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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY: FBI
RECORD_NUMBER: 124-10206-10353
RECORD_SERIES: HO
AGENCY FILE_NUMBER: 2-2173-21

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR: FBI
FROM: LEG. CARACAS
TO: DIRECTOR. FBI
TITLE:

DATE: 10/08/1976
PAGES: 8
SUBJECT: OBA, CUBANA AIRLINES, BOMBING, SUSP, BKG, EMP, TRA, ASSOC, AFFIL

DOCUMENT_TYPE: PAPER. TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION: Secret
NEW CLASSIFICATION:

REVIEW_DATE: 05/11/1998
UPDATE_DATE:

STATUS Redact

RESTRICTIONS:

JFK Act 6 (1)(B)

JFK Act 6 (1)(C)

JFK Act 6 (4)

COMMENTS:

Legat Caracas portions advised contain orders only disseminated on a to the Ambassador and CIA (S)
10-8-76
6 4 3 P JBC

SECRET

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 08 1976

TELETYPE

Assoc. Dir.
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Serv.
Ext. Affairs
Fin. & Pers.
Gen. Inv.
Ident.
Intell.
Laboratory
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EXCEPT BRACKETS AT the top of this pg. GMB 8-5-96
SLD/KSR 8-5-96 (JFK)

O 082000Z OCT 76

FM CARACAS (2-9)

TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE NRS 163-08, 164-08

BT

S E C R E T

UNSUBS; SUSPECTED BOMBING OF CUBANA AIRLINES DC-8 NEAR BARBADOS, WEST INDIES, OCTOBER 6, 1976, NM - CUBA - WEST INDIES.

RECARTEL OCTOBER 7, 1976; BUTEL OCTOBER 8, 1976.

HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO IS A NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER AND FREE-LANCE REPORTER AFFILIATED WITH THE MAGAZINE "VISION," AND HE IS ALSO EMPLOYED AS AN INDUSTRIAL INVESTIGATOR BY INVESTIGACIONES COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES, C.A. (ICI), AN INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FIRM OPERATED BY LUIS POSADA, [FORMER HEAD OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE DIVISION, CARACAS, VENEZUELA.] (S)

DPOB 12-9-54 AT Caracas, Venezuela

ST-105 REC-19 2-2173-21

POSADA, A CUBAN EXILE WHO IS NOW A VENEZUELAN CITIZEN, IS STRONGLY ANTI-CASTRO AND WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING BEEN THE MAIN SUPPORTER OF ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA DURING BOSCH'S PRESENCE IN VENEZUELA PRIOR TO HIS ARREST ON NOVEMBER 19, 1975. [LEGAT BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH POSADA IN THE COURSE OF OFFICIAL BUSINESS DURING PERIOD POSADA WAS AN OFFICIAL OF DISIP.] (S)

END PAGE ONE

Classified by SP3 ...
Declassify on: OADR 5/31/83
(OSRMB ... 4/6/94 JFK)

14 OCT 15 1976

CLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/mls 3/2/98
REASON: 1.5 (C,D)
DECLASSIFY ON: X1 (6)
(JFK)

0-73 to MM; SJ; Mex; Buenos Aires; AAG, Crim (ISS&GCS); CIA; FAA & State
10-8-76 JBL/pdh

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56 NOV 4 1976

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HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO FIRST BECAME KNOWN TO LEGAT IN APPROXIMATELY JUNE, 1974, WHEN HE CONTACTED LEGAT FOR ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING THE PROCESSING OF A VISA TO THE U.S. THAT HAD BEEN REQUESTED FOR THE MINOR SON OF THE THEN DIRECTOR OF DISIP, DR. PEDRO ARTURO TORRES AGUDO. LEGAT WAS LED TO BELIEVE RICARDO WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF DISIP AND ASSISTANCE WAS PROVIDED THAT RESULTED IN THE PROMPT ISSUANCE OF A VISA TO THE TORRES AGUDO CHILD (S)

RICARDO RECONTACTED LEGAT A FEW WEEKS LATER TO EXPRESS HIS APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE PREVIOUSLY RENDERED, AND LEGAT THEN BECAME AWARE RICARDO WAS MERELY AN AUXILIARY MEMBER OF DISIP, AND THAT HE (S) WAS ACTUALLY IN THE PERSONAL SERVICE OF LUIS POSADA. RICARDO REVEALED HE WAS ALSO A NEWSPAPER REPORTER AND PHOTOGRAPHER AFFILIATED WITH THE MAGAZINE "VISION," AND INDICATED HE DEVOTED MOST OF HIS TIME RESEARCHING NEWS ARTICLES INTENDED TO DISCREDIT THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT. HE CLAIMED PARTIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE THAT APPEARED IN A CARACAS NEWSPAPER ABOUT THAT TIME, REVEALING THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS IN CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS. (S)

RICARDO CONTACTED LEGAT APPROXIMATELY FOUR TIMES AFTER THE INITIAL VISIT, AND ON TWO OCCASIONS FURNISHED PHOTOGRAPHS AND BIOGRAPHICA (S)

