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CPYRIGHT WASHINGTON, NOV. 18 -- (TNS) -- FORMER FBI AND CIA AGENT JOHN JOSEPH FRANK,

42, GOES ON TRIAL IN FEDERAL COURT TODAY ON CHARGES OF WORKING AS AN UNREGISTERED AGENT FOR GENERALISSIMO TRUJILLO OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

FRANK, NOW A WASHINGTON ATTORNEY, HAS PLEADED INNOCENT TO A FOUR-COUNT INDICTMENT HANDED DOWN BY A GRAND JURY ON MAY 13, CHARGING THAT HE WORKED FOR THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT SINCE MID-1954 WITHOUT INFORMING THE U.S.

THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR FAILING TO REGISTER WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AS AN AGENT, OUTSIDE REGULAR DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT IS A \$10,000 FINE AND FIVE YEARS IN PRISON.

FRANK, WHO WAS A SPECIAL AGENT FOR THE FBI FROM 1941 TO 1949, WILL BE TRIED BY A JURY BEFORE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE JAMES R. KIRKLAND.

AFTER LEAVING THE FBI, THE ATTORNEY WAS EMPLOYED BY THE HUSH-HUSH CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY UNTIL 1953, WHEN HE LEFT GOVERNMENT SERVICE TO ENGAGE IN PRIVATE LAW PRACTICE.

THE INDICTMENT WAS HANDED DOWN IN (UNINTELLIGIBLE) REPORTED GRANDJURY INVESTIGATION INTO U.S. ACTIVITIES OF THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT UNDER GEN. LEONIDAS TRUJILLO FOLLOWING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF DR. JOSE DE GALINDEZ, A COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR AND VIGOROUS OPPONENT OF TRUJILLO, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ WHO VANISHED FROM NEW YORK IN MARCH 1956, AND WAS REPORTEDLY FLOWN TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. AIRPLANE PILOT GERALD L. MURPHY, NAMED BY SOME INFORMANTS AS THE MAN WHO FLEW DE GALINDEZ TO THE WEST INDIES, DISAPPEARED IN DECEMBER 1956. HE WAS LAST SEEN IN THE DOMINICAN CAPITAL, CUIDAD TRUJILLO.

FRANK'S INDICTMENT APPARENTLY DEVELOPED AS A BY-PRODUCT OF THE DE GALINDEZ-MURPHY INVESTIGATION.

THE ATTORNEY WAS CHARGED WITH SERVING AS AN UNREGISTERED AGENT OF A FOREIGN POWER, OF COLLECTING INFORMATION FOR, AND REPORTING TO TRUJILLO, AND DISBURSING MONEY FOR THE GENERALISSIMO IN THE U.S.

HE WAS ARRESTED BY FBI AGENTS ON MAY 13 AFTER THE INDICTMENT WAS RETURNED AND RELEASED WITHOUT BOND, ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAD REQUESTED BAIL BE SET AT \$25,000.

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