

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REP

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

PAGE 1 OF 1

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

S-E-R-E-T

REPORT NO.

DATE DISTR.

15 March 1968

COUNTRY Costa Rica/Haiti

DOI 9 February-4 March 1968

SUBJECT Indications by Fernando Melo, Cuban Exile in Costa Rica, that Negotiations Between Ludwig Starke, Costa Rican Right-Wing Extremist, and Rolando Masferrer, Cuban Exile Involved in Plotting Against Haitian Government, Were Not Progressing Well

ACQ Costa Rica, San Jose (4 March 1968)

FIELD NO. 4108

SOURCE

Rolando Arcadio M. Rojas

Record: file cc in 105-175234

1. (Field Comment: The following report should be read in conjunction with TDCS-314/01096-68, [redacted] 4065 and [redacted] 4099, which reported that Fernando Melo Montanilla, a Cuban exile in Costa Rica, was serving as an intermediary in negotiations between Ludwig Starke Jimenez, a Costa Rican right-wing extremist, and Rolando Masferrer, Cuban exile in the United States who was involved in plotting against the government of President Francois Duvalier of Haiti. The negotiations dealt with a plan whereby Starke would provide a staging area for an invasion of Haiti by Haitian and Cuban exiles under Masferrer's leadership. In return Masferrer, if successful, would subsequently support a move by Starke against the Costa Rican Government. Melo was reported to be planning a trip to New York on 21 February 1968 to meet with Masferrer and the latter's representative in the negotiations, Father Diego Madrigal Alvarez.)

2. When Melo returned to San Jose on 2 March after visiting New York City and Miami, Florida, he was detained and searched by security officials at the airport. Among Melo's possessions the security officials found a letter, signed by Melo, addressed to Father Diego Madrigal, New York. The letter was dated 9 February 1968. It was typewritten on letterhead stationery of Rogelio R. Pinto Impresos.

(Field Comment: Melo sells printing equipment and thus may have a business connection with the Pinto firm.)

Copy to MM-NY-WFO-Ligat, MEX

by routing slip for

info action

date 4-7-68

by AHS dph 10-10-68  
S-E-R-E-T NO FOREIGN DISSEM

Rolando Arcadio Masferrer  
Rojas, 18-Haiti, Cuba, NM  
(Haiti)

2-1622-407

DIA ARMY NAVY AIR NSA AID CRS (For Field Distribution see final para)

FBI 2 I&NS

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REP

2-1622  
cc 105-95677  
105-136258

THIS MATERIAL REQUIRES

SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION

PROCEDURES REFER TO SAC

LETTER 62-42 (C) DATED

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE MAR 20 2008

XEROX 1968

87-62  
020-8

Handwritten signatures and initials, including 'MJS' and 'JWS', and the number '2-1622-407'.

S-E-C-R-E-T NO FOREIGN DISSEM

62 APR 15 1968

3. Melo's letter acknowledged receipt of a cable from Madrigal; it then went on to state that "Rogelio obtained the visa" and now "the Haitian can come when he wishes." (Field Comment: Rogelio may be Rogelio Pinto. [redacted] quoted Melo as saying that Starke had obtained a visa for Jacques Moringlans, a Haitian who would be the first of the Masferrer group to arrive in Costa Rica.) Melo then wrote that because nothing had been heard from Madrigal since the latter's visit to Costa Rica "the friends here" had begun to believe that "everything has been a pipe dream of mine; that we neither are going to do anything nor have anything." Melo complained that Madrigal's silence appeared to have "lessened the enthusiasm of this man of action and of rapid resolution who does not like to be made to waste his time." Melo warned Madrigal that if the Masferrer group had not reached a decision to move ahead with the plan, it would be better for the Haitian not to come to Costa Rica. Melo also warned that there were no Cubans participating in Masferrer's project, Melo would not support it, since he was interested only in the Cubans' problems and not those of the Haitians. Melo informed Madrigal that he expected to arrive in New York on 1 February; he suggested that they discuss the subject in detail at that time.

4. On 4 March Melo again left San Jose for Miami. He told the Costa Rican security officials that he would be away from Costa Rica for a month.

5. Field Dissem: State Army CINCSO [redacted]

5  
4  
3  
2  
1

S-E-C-R-E-T NO FOREIGN DISSEM