

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
 TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Commission No. 946

ORIGIN Chief's Office	OFFICE Miami, Florida	FILE NO. CO-2-34,030
TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	STATUS Closed	TITLE OR CAPTION Person Identified:
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Miami, Florida	PERIOD COVERED April 24 - May 5, 1964	Name : Sylvia Odio Address: Dallas, Texas
INVESTIGATION MADE BY SA Ernest I. Aragon		

SYNOPSIS

Inquiries in Miami leading to the identity and current whereabouts of Father Walter Machann have been unsuccessful. Juan Martin and "Leopoldo" have not been identified by sources in Miami. Personal interview of Rogelio Cisneros Diaz disclosed he went to Dallas, Texas, in June, 1963, and contacted Sylvia Odio for the purpose of being introduced to an Uruguayan for the purchase of small arms. Re-interview of Rogelio Cisneros Diaz revealed that the Uruguayan is definitely identified as Juan Martin.

(A) INTRODUCTION:

Reference is made to report submitted by the reporting agent dated April 24, 1964. Further reference is made to long distance telephone call from Inspector Thomas J. Kelley, Chief's Office, on May 4, 1964, requesting further investigation in this case.

(B) GENERAL INQUIRIES:

On April 27, 1964, Monsignor Fitzpatrick, Catholic Diocese of Miami, was reinterviewed relative to Father Walter Machann, of Polish extraction. Monsignor Fitzpatrick searched his official Catholic Directory, which has the names of all Catholic priests working in the United States, and the name of Father Walter Machann did not appear in the Directory. Monsignor Fitzpatrick emphasized that if Father Walter Machann were assigned to the Miami Diocese he would know of him.

On the same date I personally interviewed Sister William, Director, Centro Hispano Catolico (Catholic Spanish Center), 130 NE Second Street, Miami, Florida, which assists all needy persons of Latin origin, including Cubans, relative to Father Walter Machann, and she stated Father Walter Machann was not known to her.

DISTRIBUTION Chief Miami	COPIES Orig & 1 2cc	REPORT MADE BY <i>Ernest I. Aragon</i> Ernest I. ARAGON SPECIAL AGENT	DATE 5-5-64
		APPROVED John A. Marshall SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DATE 5-5-64

The correct spelling of the priest's name is "Machann". In an effort to avoid as much confusion as possible, I use the Commission's preferred misspelling, "McChann". Pronunciation is like "m'can". At the time of this report, Secret Service Inspector Tom Kelley was interviewing Father Machann in New Orleans.

Sister William suggested that if Father Walter MacHann was believed to have come from Dallas, Texas, that inquiry of the Catholic Chancery, 2122 Midwell Street, Dallas, Texas, might disclose further information regarding Father MacHann.

Discreet and extensive inquiries among Cuban sources in Miami leading to the identities of Juan Martin and "Leopoldo" had been unsuccessful to date.

In accordance with long distance telephone call from Inspector Kelly on May 4, 1964, Rogelio Cisneros was personally interviewed at his residence, 347 NE 36th Street, Miami, Florida. He further identified himself as Rogelio CISNEROS Diaz, an officer of JURE at Miami, Florida, and added that the name "Eugenio" is his designated "war" name. He stated that the JURE office in Miami is located at 1878 West Flagler, Miami, Florida.

Mr. Cisneros said he went to Dallas, Texas, from Miami, Florida, in June, 1963, and had travelled there alone, by plane. Mr. Cisneros fixed the date of his travel to Dallas as June, 1963, by associating other events.

Mr. Cisneros said that when he travelled to Dallas their JURE office in Dallas was already in operation, having been established in May, 1963.

Rogelio Cisneros stated he went to Dallas, Texas, specifically for the purpose of contacting Sylvia Odio who was to introduce him to a person in Dallas who was interested in selling them small arms. Cisneros said he contacted Sylvia Odio only once, and at that time he was accompanied only by Jorge Rodriguez Alvarada, their Dallas delegate, and no one else.

Mr. Cisneros said he does not know Leopoldo, adding that Leopoldo is not common as a Cuban name, and that so far as he knew, Leopoldo was not a member of JURE in Dallas. He further stated he did not know Leon, either as an individual, or as a member of JURE of Dallas.

Francisco Gutierrez, a Dallas member of JURE at the time Rogelio Cisneros went there in June, 1963, when interviewed, also stated he did not know Leopoldo nor Leon.

Rogelio Cisneros related that the man to whom Sylvia Odio introduced him was believed to be an Uruguayan who was well known to Sylvia Odio from previous contact in Cuba. Cisneros said he did not approve of the Uruguayan's tactics and had discontinued further negotiations with him. Cisneros added he did not recall the Uruguayan's name and indicated it might be Leopoldo, but emphasized he could not be certain.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2896—Continued

The name of the arms dealer was beyond recollection, until the Cubans knew the Secret Service knew him. This traffic in weapons was in violation of U.S. law and declared national policy.

The above information was made known to Inspector Kelley by means of long distance telephone call on May 5, 1964,

After speaking with Inspector Kelley the reporting agent recontacted Rogelio Cisneros by telephone and the name of Juan Martin was mentioned to him. Cisneros spontaneously exclaimed that Juan Martin was the name of the Uruguayan who had been introduced to him by Sylvia Odio. This was confirmed by Francisco Gutierrez.

Cisneros then related that Juan Martin operates a well established wash yourself laundry believed to be known as "Dixie", located near one of the biggest or principal bowling alleys in Dallas, situated on one of the main streets. He stated he had made only one contact with Juan Martin at the laundry and, although he was not familiar with Dallas, the location of the laundry was clarified for him by Francisco Gutierrez, who was more familiar with the City of Dallas.

(J) CONCLUSION:

Unless otherwise directed, the investigation of this matter at Miami is considered closed.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2896—Continued

Before this report was written, the Secret Service had interviewed the priest. Five days earlier, as the next document shows, the same Inspector Kelley to whom Agent Aragon phoned, had seen him in New Orleans.