

11 September 1963

Daily Log

[CASAS Rodriguez] 05

03  
@ [PAULMERT]

1. Because [CASAS] did not call before 1:30 hours, PEARY called him at his firm in accordance with arrangements made last night. [CASAS] said that his chief would not release him for the several days required for the Mexico trip. On being asked if he objected to our discussing the situation with his chief, [CASAS] said that he had no objections, but he did express concern about his job. He was assured that his job was not to be jeopardized. On further query, [CASAS] said that he would make the trip if we could get the approval of his chief.

2. In the meantime, SAS/Security came up with information on [CASAS] firm, and especially on his chief, [HALLOCK], and by mid afternoon, got a clearance permitting us to discuss our utilization of [CASAS] with [HALLOCK].

[HALLOCK, Houghton Ross], Col. (Ret.) [SR 020612] 08  
DOB: 28 May 1916  
Add: North 24th Street, Camp Hill, Pa. 08  
Tel: 737-7875  
Mil. Ser.: West Point 1937 Engineering  
Retired 30 June 1952  
Legion of Merit  
Bronze Star, Oak Leaf Cluster  
Occupation: Director of General Engineering Division,  
Gannett, Fleming, Corddry and Carpenter, Inc. 29  
600 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg, Pa.  
Tel: 238-0451  
06  
@ [NIELSEN]

3. Before batting up to Harrisburg to talk to [HALLOCK], we telephoned him at his office to inquire as to his availability. He was, however, already well aware of our concern, having discussed the matter with [CASAS] at noon (apparently just after we called [CASAS] and mentioned that we would contact his chief). Although we pointed out clearly that [CASAS] was required to provide vital assistance in an effort of considerable value to the U.S. Government, [HALLOCK] replied that his firm also had a priority requirement of importance involving the Government of Costa Rica; in connection with this job, Costa Rica had sent an engineer to deal with the firm; this engineer would be in Harrisburg until the end of the month. [CASAS] absence would result in inactivity on the part of this engineer, and every day lost would be contrary to the requirements of the contract between the firm and the Government of Costa Rica. [HALLOCK] added that [CASAS] had told him that he did not want to leave his assignment. (Although [HALLOCK] was probably refusing [CASAS] services through self - his firm's - interest, I feel that [CASAS] definitely asked [HALLOCK] to put up as strong a resistance to his

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release as possible.)

05. In view of HALLOCK's polite but firm refusal to release CASAS, and CASAS' evident reluctance to do this job, it was decided not to bring additional pressure on CASAS' firm to get him released. HALLOCK will be carded appropriately. (Also, MEXI has an agent with good access to AZCUE whom they are obviously eager to use for the pitch effort.)

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