ND PAGE TWO

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DATA ON MEMBERS OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY [WHICH WERE OBVIOUSLY OBTAINED FROM DISIP FILES.] (S) DURING ONE VISIT, RICARDO SUGGESTED LEGAT MIGHT WISH TO MAKE SOME SUGGESTIONS REGARDING COURSES OF ACTION THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN AGAINST THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS BY AN ANTI-CASTRO GROUP OF WHICH HE FORMED PART. LEGAT INFORMED RICARDO SUCH WAS NOT PART OF THE FUNCTION OF THE LEGAL ATTACHE'S OFFICE, AND THAT IN any EVENT, LEGAT PERSONALLY ABHORRED TERRORIST ACTIVITIES REGARDLESS OF WHOM THEY MIGHT BE DIRECTED AGAINST. LEGAT POINTED OUT TO RICARDO THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS DOING EVERYTHING IT COULD TO PREVENT DISRUPTIVE AND TERRORIST ACTIONS BY ANTI-CASTRO GROUPS IN THE US. RICARDO DID NOT AGAIN REPEAT THE SUGGESTION. (S)

LEGAT WAS SURPRISED BY APPEARANCE OF RICARDO AT AMERICAN EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1976. THE LAST CONTACT WITH RICARDO HAD BEEN EARLY IN DECEMBER, 1975, WHEN RICARDO TELEPHONED LEGAT AND INVITED HIM TO A LUNCH OF VENEZUELAN SPECIALTIES PREPARED DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON. LEGAT DECLINED INVITATION, CITING A PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT. (S) (U)

ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1976, RICARDO INFORMED LEGAT HE HAD A PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSIGNMENT FOR "VISION" MAGAZINE IN JAMAICA AND WAS IN NEED OF A VISA TO THE US SINCE HE PLANNED A TWO-DAY STOPOVER IN PUERTO RICO. HE SAID HE HAD FIRST CONTACTED A TRAVEL AGENCY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS (S) (U).

END PAGE THREE

SECRET

CONSUL HE HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE RICARDO WOULD NOT RETURN TO CARACAS. THE VICE CONSUL INDICATED IN THAT CASE A VISA WOULD BE ISSUED TO RICARDO, AND HE WAS ASKED TO RETURN TO THE CONSULAR SECTION. UPON TAKING LEAVE OF LEGAT, RICARDO INDICATED HE MIGHT ALSO VISIT NEW YORK CITY BEFORE RETURNING TO CARACAS, AND MENTIONED IN PASSING THAT BESIDES JAMAICA, HE MIGHT ALSO BE VISITING BARBADOS IN CONNECTION WITH HIS PICTORIAL ASSIGNMENT FOR "VISION." RICARDO WAS NOT SEEN AFTER THAT.(S)(u)

IN A CONVERSATION WITH [AN OFFICIAL OF DISIP](S) ON OCTOBER 1, 1976, LEGAT BROACHED THE SUBJECT OF RICARDO AND OF THE FAINT SUSPICION THAT RICARDO MAY HAVE BEEN SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN THE BOMBING OF THE GUYANESE CONSULATE IN PORT-OF-SPAIN. LEGAT ADMITTED THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE EVIDENCE OF RICARDO'S IMPLICATION, BUT THAT THE COINCIDENCE OF HIS PRESENCE THERE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, COUPLED WITH HIS EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH LUIS POSADA, HAD GIVEN LEGAT CAUSE TO WONDER. [THE DISIP OFFICIAL RELATED DISIP HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE RICARDO WAS THE CALIBER OF INDIVIDUAL THAT WOULD BE UTILIZED IN SUCH AN OPERATION, AND THAT RICARDO WAS NOT KNOW TO BE INVOLVED IN SUCH ACTIVITIES, IN SPITE OF HIS ASSOCIATION WITH POSADA.](S)

END PAGE SIX

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END PART ONE, PART TWO FOLLOWS.

ON OCTOBER 8, 1976, A SECOND CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ADVISED HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT CUBAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OFFICERS HAD PROCEEDED TO PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD, FROM CUBA ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, AND HAD SUBJECTED THE TWO ARRESTED VENEZUELANS TO INTENSIVE INTERROGATIONS. (S)

RICARDO WAS BORN ON DECEMBER 9, 1954, AT CARACAS, VENEZUELA. HE HOLDS VENEZUELAN PASSPORT NO. 850939, ISSUED ON MAY 14, 1975, AT CARACAS. HE HAS VENEZUELAN IDENTITY CARD (CEDULA) NO. V 3821507. (S) (U)

[redacted]

ADMINISTRATIVE: CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE IS RICARDO MORALES NAVARRETE, HEAD, COUNTERINTELLIGENCE DIVISION, DISIP, CARACAS, VENEZUELA. (S) (U)

THE SECOND CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE IS ORLANDO GARCIA VASQUEZ, SPECIAL ADVISOR TO DIRECTOR, DISIP, CARACAS, VENEZUELA. (S)

THE DISIP OFFICIAL MENTIONED IS RICARDO MORALES NAVARRETE. (S) (U)

BT

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LUDVC QXDMMEPGSPZUIY

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