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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office MIAMI	Office of Origin MIAMI	Date APR 6 1959	Investigative Period 2/19 - 3/17/59
TITLE OF CASE RAFAEL DEL PINO SIBBO		Report made by (b7c)	Typed By bn
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA	

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE **5/18/59**

REFERENCE: New York teletype to Bureau dated February 19, 1959, entitled, "Caribbean Revolutionary Activities, FPM-MISC."

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-P-

LEADS

LOS ANGELES:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Will review appropriate naturalization records to determine if subject was naturalized as U. S. citizen in Los Angeles in June, 1950, and will report all background information contained in these records.

NEW YORK: (INFORMATION)

A copy of this report is being designated for New York Office for information purposes inasmuch as subject may attempt to organize a branch of his organization in that area

Approved: *LOT*
Special Agent In Charge

Do not write in spaces below

- Copies made:
- 11 - Bureau (RM)
 - 1 - INS, Miami (RM)
 - 1 - U. S. Customs, Miami (RM)
 - 2 - Los Angeles (RM)
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 - 3 - Miami (105-1738)

197-3657-4	REC-107
APR 8 1959	

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MIAMI:

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

Will continue to follow and report activities of the subject.

INFORMANTS

IDENTITY OF INFORMANT

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL INFORMATION

[REDACTED]

b1
b7C
b7D

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed in this report, and "T" symbols have been utilized only in those instances where identity must be concealed.

A.

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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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Copy to: 1 - INS, Miami (RM)
1 - U. S. Customs, Miami (RM)

Report of: SA [REDACTED] (b7c) Office: MIAMI (b7c)
Date: APR 6 1959 (b7c)

File Number: MIAMI 105-1738

Title: RAFAEL DEL PINO SIERO

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

4/14/59 [REDACTED] called [REDACTED]
Slidsta, Advise to wife del Pino
Commissioner of Customs,
Miami 4/14/59.
slidsta
Classified by SP6BJA/oms
Declassify on: OADR 202,457

Synopsis:

In 1953 the name RAFAEL Del PINO appeared on a list of Authentic Organization members and allies. In January, 1955, subject wanted MARIO MARTINEZ to help EMILIO OCHOA escape from Cuba. [REDACTED]

(b1) | Subject arrested in Miami in 6/55, while in possession of carbines and semi-automatic weapons. In 1956 subject listed as member of or contributor to Patriotic Club of July 26, Miami. In 10/56, subject claimed to be naturalized as U. S. citizen in Los Angeles, Cal., in 1950. In 6/56, subject convicted of violation of Section 1934, T 22, USC, and fined \$150.00 for Conspiracy to Export Arms. [REDACTED]

(b1) | On 2/18/59, subject issued press release stating that RAUL CASTRO and ERNESTO GUEVARA abetted communist cause, and FIDEL CASTRO was a tool for communist designs. Spokesman for CASTRO Government on 2/19/59, in press release, called subject a traitor, coward, informant and liar. Subject said he was with FIDEL CASTRO during university days, with CASTRO in Colombia in 1948, and in Mexico with CASTRO in 1956. RAUL CASTRO tried to convince subject that communist way of life superior. Later subject fled from Mexico and FIDEL CASTRO. On 3/16/59, subject debated with Cuban Army Major GILBERTO FERNANDEZ on Miami radio station. Subject denied connection with TRUJILLO and BATISTA. Subject said FIDEL CASTRO responsible for deaths of BLANCO RICO and FRANK PAIS. [REDACTED]

(b1) | [REDACTED] - ROLANDO MASFERRER said that in 1948 FIDEL CASTRO and subject tried to kill him.

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DETAILS:

(b1) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in about 1953 CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, 2100 South Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida, former president of Cuba and head of the Authentic Organization (OA), Cuban revolutionary organization, was in possession of several typewritten lists of OA members and allies upon whom PRIO felt he could rely in connection with his revolutionary activities. The name RAFAEL DEL PINO, not further identified, appeared on this list.

(b7D) *Cuba File*

[REDACTED] MARIO MARTINEZ, a Cuban exile in Miami was associating with RAFAEL DEL PINO, 2295 S. W. 9th Street, Miami.

The Atlantic

(b1) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PINO was at that time employed as a driver for the Diamond Cab Company, Miami.

