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PERSONAL MEETING WITH J-315

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SUBJECT: Personal Meeting with J-315

DATE: 6 December 1968

CR NO: 1-B-CR-284-68

PROJECT: QUASHED (9)

1. (U) (E) CIRCUMSTANCES OF CONTACT:

a. C/O met subject at 1330 hours, 3 December 1968, for the purpose of terminating the source. Most of the meeting consisted of having lunch while the C/O permitted the source to relieve his desire to talk about the previous two months' frustrations, uncertainties and fear experienced by the source and his wife, J-315/14, as a result of the imprisonment of J-315/12 and J-315/13.

b. The source had been asking repeatedly during this time for personal meetings with the C/O. These requests were turned down for reasons of security until it was decided to hold the termination meeting. The C/O decided to let the source unburden his desire to talk to the C/O and thus relieve his frustrations and get him in a good frame of mind.

c. C/O met the subject at the New England Oyster House, 125th Street and Biscayne Blvd. The C/O took an indirect route to the meeting site. After lunch the C/O and the source sat in the subject's vehicle, 1969 Chevrolet station wagon, Florida License Plate 168321, and signed the necessary receipts and documents incident to the termination. The source then drove off. The C/O then entered his car, operational vehicle Chevy II, Florida License 1E-7522, and drove to the shopping plaza at 7th Avenue and 111th St. where he called his office, advised them of his successful and safe termination, then took a deliberate and circuitous route to his home in Hollywood.

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The meeting ended at 1625 hours and no surveillance afterwards was detected. Lunch was consumed in virtual isolation, for there were no other diners within 20 feet.

2. (S) OPERATIONAL DISCUSSIONS:

a. The G/O listened to the source's conversation during lunch and obtained the news that J-315/12 was no longer in prison in the G-2 offices, but had been transferred to a large holding camp at La Cabana Prison as part of a group of several hundred other professional men such as doctors, lawyers, etc. He had been assigned duties at the dispensary in his capacity as a surgeon and doctor, and he was in good health and was allowed visitors once a week. His wife, J-315/13, had been transferred also to a woman's rehabilitation center at an unknown location on the outskirts of Havana. She has also received good treatment, performs no duties, and is gaining weight. She lost while being questioned by the G-2. Both are being well treated, have been given permission to write to relatives in the U.S., and have already done so.

b. J-315 said that he and his wife were very relieved at the above turn of events. Both believe that this indicates that their appeals through the Vatican (Jesuits) and the medical community were instrumental in this decision not to execute the two.

c. J-315 believes that his father-in-law, J-315/12, blamed any wrongdoing he was accused of by the GOC on him, J-315. J-315 believes that J-315/12 probably admitted to some activity against the GOC, was probably repentant, and accepted the usual offer of rehabilitation for himself and his wife. J-315 seemed quite happy that his efforts had saved the two.

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prisoners. He feels that by permitting the present situation to continue a few months, thus allowing a "cooling off period", the situation may become favorable for further appeals of a humanitarian nature, requesting the prisoners' pardon and possible exit from Cuba. The C/O, of course, agreed that the change of prison, assignment to duty and permission to write, certainly indicated that the GOC was not considering violent action, and expressed his own and the organization's gratification at this good news. J-315 stated that when he felt the cooling off period had passed, he had some more "aces" to play, and asked the C/O's opinion.

d. J-315 stated that a friend of his, one Miguel FIGUEROA^{is}, presently a professor at the University of Puerto Rico, ^{was} and also the Cuban First Secretary in Rome during the beginning of World War II. At that time Cuba and Italy severed relations. As a result, FIGUEROA was interned in, or given refuge in Vatican City during the war years. FIGUEROA became a personal friend of the present Pope, to the extent that the Pope became God Father to one of the FIGUEROA children born in Italy. The two have remained friends throughout the years. J-315 plans to ask one Juan Antonio RUBIO Padilla, a friend of J-315 and relative of J-315/13, to visit the Pope the summer of 1969 and convey FIGUEROA's personal request that the Pope contact the GOC and personally intercede for a possible pardon ^{and} ~~in~~ exile of the prisoners. RUBIO is one of the prominent leaders of Catholicism in the world today and intimate friend of ^{one} ~~the~~ FNU Fernandez, the Arch Bishop of Cordoba in Spain. J-315 believes such an appeal has an excellent chance of success. The C/O agreed that this was a worthy effort and expressed his wish that it succeed.

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e. J-315 said he believed that the GOC did not have much proof of any serious crime against the prisoners or they would have executed them. The fact that J-315/12's sister, Chucho, and her husband had been picked up and imprisoned in mid-November for questioning indicated that the GOC investigation of J-315/12's activities had not produced too much. They apprehended Chucho probably ~~because~~ ^{because} she was his secretary at his clinic. The C/O agreed that things were progressing better than hoped and that the future seemed ~~better~~ ^{brighter}. At this time the C/O brought up the subject of the need for termination of operations, and it dovetailed beautifully, for J-315 had just said that he was glad that he had not been involved in J-315/23's overt political machinations for the last four to five months. The C/O told the subject that he had been directed to terminate the operations involving J-315 and the entire operation in order to safeguard the lives of the prisoners. Any continuance of intelligence operations against the GOC would jeopardize their lives if detected. However, the C/O desired that even though operations were terminated, that J-315 monitor the status of the prisoners and keep the C/O's organization informed. In order to do this, the C/O was providing J-315 with a P. O. Box in the Washington, D.C., area so that he could mail periodical information concerning the prisoners. The C/O stated that he was also providing J-315 with an allowance for six months' expenses so that J-315 would not bear the cost of monitoring the status of the prisoners alone. The C/O said that he had recommended the sum of \$125.00 per month which had been approved by his superiors. Additionally, he had recommended that J-315 be given two months' salary as severance pay. C/O continued, saying that he had been

