

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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REPORTING OFFICE MIAMI	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MIAMI	DATE 8/8/63	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/18 - 8/5/63
TITLE OF CASE VICTOR DOMINADOR ESPINOSA HERNANDEZ; CARLOS EDUARDO HERNANDEZ SANCHEZ; JOHN KOCH GENE; ACELO PEDROSO.		REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM MAYO DREW, JR.	TYPED BY GK
		CHARACTER OF CASE NEUTRALITY MATTERS.	

REFERENCE: Bureau airtel 8/2/63;
New Orleans teletype 8/1/63.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

- P -

LEADS

ST. LOUIS:

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

It is requested that information set out by St. Louis teletype August 3, 1963, be placed on a Form FD-302 in the event this case reaches prosecution.

Classified ~~SECRET~~
Declassify on: OADR 11/6/84

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 MAC/GAT
ON 4/18/94 (JFK)

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: ⑫ - Bureau (RM) 1 - CIA, Miami (RM) 1 - INS, Miami (RM) 1 - U. S. Border Patrol, Miami (RM) 1 - ONI, Miami (RM) 2 - Miami (2-353)		2-1821-33	REC-47
(Copies Cont'd. Cover Page B.)		25 AUG 12 1963	EX-102
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations	
Agency	Request Recd.	NAT. EFF. SEC.	
Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	by routing slip for info	
Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	Date 8/14/63 by [Signature]	
By		[Signature]	

2 AUG 21 1963

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MM 2-353

- ADMINISTRATIVE -

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On 7/26/63 U. S. Supervising Customs Agent WALLACE SHANLEY, Miami, advised SA WILLIAM MAYO DREW, Jr., that SAM BENTON was being utilized as a source of his office and he believed that through BENTON Customs had necessary coverage of the subjects. SHANLEY was of the opinion that it was preferable not to interview the individuals involved in the bombing raid plan in order that the subjects would not be deterred in engaging in overt acts which would make a prosecutable case.

On 7/27/63 Mr. SHANLEY was recontacted relative to the interest of U. S. Customs in the cache of explosives which was believed located at a house near Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana. Mr. SHANLEY answered that the case was not workable from Miami since the subjects at Miami might take no action for an extended period, and Customs as a matter of policy did not handle cases involving explosives wherein the explosives would be under the control or within the knowledge of Customs and at the same time present the considerable danger which explosives constitute. He stated that the Customs Service makes every effort to avoid being a party to the moving of explosives, as when done by subjects of a case with knowledge of Customs, and therefore he believed the matter of the located explosives should be turned over to the local authorities in Louisiana for seizure action.

On 7/26/63 MM 639-S advised that on that same date he talked with SAM BENTON, of Miami Beach, and BENTON informed him that he had 2,500 lbs. of dynamite in Mississippi which he would like to sell for TNT. BENTON told the source that he would like to locate a B-25 and also American pilots. BENTON told the source that the Cubans with whom he is dealing did not trust *(X)(u)*

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MM 2-353

EVELIO ALPIZAR, who was to have been the pilot in the attempted raid on Cuba which was broken up by Customs at Miami in June, 1963. BENTON stated that ALPIZAR is believed to have been the informant who enabled Customs to round up the participants in the planned raid. (X)(u)

On 7/31/63 Mr. SHANLEY stated that he had learned nothing further of the plan of subjects, but that BENTON was in touch with his office, and as of a week previously BENTON claimed he was still looking for a plane and that the group intended to go through with the raid on Cuba. Mr. SHANLEY said he believed that BENTON would inform his office if the bombing operation was undertaken.

The foregoing information from MM 639-S is not included in the body of the report inasmuch as BENTON is a contact of Mr. SHANLEY, of Customs, and the information could reveal to SHANLEY the informant status of MM 639-S. (X)(u)

In interview of MIGUEL ALVAREZ on 8/1/62, he stated that SAM BENTON's late model Pontiac, confiscated by Customs at the time of the seizure of the plane and explosives on 6/15/63, has been returned to BENTON, whereas the Ford Thunderbird belonging to the aunt of VICTOR ESPINOSA has been held by Customs.

During the interview of VICTOR ESPINOSA on 7/31/63, ESPINOSA stated that Customs at Miami told him they would return his car if he told them where he obtained the money for the explosives which were seized and from whom he bought the explosives. ESPINOSA claimed that he told Customs to keep the car.

On 7/31/63 Mr. SHANLEY, of U. S. Customs, stated he had no objection to interview of SAM BENTON by the Miami Office of the FBI in connection with instant case.

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Declassify on: OADR #16/84

LEADS

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OK 4/18/94 (JFK)

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		Dissemination Record of Attached Report	
Agency		CONFIDENTIAL	
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Date Fwd.			
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By			

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MM 2-353

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