

MM 105-8342

made from the microfilm maintained at the office of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA), Miami, Florida. No cartoon such as that described by Dr. PENABAZ, was located. Mr. GEORGE VOLSKY, writer and researcher for USIA, stated he did not recall any cartoon such as that described by Dr. PENABAZ having appeared in any Cuban publication.

On June 5, 1964 Dr. FERNANDO PENABAZ, 15 Madeira, Coral Gables, Florida, Cuban exile attorney and writer, stated he had not actually seen the cartoon to which he referred in the taped television interview, but had been told about it by Dr. JORGE GARCIA MONTES, former Prime Minister of Cuba during the regime of FULGENCIO BATISTA. Dr. PENABAZ said he believed he had been told about the cartoon by still another person, but was unable to recall the identity of such person. He believed the cartoon appeared in REVOLUCION prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY.

On June 7, 1964, Dr. JORGE GARCIA MONTES, 520 Gerona Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida, advised that he first became a Congressman in Cuba in 1922. He had also served as legal counsel for several United States owned companies in Cuba, while continuing in Cuban politics. He said he served as Prime Minister in Cuba from February, 1955 to April, 1957, at which time he resigned and was appointed Minister of Education.

Dr. GARCIA stated he had no knowledge of a cartoon such as that described by FERNANDO PENABAZ. He believed PENABAZ had possibly confused the existence of such a cartoon with a photograph which he, Dr. GARCIA, had given Dr. PENABAZ about 6 or 7 months ago. He said

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Name of Individual and Organization
Interviewed or Interviewed

Date 3/25/64

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Dr. FERNANDO FERRAZ, age 45, resident at 2805 Southwest Fourth Avenue, Miami, Florida, advised he had graduated from Duke University in 1939; subsequently attained his Law Degree from the University of Havana, and had practiced Law in Cuba, as well as being engaged in newspaper writing before coming to the United States as an exile from the CASTRO regime as of June, 1960.

Dr. FERRAZ stated he is currently active in preparation of radio programs broadcast over 110 radio stations in eleven Latin American countries. He said these programs are directed against the CASTRO regime. He said he has also been a writer for the "Fort Lauderdale News", published at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and for the "Jefferson City News Tribune", published at Jefferson City, Missouri.

Dr. FERRAZ stated he was invited to speak at the Third Annual National Anti-Communist Leadership School, sponsored by the Christian Crusade, which was held at the Captain Shreve Hotel, Shreveport, Louisiana, during February 10-14, 1964. He said the Christian Crusade has as its founder and director the Reverend BILLIE JAMES HARGIS.

Dr. FERRAZ stated that during the period of his visit at Shreveport, he recalled having a visit in the room of the Reverend HARGIS, at which General EDWIN WALKER was present, and also another individual, whom he did not specifically recall to be Reverend FREDERICK FOWLER, although he did not recall who else it might have been. He stated that during this visit, a discussion developed over the circumstances surrounding the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY.

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On 3/16/64 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 105-8342
by SAs JAMES J. O'CONNOR and PETER J. NERO:plm Date dictated 3/28/64

MM 105-8342

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It was pointed out to Dr. PENABAZ that information had been received attributing to Dr. PENABAZ various statements regarding the assassination which made more specific details desirable.

With respect to information that the assassination arose from an agreement between President KENNEDY and Premier KHRUSHCHEV for the elimination of FIDEL CASTRO with a provision that Cuba remain communistic, Dr. PENABAZ said he would never make such a general remark that could not be logically proven. He said that while such a theory is not contradictory in itself, he would not have voiced it without making clear that it was pure speculation. He stated he has never observed so many pundits pour forth so many distorted remarks as have been made concerning the assassination of President KENNEDY. Dr. PENABAZ stated he probably did say that one could argue in favor of the thesis that CASTRO may have had reasons to eliminate President KENNEDY, since it was evident that CASTRO seemed to realize that President KENNEDY wanted him deposed as the leader in Cuba. Dr. PENABAZ said that in a speech by CASTRO made at the Brazilian Embassy in Havana about the beginning of September, 1963, which speech was reported in the American press, CASTRO virtually threatened President KENNEDY by a statement to the effect that leaders threatening him (CASTRO) better be careful, because they, too, could suffer accidents. Dr. PENABAZ stated significant with this remark by CASTRO was information, unconfirmed, but received by the Cuban exile colony, that about three weeks prior to the speech of CASTRO at the Brazilian Embassy, an attempt had been made on CASTRO's life, with the result that someone was, in fact, killed. Dr. PENABAZ stated this may or may not be true.

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Dr. FERNANDEZ stated he possessed no information concerning a trip to Cuba by OSWALD or the awarding of \$10,000 to OSWALD as payment in the assignment to assassinate President KENNEDY.

