

Leopoldo Ramos Ducos memo/CD86:558

What fascinates me about this is the original report. I just cannot credit it.

Not have I an specific reason to doubt the accuracy of the FBI reporting in this case.

If anyone has any opinions, I'd be interested. Perhaps Jim does, because he has done a very large peice of work on tass.

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SUBJECT: Leopoldo Ramos Ducos

Following excerpts from Hispanic American Report (now defunct) pertain:

5/63 issue p.261: A six-week taxi strike in Vega Baja(Puerto Rico) finally ended in early March, and an island-wide strike of the drivers' Vanguardia Choferil set for March 4 was averted. Leopoldo Ramos Ducos, named trustee of Puerto Rico's 4,000-member Local 610 of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers by Teamsters president James Hoffa, was fired from his post. Also discharged was Sarah Torres Peralta, attorney for Local 610 and for the Seafarers International Union, which had been a key factor in the Commonwealth's campaign to eliminate the Teamsters. The trusteeship pact reportedly was made in early 1962 between Hoffa and international president of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union Edward Miller. This agreement declared that the teamsters would cease to organize the hotel workers, in exchange for Miller's naming a Teamster official to run the union. Petitions from Local 610 in March 1963 claimed that such trusteeships violated the Labor-Management and Disclosure Act of 1959 (Landrum-Griffin Act). Since February, a 23-man grand jury in San Juan had been investigating alleged legal irregularities within the Teamsters Union. Local Teamster boss Frank Chavez had been summoned for hearings but was arraigned by the U.S. District Court headed by Judge Clemente Ruiz Nazario for attempting to "influence the action of the grand jurors through written communications."

7/63 issue p.467: In May, Leopoldo Ramos Ducos was elected president of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Union, Local 610, ending a three-year trusteeship of Teamster control.

12/63 issue p.970: Meanwhile, the Caribe Hilton Hotel was the scene of violence and bomb-throwing when a six-day strike failed to produce negotiations between the hotel management and Local 610 of the Hotel Employees International Union. Previously, two employees had been fired by the management for starting a fight and disturbing guests, but at a grievance meeting held on October 18 a discontented group of employees protested the firings and asked for re-instatement. When the management refused, the strike began and eventually violence ensued.

1/64 issue p.1064: The 20-day-old strike against the Caribe Hilton Hotel by the Local 610 of the Hotel Workers Union was finally settled on November 6. A nine-point agreement was signed by management and labor which allowed some 700 strikers to return to their jobs. The settlement provided for re-employment elsewhere of the dismissed personnel and the establishment of a formal grievance committee.....Since the Commonwealth government, reflecting U.S.policies, did not wish hotel unions to be organized by the Teamsters' International Union, Whyte(news analyst) stated that the teamsters would have stepped into the strike if Local 610 had been unable to settle the dispute.