

Agency Information

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Document Information

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TO : DOS

TITLE :

DATE : 08/25/1959
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SUBJECTS :

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MORGAN

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DATE OF REVIEW 10-2-90
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97-3293 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

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DATE 10-2-80 BY SP-5-RD/b/a~~

Date: August 25, 1959
To: Office of Security
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: JOHN JOSEPH FRANK
WATSON L. ROPER
REGISTRATION ACT - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
INTERNAL SECURITY - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 MAC/GAT
ON 10/24/94

On August 20, 1959, a source, who requested that his identity be concealed and who is a reputable law enforcement officer in Florida, volunteered the following information to our Miami, Florida, Office:

The source stated that on August 18, 1959, he was contacted by Watson L. Roper of Miami, described as a former FBI Agent as well as an ex-deputy in the Monroe County Sheriff's office, Key West, Florida. Roper arranged to introduce the source to John Joseph Frank, Washington, D. C., attorney and also a former FBI Agent who is registered as an agent of the Dominican Republic. During a meeting with Frank and Roper on August 19, 1959, Frank, who indicated he was acting on behalf of the Dominican Republic, requested the source to undertake a trip to Cuba in order to determine the present whereabouts and status of William Alexander Morgan. According to recent press reports, Morgan, American soldier of fortune who fought against Batista and was subsequently granted a prominent position in the armed forces of the Castro regime in Cuba, was a key figure in the recent anti-Castro uprising in Cuba. News accounts have indicated that Morgan served as a double agent on behalf of Castro in connection with this uprising, posing as a traitor to Castro in order

to expose the anti-Castro conspiracy.

- 1 - 67-133166 (Roper)
- 1 - AAG, ISG (By 0-60 Form, same date)

105-70973-
NOT RECORDED
128 AUG 28 1959

(SEE NOTE PAGE 2)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- DeLoach _____
- McGuire _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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DUPLICATE
AUG 28 1959
MAILED

97-3293-1389 ORIGINAL FILED IN

Office of Security
Department of State

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The source advised that Frank told him that Morgan has been working with the commandant at the Trinidad Barracks in Cuba to foment an anti-Castro rebellion. Reportedly, Frank stated that Morgan has 2,000 troops ready to move against Castro and is in touch with the Dominican Republic by radio. Frank further claimed that Morgan has requested the Dominican Republic to send him some training officers, and Frank said that the Dominicans want to find out more about Morgan before supporting him. Frank made no reference to the recent anti-Castro revolt in Cuba or to Morgan's part in this revolt as pictured in press reports.

The source advised Frank that he could not give a definite answer at that time as to whether he would accept this assignment but would let Roper know of his decision in this matter during the week of August 24, 1959. The source did accept \$100 for plane fare and expenses which was given to him by Frank, pending his final decision.

On August 22, 1959, the source advised our Miami Office that he plans to accept the assignment offered to him by Frank. However, the source stated that he would advise Roper that he would not be able to leave for Cuba for several days due to business commitments.

You will be kept advised of additional pertinent developments regarding this matter. It is requested that no action be taken which would jeopardize the source in view of the element of personal risk to him involved in this situation.

NOTE:

See memorandum Donahoe to Belmont 8/21/59 for full details regarding this matter. We are advising Havana by cablegram of anticipated trip to Cuba by source. Source is Lt. Rene A. Raiole (NA) of Monroe County Sheriff's office, Key West. (S)(u)

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