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INTERVIEWS
IN CUBA

Wladimir Rodriguez Labra

SUMMARY OF FIRST INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Very briefly we have gone over his history from his school days up to the present time. We have gone over in general what documents he has brought, what his work in intelligence is, and what he knows that would appear to be most significant to the present time. I am going to go over this fairly rapidly in English so that you both will be up to date with me. One problem he raised is that he wants to go to the U.S. He has relatives there and said that his intention was to work in the States in matter like this, because he feels that this is where he will be most useful. His father-in-law and wife are both in Cuba and he is worried about his getting them out. He has given me his true name which is that which you have already mentioned to me and the pseudonym which he had in England. He has some papers to give in the trip out here. He has given me the pseudonym which he uses for his work inside which is Victor.

HISTORY

Very briefly, after he left school he had a couple of jobs and then he became involved with the July movement. This is an anti-Communist movement and his work in this movement was like the work of many others. He was to commit acts of sabotage inside Havana and also to do propaganda work. While he was engaged in such activities he was taken prisoner in 1957. This was after a fire-fight. He was in a car with another fellow, two police cars came and they exchanged shots but they were captured. He was beat and then stayed in the Castillo Principe which is a jail in Havana. He was kept in jail until 11 February 1958 when he got out. He went out on parole and went into the streets. The first he did was to go to the Castillo Principe. This is the column of the 26th July and is a group of sort of fellows. He did engage in some other things, that is, domestic work, during the time he was with Hubert. Then the Batista Government fell in January 1959, the police with which he was fighting was in Santiago de Cuba. They went to Havana and then Caravana had a group of fellows also to fight. When he got there he was contacted by the 10th Intelligence Department which at that time was headed by Abel Varona. He had a particular job in this department. He was in charge of the operations of illegal agents. He was in charge of the operations of the agents in the Havana area. He was in charge of the operations of the agents in the Havana area. He was in charge of the operations of the agents in the Havana area.

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There he was the second chief. He stayed there until 25 January of 1961. At that time he was transferred to National Police Headquarters but he did not have any specific assignment. He was a kind of officer without having any specific office. He just signed the roster in the morning and took off until the end of 1961 at which time he was transferred to a police corps battalion. He remained with the police battalion until 3 September of 1961. At this time he was transferred to the Castillo del Moro to study. This was hard study and did not have anything to do with intelligence work. He was in school there until 20 December 1961 when he got holiday leave. He decided that he did not want to stay in the Army anymore. This police work was still an assignment while he was in the Army. He had already begun to have doubts about continuing to work for the Castro government and was thinking in terms of getting out. Then he resigned from the Army his papers were not processed right away, he did not report back to duty and he was reported for being away without leave. Because of this difficulty, he had some difficulty getting work and was out of work until 15 April 1962, when he got a job in the Ministry of Exterior Commerce. The particular section in which he worked had to do with the registration of vehicles. He remained there until 15 August 1962.

INTELLIGENCE WORK

He had a friend named Saul Cervantes who was an intelligence officer and through this friend he got a job in intelligence. This particular friend is called the Chief or the 2nd Chief of what they call the "T" section - this is a section which specializes in training agents for assignments abroad, particularly in Latin America. When our friend here began working in intelligence he was assigned to the Salvadorean desk. This is the only desk which he himself has worked on his own personal assignment. This intelligence service for which he worked is called Section "T" in some language but is properly known as the "Intelligence Service for Foreign Operations". This section is engaged in the type of work known as "T" intelligence operations. In other words, it is an operational section exists for the purpose of conducting intelligence operations abroad. It is distinct from the division for the Ministry of State Security, which is a counter-intelligence group. The two of them are completely separate and have no overlapping organizations. He knows some of the intelligence work at the Ministry or the intelligence work at the Ministry of State Security, well known as "Red-Board", which is the name of the counter-intelligence service. D.S.E. headed by Cervantes. He has some questions to which I already knew the answers and he is asking them because he is not going to go into them. He says they are very important as they are well known to the Ministry of State Security. He says that the work of the "T" section is very important.

Source: [redacted] stated this information was a Confidential Source of the Central Intelligence Agency, Department of State, and the Department of Defense.

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About agents the source said that he himself knows of the following: Two Guatemalans - he saw one of these two in Mexico very recently on his trip there and the fellow was advanced \$100 dollars to get to Guatemala. One Mexican agent. Two Panamanian agents. Three Salvadorans whom he knows personally and two more who are in Salvador but whom he does not know personally. Three agents in Mexico. One of them is a C.P.E.S. contact named Maurice de la Selva. Two of them are Nicaraguans who are in Mexico. One Nicaraguan agent who is now in Cuba. Two agents from Santa Domingo who are now in prison in Santa Domingo. One from Haiti who is now in Cuba. As to now, I did not get the news. This debriefing is going to take a little while, that is, to get the whole thing down - but from what I have told you I think you can see pretty much what the situation is.