Dr. FERNANDEZ stated that the most known concerning OSWALD's connection with Cuba was the fact that he had gone to Mexico prior to the assassination, and that the Mexican authorities had arrested a girl in the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City with whom OSWALD had contact. As possible indication that the Cuban Government was interested in OSWALD, the Mexican Government protested the detention of the girl assigned to the Cuban Embassy, although she was a Mexican citizen.

With respect to information that the "National Review", a publication at New York City with which writer WILLIAM BUCKLEY is associated, had reported that a "New York Times" reporter had obtained from a very good source the story of OSWALD's trip to Mexico and subsequent return to the United States with the sum of \$10,000, but that the "New York Times" mysteriously withheld the story, Dr. FERNANDEZ stated as follows:

This was the first he had heard of this situation, and he highly doubted its accuracy, since he believes that if anyone had such facts concerning the assassination, nothing could prevent publication of the story over all the world.

With respect to information that OSWALD, on return ✓
from his alleged trip to Cuba, was accompanied by QUINTIN PINO,

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MM 105-8342

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who was to take OSWALD to Cuba after the assassination, Dr. PENABAZ stated he had not made such a statement to anyone as being fact. He stated he had heard of an alleged plot wherein QUINTIN PINO had crossed into Texas from Mexico for the purpose of rescuing OSWALD after the assassination, but that the plan failed because OSWALD not wearing clothing of the prearranged color, whereby he would be readily recognized by PINO, and also, since OSWALD became involved in the shooting of Dallas Policeman TRIPPI OSWALD failed to reach the rendezvous at the time PINO would pick him up.

Dr. PENABAZ stated he had heard this story concerning PINO from MIGUEL DE LEON, whom he described as a former Cuban Congressman with contacts throughout Central America. He said that according to DE LEON, QUINTIN PINO was a strongman in the diplomatic service of FIDEL CASTRO, and had been sent by CASTRO to Nicaragua as of 1959 to organize anti-government guerrillas there.

Dr. PENABAZ stated he has never written any article in his news columns concerning the matter of QUINTIN PINO, because it is just the remark of one person to him, and may have no basis in fact. He said that for the same reason he had not reported such information to government authorities.

Dr. PENABAZ stated he had made no such statement that OSWALD had been shot by JACK RUBY for failing to follow the escape plan after the assassination. Dr. PENABAZ stated he may have said that such a possibility existed, but he would definitely have qualified it as purely a possibility.

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Dr. PENABAZ stated that although he could not recall speaking with Reverend FOWLER of Minnesota, he did do a lot of talking while in Shreveport, and much of it in the field of conjecture regarding the assassination. He said that the Reverend FOWLER is undoubtedly confusing what statements may have been made by Dr. PENABAZ with other statements or reading material known to Reverend FOWLER.

Dr. PENABAZ stated he had not heard any statement to the effect that the garage mechanic at Dallas, Texas who had observed OSWALD in the Dallas theater, following the assassination, had been mysteriously killed.

Dr. PENABAZ stated he had made no such statement, either to Reverend FOWLER or anyone else, that his information concerning the alleged agreement between President KENNEDY and Premier KHRUSHCHEV to depose CASTRO, or any of the other speculations on the assassination, had been received by him from a good friend in Cuba. He said that Reverend FOWLER was definitely confused in such a statement, and he believed Reverend FOWLER was possibly confusing the statements he had received from various individuals at Shreveport. He said that possibly Reverend FOWLER had also talked to CARLOS BRINGUIER, a resident of New Orleans, who was present at the meeting in the Captain Shreve Hotel.

Dr. PENABAZ stated he had never heard any statement or information to the effect that LEE HARVEY OSWALD and JACK RUBY were members of a six-member communist cell active in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. PENABAZ stated all his information concerning OSWALD is hearsay, and he knows no one other than CARLOS BRINGUIER of New Orleans, Louisiana who had any personal contact with LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

Penabaz, Jim
CD-159

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date December 9, 1963

WILLIAM MITCHELL, News Director, WESH TV (NBC Affiliate) Orlando, Florida, telephonically advised that he had filmed an interview with one FERNANDO PENABAZ, a Cuban, former professor of English in the Cuban Ministry of Education and a holder of important Government posts, in Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

MITCHELL advised that PENABAZ had been in the city for a speaking engagement at the Edward Junior High School sponsored by Reverend ARTHUR FROELICH coordinator for the Church League of America, Florida Division on the evening of December 5, 1963.

MITCHELL advised that the interview concerned the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY and the possible collusion between LEE HARVEY OSWALD and JACK RUBENSTEIN and would make the tape available for review.

