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JUAN FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO RODRIGUEZ  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~RE: JUAN FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO RODRIGUEZ, ET AL.  
ROLANDO MASFERRER ROJAS - VICTIM~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

For example, during November, 1959, Mrs. Taaffe advised this Bureau that the anti-Castro underground movement planned to kill United States Ambassador to Cuba Bonsal and bomb the United States Embassy in Cuba. She further advised that anti-Castro elements planned to undertake an invasion of Cuba from San Salvador Island in the Bahamas on about November 15, 1959, under the leadership of a British officer. She claimed to have received the information concerning the assassination of Bonsal and the bombing of our Embassy from an anti-Castro leader in Miami. Upon interview, this anti-Castro leader denied any knowledge of such plans and Mrs. Taaffe subsequently admitted that she knew of no specific plot to kill Bonsal or bomb the Embassy and that this allegation was based entirely on her own speculation. Concerning the alleged attack on Cuba from San Salvador Island, [Inquiries by British authorities indicated there was no substance to such charges.] (C)

[Mrs. Taaffe has also been in contact with a number of other United States agencies, including the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Bureau of Customs and the intelligence branch of the Air Force.] (U) On occasion, she has tried to create the impression that she is connected with certain United States agencies or is acting in their behalf and she is known to have distorted and misrepresented her contacts with United States officials. For instance, Mrs. Taaffe told a Miami businessman that she worked for the Central Intelligence Agency and had been on a Middle East assignment for that Agency. [A Central Intelligence Agency representative advised that Mrs. Taaffe was not connected with that Agency and characterized her as a "Mata Hari" who was making a general nuisance of herself and who was "going to run out of agencies to contact." On another occasion Mrs. Taaffe claimed to have been advised by a State Department official concerning certain phases of United States policy towards Cuba. This official subsequently denied he furnished any such information to her.] (U)

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Mrs. Taaffe's motive in volunteering information to the FBI and other United States agencies has not been clear. She claims to be concerned about the threat of communism in Cuba and throughout the Caribbean area and to be developing and furnishing information solely out of patriotic reasons. However, Mrs. Taaffe is known to have mining interests in Cuba which are threatened by the Castro regime and she appears to be an individual who revels in intrigue and who seeks to identify herself with prominent individuals and clandestine intelligence operations.

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During recent months information has been received from several sources pointing to the possibility that Mrs. Taaffe may be serving as an agent of the Castro government. In November, 1959, a Miami source who has been closely associated with Taaffe advised that he had learned that she had received \$5,000 from a representative of the Cuban Government for information concerning the anti-Castro activities of a prominent Cuban businessman. [Another Government agency in November, 1959, furnished information from a source considered reliable to the effect that Mrs. Taaffe's hotel bills in Havana were paid for by the Cuban Government and that she was suspected of acting occasionally or regularly as an agent for that Government.] Moreover, during December, 1959, a former official of the Cuban National Police advised that during his assignment with the Cuban National Police he learned that Mrs. Taaffe was serving as an informant for the Castro regime, had provided information to Cuban officials concerning the activities of Rolando Masferrer (prominent anti-Castro leader in Miami), and had been paid a sum in excess of \$1,000 for this information. The information from this source should be treated in strict confidence since its disclosure could jeopardize the safety of the source. (Sources are Wallace Quinn, State Department representative in Havana, and PSI Romulo Rene Del Rey Sori - 65-59364, serials 22, 23, 24) X(u)

Based on the information summarized in the foregoing paragraph, this Bureau has initiated an investigation of Mrs. Taaffe to determine if she has acted in the United States on behalf of the Cuban Government and is therefore subject to the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Classified "Confidential" since data from State Department in next-to-last paragraph was so classified. Also, disclosure of data in same paragraph from PSI Sori could result in compromising source who is furnishing continuing information relative to the national defense. X(u)

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