised that the subject introduced the source to an individual, subsequently identified as GURGUEN MAKSABEDIAN who is now a member of the Federal District Committee of the PCM. MORA claimed to the subject that MAKSABEDIAN was a member of her branch which was described as the leadership branch of the PCM although admittedly that was a descriptive title and not the name of the branch. MAKSABEDIAN subsequently outlined to the informant his concept of how the PCM could take over Mexico through exploitation of the discontented middle class, and when the informant discussed this matter with MORA, MORA stated she was aware of the plan and it was already being implemented which was why FRANCISCO MORA wanted to quit the PCM since FRANCISCO MORA did not consider such a program to be a genuine communist revolution. According to MORA, the so-called Leadership Branch was composed of leaders in various fields and she qualified because of her position as a department head at the University of Mexico San Carlos Campus and her husband was in the Branch "on a pass", indicating that it was (X)(u)

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mainly because of her position that he was accepted. MORA further advised that FRANCISCO MORA had lost the fight within the so-called leadership branch against the concept outlined by MAKSABEDIAN and that after ten "screaming" branch meetings, the branch, except for herself and FRANCISCO MORA, voted unanimously with MAKSABEDIAN. (X)(u)

On August 8, 1963, MEX-18 and MEX-19 advised that on August 6, 1963, ELIZABETH MORA stated that she was doing "something" for the PCM and that people were coming and going from her residence and therefore she did not want any persons who were not politically trustworthy around her residence at that time. (X)(u)

On October 8, 1963, the informants advised that on October 6, 1963, MORA borrowed 500 pesos (\$40 U.S.) from the informants to make up a deficit from the funds she had collected from the imprisoned railroad workers' families. MORA stated she had expended the money for something else and would have to turn the total sum in the next day. MORA stated she had money in a savings account in an unidentified bank but it would not be possible to withdraw this money without a delay of eight days. (X)(u)

On February 24, 1964, the informants advised that on that date ELIZABETH MORA stated that FRANCISCO MORA was extremely nervous over trying to have clandestine meetings in their residence while her mother and the children's friends were sitting around. According to the source, the subject's mother is a conservative, Negro woman who is not aware of her daughter's political activities. (X)(u)

CHINESE AND CUBAN MATTERS (X)(u)

On March 15, 1963, the source advised that ELIZABETH and FRANCISCO MORA had claimed that they had missed their PCM branch meeting on March 7, 1963. ELIZABETH MORA claimed that FRANCISCO MORA did not want to attend that meeting as he did not want to listen to or participate in a debate which was scheduled regarding an editorial in the "Daily Worker", denouncing MAO TSE TUNG. The MORAS claimed that they had been (X)(u)

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had objected to the use of that box because it would not hold the large volume of mail from China and that therefore the box had been discontinued but that FRANCISCO MORA would obtain a box for handling the mail in the future. (u)

SOBELL FILM

On July 31, 1963, the source advised that on July 21, 1963, ANNE ALLEN MEEROPOL, the guardian of the children of executed atom spies, JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, had been at the informants' residence going over the script on the so-called documentary film "The Sobell Story" which related to imprisoned atom spy by MORTON SOBELL. MEX-19 was to do the script and ASA ZATZ was to handle the translation. ELIZABETH MORA was to furnish the actors and a "left wing director" for dubbing the Spanish language version. According to the informants, ELIZABETH MORA collected 7,000 pesos (\$560 U.S.) from associates of the ACGM to cover the cost of this project. (u)

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN EMBASSY CONTACTS (u)

On April 23, 1964, the source advised that on April 18, 1964, ELIZABETH and FRANCISCO MORA arrived in the informant's home to attend a party, coming directly from the Czechoslovakian Embassy, and that FRANCISCO MORA brought with him a bottle of Czechoslovakian vodka. FRANCISCO MORA was intoxicated. During the party, he repeatedly demanded statements from ACGM associates present to support the Chinese position in the Sino-Soviet split and he also urged full support for the Negro Nationalists in the United States. The informants received the impression that ELIZABETH MORA intended to advise them of an important matter which had come up in the Czechoslovakian Embassy during their visit but she was upset by her husband's inebriated condition and did not tell her story to the informants. (u)

