

Valley Man Reveals Shocking FBI Undercover Story

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(First of Two Articles)

ROWLAND HEIGHTS — He darted across the street, glancing quickly around before sliding into the dimly-lit phone booth. The door opened behind him and a couple of ghost-like moths played with the fluorescent light above.

His hand grabbed the phone and he carefully dialed the number.

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of the Chicago office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "My name is Junior. I have some information," he whispered. He had called this number many times. It was March, 1961 and his undercover work for the Federal Bureau of Investigation was nearly eight months old.

The phone clicked on the other end. "Junior?" a deep voice asked.

"The meeting tonight — they discussed the tractor deal for the Cubans. What do you need to know?" he volunteered.

That episode is typical of Harry Dean, a Rowland Heights resident, who serves as secretary of the Fair Play for Cuba organization in Chicago and at the same time worked with the FBI as an informant.

His shocking story of deception and trickery begins in 1957 when he joined a Chicago street demonstration in support of Fidel Castro's 29th of July movement against Juan Batista, the Cuban dictator.

Castro had waged a guerrilla war against Batista from the mountains of Cuba since 1953. Committees of Cuban patriots began organizing support for the dubbed "George Washington of Cuba" in the United States.

Ex-Informant Tells Red Dealings

Small arms fired from the United States through the underground into the hungry arms of the banded revolutionaries. While the American government officially supported Batista, the American people supported Castro.

Dean, a Canadian-born American, was part of this weapons collection. His talents as a licensed pilot were not in demand as he did what he could for the revolution.

He began scavenging Chicago streets for clothing, canned food and bullets. His work continued well into 1958. Street demonstrations were held nearly every week now.

Dean says he still had no holding of the chains that linked Castro with the Communist menace.

Castro marched into the joyous streets of Havana on New Year's Day, 1959. "My Cuban friends wept like small children

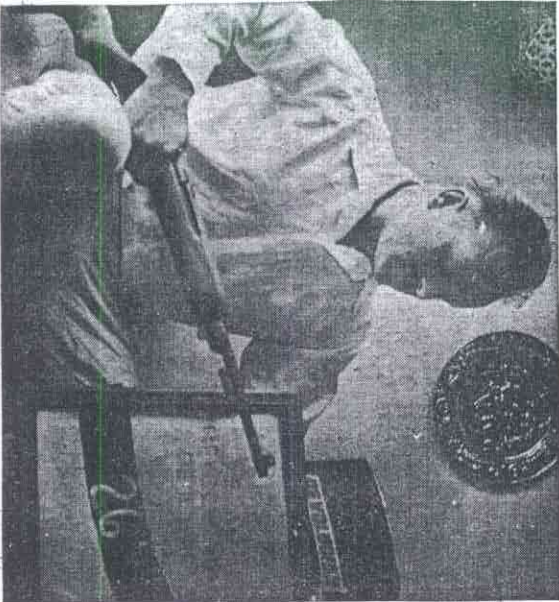
when the word of the revolution came through," says Dean. Just two weeks before then, Batista had said the revolution was dead.

Dean continued his work with Dr. Josepina Ferrer, the Cuban counsel in Chicago, and several other Cubans. Traveling from city to city in Illinois, the troupe explained Castro's seizure of oil lands and incitation of communist fronts.

About this time, Dean noticed an odd, strangely isolated man traveling with the group. His name was Albert Weisbord. He is an identified Communist who served with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, a Communist front, during the Spanish Civil War. Dean also spotted another man in the troupe. His name? Juan Del Rosario. Castro's number one man in Chicago — and also a Communist.

Soon after the success of Castro's liberation, reports and rumors began circulating in the United States about the ties with Soviet Communists. The reports were pook-pooked in most intellectual circles and openly scorned in the Cuban revolutionary camp here in the United States.

"I wouldn't believe that the revolution was Communist," said (Continued On Page A-9)



MUERTIC ES LA REVOLUCION — Dead is the Cuban revolution, Harry Dean of Rowland Heights says. Dean, who vows he worked with the Chicago FBI for a year, is a card-issuing member of Castro's 29th of July movement and past secretary of the Fair Play for Cuba chapter in Chicago. Journal Photo

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Ex-Informant Tells Experiences

(Continued From Page A-1)
Dean. "I just wouldn't believe it."

In June of 1960, Castro's foreign minister invited Dean to visit Cuba and "see the end of the revolution." Juan A. Viera, the chief director of the prime minister's office and originator of the 29th of July movement, talked with Dean and gave him face reins.

Dean saw Los Indios caves, later to become shelter for moderate-range Soviet missiles armed with atomic warheads.

It wasn't until later that Dean discovered the friendly international travel agent who interviewed him was a G-2 agent, a member of the Cuban secret terrorist police.

The agent quizzed Dean at length about possible ties with American magazines and newspapers.

"He wanted to make sure I wasn't a newspaperman," Dean observed. "All I could tell him was the truth. I was a plianter in Chicago."

Dean returned to the United States after 10 days filled with disappointment about the revolution.

"It hadn't done what he had said," Dean says he attended Fair Play meetings and tipped the FBI on every move the front made in the Cuban advance.

A week after that he began his work for the FBI. The turning point for Dean occurred at the same meeting of the committee where he was elected secretary.

"After the meeting," Dean recalls, "Florence Criley (a Dean front labor leader) gave me a book containing what she said was our leaflet and flyer propaganda from Robert Tabor, a New York newsman and writer."

"They were beginning to work on the computers then," said Dean. "They were sitting up desks and urinals."

Dean quit almost one year later because of personal problems. Since then he has appeared on local radio and television with a condemnation of the Communist tactics in America.

Next week, exclusively in the Valley Journal, Dean will give his version on Lee Oswald (the member of Fair Play for Cuba) and the assassination of John Kennedy, American involvement in Latin America, and gun laws in America.