

Dear Jim,

2/17/74

Several things may be coming together. Ray, remember. So let's not talk about it.

You will remember that when we left Marchetti I referred to a high-school kid who had done some work for me. And I said I had a Cuban Freedom Committee file. Some of it is gone, by the way. I hope it is with the work on Coup and not something else so somebody says he doesn't have.

The Shaw trial transcripts, T-P 2/22/69 on the questioning of Miss Goldie Naomi Moore, who had been Shaw's secretary, lapse into paraphrase here and I could get nothing more from the Garrison office.

The assistant District Attorney reminded Miss Moore that she had testified during a New Orleans Parish Grand Jury investigation that a Cuban group had been given space at the ITM.

Miss Moore then said she seemed to recall a group calling itself 'Americans for Free Cuba' that had been granted ITM space...."

This is fairly close, especially when she claimed dim recollection. And the space was free. I am sure there is no listing in the city directories, which I have. Latin American Reports was in ITM.

Undated notes from this kid say "Citizens Committee for a Free Cuba. Offices in several Latin American countries and in at least five American Cities. The Committee for a Free Cuba publishes a monthly magazine called Latin American Reports" He then lists these addresses:

New Orleans: 550 Carondelet, 525-9182

Miami: 301 Langford Bldg, 121 SE First, 373-270631;

Washington: National Press Bldg, 785-0631 (formerly 411 Central Bldg, 805 G NW)

(I had and do not find others, including Chicago)

Latin American Report, besides ITM

1604 Payne, Dallas 741-0915.

Eastern representative, Henry C. Bainbridge, 650 Ocean Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11226.

Prior address 8 West 40 St (before ripe, N.Y. 18)

12/28/68 he wrote me that LAM and CCFC "in some cities have separate locations while in other cities share same facilities." He then seems to say that in both Miami and DC they share offices. He may have meant this or were only in same bldg.

He also said, "I'll have more in the next letter about the CCFC." But I can't find it in this or any relevant file.

(You may also want to remember that he was my source on some of my Cornillet material. His letters include inquiry at the clerk of the court's office and of Binste's, LA Times.)

If Shaw was giving a front free space - and he was renting some to another - then this may be one of the things that had those staff meetings of which Marchetti spoke a little edgy.

Hal Verfb has a CCFC file, if he could take the time to get it.

I'm too tired to go dig my old COUP files out now. Too much outside work today!

I checked my R4TV Reports file and have some corporate information and owners names, etc. For when you are here I have more filed under the name of my source, his letters and tapes of conversations.

It might be a good idea to see if the CIA has a CCFC file. I don't know what Garrison had. He got excited by Gaudet and then did nothing, which was typical. He asked me to check into the Ruby purchase of a painting, which led to Gaudet, which was where Tom Bethell dropped it. In fact, he dropped it before there and was quite indignant at the thought that there was something to do that he had not done. Gaudet is Latin American Report.

There is quite an assortment of characters in all this, far right in LAM, really far, and even Norman Thomas in CCFC. One of the things I can't find is the letterhead I had.

CCFC was run by Mariadne Arensberg, who I believe is mentioned in Give Us This Day. It was funded by CIA with \$500,000 a year.

We know someone who could have fit into all of this nicely, don't we?

Some of the same people fit into Cuban-Americans for Nixon-Agnew. I have a file or what is left of one on them.

I never did a thorough job on LAR. However, I have 8-10 table of contents pages.

It has to be obvious that LAR could not begin to afford all its offices in all these cities.

Gaudet was interviewed by the FBI in connection with tracing Oswald's departure from New Orleans. It was only natural that he be interviewed because he left at a time that makes accompanying Oswald completely impossible. Or even seeing him. That report says Gaudet was formerly CIA.

As I told you, I have some of this traced and put together in COUP. It makes an interesting little story.

That it is connected with our present interest is by no means certain. But would it not be nice to have a bright young research assistant to do the obvious tracings in the library?

I'm uneasy about Scott on this, less so but some about Paul, so I'm not asking either to check an obvious archiver near San Francisco.

There are probably some private collections of CCFC materials around.

When the new Trade Mart was built, LAR took its customary suite of three rooms in it. That it did not pay for with magazine money. Not that magazine!

Best,

PS 2/18: you may recall that I generally refer to what happened in N.O. in terms of lemmings. This is but one of many examples. Jim asked me to do some work on the picture buying. I come up with much more, he gets real excited, so excited that he has someone do the dirty work that takes time for me, something he generally would never do. Thus I have all the city directory listings for the ITM without having had to take a morning or afternoon off. And once it gets productive, he refuses to have anything to do with it. He never did another thing. This also is the kind of thing that makes one wonder what he was really up to. However, I remain persuaded that the explanation is in his emotions, not connections.

In case you remember the name Gaudet, there seems to be no connection at all between this CIA one and the former cop turned hippie who was the pig victim when Nixon needed p.r. help and a fake plot against him was contrived. But what is fascinating about that caper, on which I also have a file, is the extent to which it drew on the past as it figured in assassination investigations, so much so that I was able to identify the source of the alleged report accurately, that Waterbury's Drug Store on Canal from which so many reports about LHO came.