NEGRO QUESTION

On February 24, 1964, the informants advised that on that date ELIZABETH MORA had stated that the "big thrill" of the previous week was ROBERT FRANKLIN WILLIAMS having come to (u)

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Progressive Labor Group is a catchall for the Negro Nationalists who are now leaving the CPUSA. She also stated there were more Negro Nationalists in SNCC and CORE than in the NAACP (u)

On April 22, 1964, informants advised that ELIZABETH MORA had told them that FRANCISCO MORA had just made an arrangement to rent an isolated hacienda near the City of Pachuca for the use of a group of important visiting Negroes from the United States who are expected to arrive in Mexico about the weekend of May 8, 9, 1964. She did not further identify the visitors nor indicate the purpose of their visit but invited the informants to join the group at the hacienda after the visitors arrived. On May 12, 1964, however, the informants advised that the proposed weekend in the hacienda did not materialize. ELIZABETH MORA had dropped the question, and the informants received the impression that either visitors did not arrive as scheduled or, if they did, objected to the presence of two white persons on the ranch so that the invitation was dropped although on both April 26 and 29, 1964, MORA had again confirmed the invitation. (u)

On May 15, 1964, the informants advised that on the previous two days ELIZABETH MORA stated that she had received a letter from ROBERT WILLIAMS in Cuba which she said proposed far more violent and emphatic procedures against white people than had previously been offered by anyone else. She said she was astounded that he would assume her support in this matter as he knows her to be a member of the Mexican Communist Party, implying that such membership would preclude her from approving such violent means. MORA also claimed that Negro woman, AUDREY or AUDIE MORE or AUDREY or AUDIE MOORE (phonetic) in Los Angeles, who was formerly a communist, is now carried on the mast head of WILLIAMS' publication "The Crusader" as an editor of some type. MORA indicated she was disgusted with WILLIAMS. MORA read to MEX-18 portions of one of WILLIAMS' letters which stated that guns must be obtained and aimed at white men from the windows of homes. The informant observed that this is the type of statement made nightly by WILLIAMS on his radio broadcast, but MORA stated she does not listen to his programs since their radio does not receive Cuban stations (u)

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MEX-18 advised ELIZABETH MORA of the statements made regarding her by GERTRUDE SOLTNER, but MORA stated she was not concerned over any misunderstanding of her situation at the Czechoslovakian Embassy or with any friends she wanted to have. To prove her point, she stated that she and FRANCISCO MORA had been guests of the Czechoslovakians twice that week. MORA claimed that one of those meetings was a dinner attended by the Czechoslovakian Ambassador; the Ghana Ambassador; with two other Ghana Embassy officers; and two American Negroes whom MORA claimed were important members of MALCOLM X's staff. She claimed that during the dinner MALCOLM X and Black Nationalism were toasted frequently and there were two toasts for China and several for the Czechoslovakians but none for either Russia or KHRUSHCHEV. Subsequently, that evening MORA went to the Ghana Embassy to act as translator for a member of the Czechoslovakian Embassy who went there but could not understand the version of English spoken by the Ghana diplomats. The meeting at the Ghana Embassy was not attended by the alleged representatives of MALCOLM X. Informants were unable to ascertain the complete purpose of those meetings but MORA stated that MALCOLM X was going to tour Africa and particularly wanted to go to Ghana. MORA advised the informants that the meeting at the Czechoslovakian Embassy was not the meeting she had previously stated would be held with the important Negro visitors from the United States, but that it was part of the same thing. (u)

SOURCES:

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Location</u>
T-1 is MEX-16	134-7A
T-2 is MEX-18 and MEX-19	134-10A
T-3 is MEX-4 and MEX-86	134-40A
T-4 is MEX-118	134-325A
T-5 is MEX-234 and MEX-235	134-771A

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