

11/8/69

Dear Paul,

The first two pages of 2D1349 are rather interesting. They make me wonder about the identification of NO T-1, whether it is a single person. It also makes me wonder whether it is a rational person. It certainly sounds like a Bringuier-type Cuban. No one who knows Crest would dream any of these things are true. He had neither interest in nor plan to go to Moscow. But suddenly there is this gangup of adverse and false data, just at the time it was necessary to undermine any official confidence in him. Of the Habana-incident witnesses, the only one who could communicate with the Commission is Crest. The others speak no English at all. The most obvious reason is a very obvious one: the real Oswald did not throw that drunk there. He was out that late only once, the night he was in jail. Here a lie by Marina would have helped the Commission no end, for her testimony is the evidence he was not out. There are no indications he was ever a night-owl. When he returned the night of 11/21 at 9, he slept through the alarm 10 hours later. This person was also seen in that area much too early in the morning for it to have been Oswald. Fene is opened around the clock. The barmaid coming on at 7 a.m. saw this bird at the corner when she stopped to get Evvie his coffee. Two witnesses confirm this. There never was any pro-Castro activity in N.O. There are a few people, of whom Fene is one, who realize that some of what Castro has been doing is popular and has improved the lot of the poorest. If NO T-1 is a Cuban, he is an irrational one or an irresponsible one, for he should have known this arrival could not apply to Crest. De Brueys did also. He knew Crest well and it is not in this or any other report. Fene was also a mark. Arcacha, among others, took him. He collected funds for the front, had collection boxes in his places, put up as much as \$200 at a time for their essential costs, like rent and utilities, and finally, realizing the money he put up had been pocketed, went to Miami about it. This also made him a few enemies. He is a mercurial guy, was a good friend to me until Mark, Boxley, Hall and God knows who else tried to cut me out, when he blew. He is not stingy, but doesn't waste money. He can be generous, works hard, likes woman indiscriminately, but he cannot be either pro-Castro or pro-Communist, as deBrueys had to know, and deBrueys should have had the deepest suspicion of anyone who fed him this nonsense. Which makes me wonder if he made it up for just such purpose as this achieved (if you remember Liebler's questioning of Fene). But when this had all been exhausted much earlier, when the date allegedly originated 4/30, what is the point in a deB rehash 7/17 (which just happens to coincide with Liebler's second investigative trip)? deB is careful to include the truth, but the germ is here. He also knew P had not a single business but four of them. The very last sentence of this summary should have been the first and casts the deepest doubt on the dependability of NO T-1. It also confirms that deB knew the alleged source NO T-1 wanted.

I don't suppose it is worth it, but now I'm curious about the rest of this swill. I'd like to try and dope out who was up to this, for the purpose too neatly coincides with official desires and needs. Also, it is possible to deduce from this that the code designations are not inflexible, perhaps are designated anew for each report. Just conjecture. But these are not consistent with other representations of these confidential informants.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Commission No. 1349

Copy to:

Report of: SA WARREN C. deBRUEYS Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: JULY 17, 1964
File Number: 105-1926
Title: OREST PENA

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Synopsis:

NO T-1, a Cuban who is acquainted with the subject, advised on 4/30/64 that T-1 had heard subject was planning to depart New Orleans 5/1/64 for Europe and for a visit to Moscow. Data previously received to the effect that about 2 yrs. ago, subject was overheard to make a statement to 2 unknown persons in the Habana Bar: "Castro should have been notified about that as soon as possible." Same source reported that he had seen subject's picture in the New Orleans newspaper a few days prior to the above alleged remark by subject, indicating subject was leader of anti-CASTRO group in New Orleans. Subject's picture contained in New Orleans newspaper 12/22/60 along with other persons connected with the Cuban Revolutionary Front, an anti-CASTRO organization, which ceased to exist about 12/61. Subject's itinerary alleged to be New York, London, Paris, Rome, Munich, Berlin and return to New York, with no stops scheduled for Moscow. Subject reported traveling alone. Cuban sources in New Orleans area advise they have no pertinent information to indicate subject is pro-CASTRO or sympathetic to communism. Other persons contacted advised subject has a good business and is financially able to travel. Subject is naturalized U. S. citizen since 5/6/55. Subject born 8/15/23, Cuba. Subject described as being anti-CASTRO Cuban, as being anti-Communist; also described as complicated individual who was great admirer of President JOHN F. KENNEDY and one who has never argued in favor of communism, but has made statements on some occasions that CASTRO was right in connection with specific matters. This same anti-CASTRO Cuban reiterated that subject, in his opinion, is definitely anti-CASTRO. Another source reported that subject likes to tease people or shock them by saying that he is

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SYNOPSIS CONTINUED:

a "Communist." However, this source states subject in his opinion, is definitely anti-CASTRO and anti-Communist. No persons interviewed in New Orleans are of the opinion subject is pro-CASTRO. The person who allegedly made allegation that subject was planning to travel to Europe and Moscow advised that he is an anti-CASTRO Cuban and he is positive subject was merely making such a statement about visiting Moscow as a joke.

-p-

DETAILS:

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Information was received on April 30, 1964, from Confidential Informant NO T-1 that T-1 had heard that ORESTES PENA, owner of the Habana Bar, 117 Decatur Street, New Orleans, had stated he was going to depart New Orleans on May 1, 1964, to visit Europe and would also visit Moscow. The purpose of this trip was not known to Confidential Informant NO T-1.

On April 30, 1964, Confidential Informant NO T-2 advised that a source close to ORESTES PENA advised on April 30, 1964, that PENA said he was going to Europe and Moscow on an excursion with 24 businessmen, and that he was leaving New Orleans on May 1, 1964, method of travel not being stated.

Confidential Informant NO T-3, on May 1, 1964, advised that ORESTES PENA was going to depart New Orleans, Louisiana, on Delta Airlines Flight 970 at 12:55 PM, CST, and would arrive Newark, New Jersey, at 5:21 PM, May 1, 1964; will leave Newark at 6:04 PM via New York Airways helicopter and arrive John F. Kennedy Airport, New York, at 6:21 PM, May 1, 1964; will depart New York City at 9:00 PM, May 1, 1964, aboard Alitalia Flight 633 and will arrive in London, England, at 8:35 AM on May 2, 1964.

On May 1, 1964, Mr. WILLIAM TWEEDLE, Ticket Agent, Delta Airlines, New Orleans International Airport, Moisant Field,