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alerted that he was to transfer out of the area as ~~he~~ happened once before during their association when Mario (P) had replaced him as J-315's supervisor.

f. J-315 did not react in an adverse manner to the notice of termination. He agreed that cessation of operations was very wise and that he would keep the organization informed by mail. He did, though, earnestly ask that although he was aware that operations were ended, that contact with the organization be continued through the mail channel so that he could keep the organization informed in the future. He also asked that, if possible, he be permitted a telephone number to call either in Miami or in Washington, or elsewhere, where he could contact the organization in the case of an emergency or when he had information on the prisoners that needed to be delivered in a hurry. The C/O stated that he would relay his request to his superiors and advise him via telephone to a pay telephone booth as had been done during the past three months. J-315 wished the C/O well in his new assignment and hoped that they see each other some day again. He hoped that if he were ever involved in other work for the organization that he be placed in contact with a mature individual whom he could talk to with confidence that he was dealing with an experienced man, for although Mario was a fine individual, obviously dedicated and sincere, he had found that he could not communicate his beliefs and ideas as well as he could with the present C/O. C/O said that Mario had been indeed an excellent individual to work with, but that sometimes old battle-weary roosters seem to work well together.

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g. J-315 earnestly asked that the organization consider assisting him to obtain a permit to carry a weapon in Florida. He stated he had obtained a permit in Puerto Rico, but that he had no contacts in Miami to assist him as he had in Puerto Rico. He was afraid that he might be the object of an attempt by the GOC to assassinate him for his involvement with J-315/12. He cited the attempt on ex-Castro CAPT Oton PALAU who was shot 6 or 7 times on 16 November, and is in critical condition in Miami. J-315 believes that he is probably on their list for assassination and is ready to defend himself if necessary. He expressed deep concern of his being aboard one of the hi-jacked planes because of his weekly round-trip between Miami and San Juan, Puerto Rico. He added that if an attempt is ever made to hi-jack a plane he is aboard, he would resist the hi-jackers, for he fears if he lands in Havana, he will be summarily shot. He does not plan to carry a pistol aboard the planes, for he is aware that he may be subject to search at any time. At present he fakes being lame and carries a cane aboard, wishfully hoping that he could use that to overpower any possible hi-jacker. The C/O replied that he would check this request out, obtain an answer, whether favorable or unfavorable, and inform the source of whatever decision was reached.

3. (S) COMMUNICATIONS:

a. The source was given P. O. Box 9153, Alexandria, Virginia, zip code 22304, under the name of Joseph Conley, for his use to keep the organization advised of the prisoners' status.

b. C/O established the following bona fides for possible future contact with J-315. Person contacting subject will say "he is a friend of Rogelio

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GONZALEZ and would like to get together and have some oysters". At meeting they will match two halves of a Cuban five peso note (see Incl #1).

4. (U) (S) FINANCES AND LOGISTICS:

The source was given the following sums as termination payment and expenses:

Salary for November 1968	\$ 300.00
Salary for December 1968 and January 1969	600.00
Expenses, December 1968 through May 1968 at \$125.00 per month	750.00
SubTotal	\$1,650.00
Lunch and refreshments during the termination meeting	13.91
Total	\$1,663.91

NOTE: C/O attempted to pay the subject for his expenses for telephone calls outstanding for November 1968 and had directed the source to attempt to obtain his receipts from the Bell Telephone Company. The source was unable to obtain them for the telephone company computer had not produced the bills. C/O made arrangements with the source to maintain telephone contact for the next two or three weeks until the bills are sent. At that time the source will mail the C/O a receipt, using the present Miami P. O. Box, and the C/O will mail the source the necessary sum.

5. (U) (S) COMMENTS:

C/O recommends that consideration be given to a telephone, possibly in Puerto Rico, that the source may call in a bona fide emergency. One other consideration might be that the source call former DAC Luis Rodriguez,

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a member of the 111th MI Group, Miami. He is personally known to the source as having been involved in intelligence operations in the Miami area. The C/O is researching 111th's reaction to the establishment of Mr. Rodriguez as a contact for subject for emergency use and will include that result as part of his termination report and summary of the imprisonment and status of the prisoners. C/O believes that we should monitor their status in the future and make every effort to insure that J-315 and his family or J-315/23 take no steps to embarrass the U.S. by any accusations and/or publicity. In order to do this it may become necessary in the future to have someone contact J-315 or his wife in order to permit them to express their concern, fears or sorrow. This will act as a safety valve and will enable U.S. to have advance notice of any proposed acts on their part which may be injurious to the U.S.A.

1 Incl
Envelope containing
bona fide (1 only to Hqs)

FRANK C. ALATORRE
Case Officer

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