SA [unclear]	[unclear]	[unclear]
SA [unclear]	ARTHUR	63
SA [unclear]	[unclear]	[unclear]
SA [unclear]	ARTER	63

TP- 105-2142

On 12/6/63 at Orlando, Florida File # [redacted]
by SA RICHARD K. HARPER, db Date dictated 12-6-63

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 9, 1963

Rev. ARTHUR A. FROELICH, 250 S. Orlando Avenue, Maitland, Florida, advised as follows:

He stated that he was the coordinator of the speaking engagement on December 5, 1963 of FERNANDO PENABAZ, 4017 Aurora Street, Coral Gables, Florida, and that PENABAZ has returned to that town.

Rev. FROELICH stated that PENABAZ received his information just the day before yesterday, December 4, 1963, and that it was based on research. He said that it has not been "tied down" as yet but that the available description does concern someone who does seem similar to RUBENSTEIN. Allegedly, PENABAZ came up with the information that RUBENSTEIN and OSWALD were conspirators in the assassination of Pres. KENNEDY. Rev. FROELICH stated that the information which was furnished to PENABAZ has not been verified.

He said that the PENABAZ is a writer for a newspaper in Ft. Lauderdale, and publishes "Today's World".

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TP- 105-2142

On 12-6-63 at Orlando, Florida File #
 by SA THOMAS C. ALLEN:db Date dictated 12-6-63

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Date December 9, 1963

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A review of the television taped interview taken with FERNANDO PENABAZ by WESH TV Orlando, Florida, on December 5, 1963 reflected the following information:

PENABAZ started his statement with a review of OSWALD's activities on behalf of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans, La., and stated that the announcements by the FBI to the effect that OSWALD was a "Loser" were subject to interpretation as OSWALD had been an active member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

One week before the assassination of the President a cartoon appeared in "REVOLUCION", Official propaganda organ for the Castro regime, which depicted, in one block, the damage which Hurricane "FLORA" had wrought in Cuba with UNCLE SAM standing by laughing, and in another block, a coffin bearing the name JOHN F. KENNEDY with CASTRO standing by also laughing and the caption read "He who laughs last laughs best". In addition, two days before the assassination, there were intense troop movements in Cuba on the Northern Coast.

Leading members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee expressed intense dislike for the late President and in an interview a member of this committee, CARLTON BEAL stated that JOHN F. KENNEDY needed to be eliminated. Also, members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee were formerly founders of the Monroe Committee formed to protect ROBERT FRANKLIN WILLIAMS, a man wanted by the FBI as reported in the FBI Fiscal report of 1961.

PENABAZ went on to state that he had obtained facts from reports of public hearings of the "DIES" Committee of August 17, 1938 that a JACK RUBENSTEIN had been one of the founders of Revolutionary Youth, a Marxist Organization in 1930 and also in Volume I of these hearings he had been one of the leaders in 1929 of the Lovestone phonetic - Gitlow phonetic group of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA). It was reported further in hearing on December 2, 1939 that a JACK RUBENSTEIN attended a CPUSA caucus in 1929.

4

TP- 105 - 214

On 12/6/63 at Orlando, Florida File #

by SA RICHARD K. HARPER:dh Date dictated 12/6/63

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APPENDIX

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FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE

The April 6, 1960 edition of "The New York Times" newspaper contained a full page advertisement captioned "What Is Really Happening In Cuba," placed by the Fair Play For Cuba Committee (FPCC). This advertisement announced the formation of the FPCC in New York City and declared the FPCC intended to promulgate "the truth about revolutionary Cuba" to neutralize the distorted American press.

"The New York Times" edition of January 11, 1961, reported that at a hearing conducted before the United States Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee on January 10, 1961, Dr. CHARLES A. SANTOS-BUCH identified himself and ROBERT TABER as organizers of the FPCC. He also testified he and TABER obtained funds from the Cuban Government which were applied toward the cost of the aforementioned advertisement.

On May 16, 1963 a source advised that during the first two years of the FPCC's existence there was a struggle between Communist Party (CP) and Socialist Workers Party (SWP) elements to exert their power within the FPCC and thereby influence FPCC policy. However, during the past year this source observed there has been a successful effort by FPCC leadership to minimize the role of these and other organizations in the FPCC so that today their influence is negligible.

On May 20, 1963, a second source advised that the National Headquarters of the FPCC is located in Room 329 at 799 Broadway, New York City. According to this source, the position of National Office Director was created in the Fall of 1962 and was filled by VINCENT "TED" LEE, who now formulates FPCC policy. This source observed LEE has followed a course of entertaining and accepting the cooperation of many other organizations including the CP and the SWP when he has felt it would be to his personal benefit as well as the FPCC's. However, LEE has indicated to this source he has no intention of permitting FPCC policy to be determined by any other organization. LEE feels the FPCC should advocate resumption of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States and support the right of Cubans to manage their revolution without interference from other nations, but not support the Cuban Revolution per se.

The CP and the SWP have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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