[REDACTED]

(b1) [REDACTED]

The June 25, 1955 edition of the "Miami Herald", a daily newspaper published in Miami, Florida, contained an article reporting that RAFAEL DEL PINO on June 7, 1955, was arrested by the Florida Highway Patrol and United States Customs Agents for being in possession of 47 carbines and

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semi-automatic rifles and 23 bayonets which were bought for about \$2800.00. The article stated that DEL PINO held these articles of war at his residence, 2295 S. W. 9th Street, overnight and was arrested the following day with these weapons in his automobile. The guns were being held by United States Customs Officers for confiscation.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] between fifteen and twenty members of the Patriotic Club of the July 26th, Miami, were leaving on an armed expedition from Miami to Cuba. [REDACTED] RAFAEL DEL PINO was one of the members of the group.

[REDACTED] RAFAEL DEL PINO SIERO claimed to be a naturalized United States citizen having been naturalized at Los Angeles, California, on June 9, 1950.

[REDACTED] DEL PINO was indicted on June 19, 1956, in the Federal Court in Miami, Florida, for violation of Section 1934, Title 22, United States Code, and convicted on June 29, 1956, for conspiring to export arms, ammunition and instruments of war.

On March 12, 1959, [REDACTED] Clerk, Office of United States Attorney, Miami, Florida, advised

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that the records of that office reflected that RAFAEL DEL PINO was found guilty for violation of Section 1934, Title 22, United States Code, in that he conspired to export arms, ammunition and instruments of war from the United States.

(b7c) [redacted] advised that on June 29, 1956, DEL PINO was found guilty and fined \$150.00.

Miami Fla

(b7c)
(b7D) [redacted]

[redacted]

(b1) [redacted]

[redacted]

The February 18, 1959, edition of the "Miami Daily News", a daily newspaper published in Miami, Florida, contained an article reflecting an interview of RAFAEL DEL PINO who was quoted as furnishing the following information:

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Cuba
DEL PINO

Communist objectives in Cuba were being abetted by RAUL CASTRO, commander of Cuba's armed forces and ERNESTO GUEVARA, military commander in charge of the La Cabana Fortress in Havana and that FIDEL CASTRO had become merely a tool for communist designs in Cuba. DEL PINO stated that there were many Cubans in different political parties who believed as he did and were willing to join him. There were contributors in Cuba, United States and other Latin American nations who were interested in supporting his fight against communism.

He was with CASTRO during their university days in Havana and with him in Bogota, Colombia in 1948 when the anti-BATISTA revolution was first planned.

He was with FIDEL CASTRO in Mexico during the days of preparation of the rebel invasion of Cuba in 1956.

DEL PINO charged RAUL CASTRO, ERNESTO GUEVARA and FAUSTINO PEREZ instigated a plot to kill him in Mexico because of his democratic influence on FIDEL CASTRO.

In June, 1956, the Mexican government arrested FIDEL CASTRO and some of the other rebels for revolutionary activity during which time DEL PINO hid in a house with RAUL CASTRO for about a month. During this time RAUL outlined his plans for Cuba after the revolution was won and stressed that the revolutionists would have to work toward having a socialistic-communistic form of government.

RAUL CASTRO often spoke of his impressions of his visit behind the Iron Curtain and frequently bought communist books to read in Mexico City.

During their talks RAUL tried to convince DEL PINO that the communist way of life was superior to that advocated by the United States.

When FIDEL CASTRO was released from jail DEL PINO stayed with him and eventually some of the other rebel leaders began to work against DEL PINO.

In October, 1956, DEL PINO was asked to accompany FIDEL CASTRO, RAUL CASTRO and PEREZ to an encampment about 500 miles from Mexico City, where he planned to stay two or three days. After arriving there DEL PINO was told he could

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not return with FIDEL and later saw FIDEL, RAUL and PEREZ talking in a low voice at which time DEL PINO knew that something was wrong.

Later PEREZ asked DEL PINO for his pistol which DEL PINO did not give him and the following day DEL PINO fled the encampment and walked about sixty miles through jungles before he reached the United States-Mexican border.

copy
The "Miami Herald", a daily newspaper published in Miami, Florida, on February 19, 1959, printed an article datelined Associated Press, Havana, Cuba, which stated that a NICHOLAS RIVERO, Press Coordinator for the Cuban Foreign Ministry, stated that statements made to the press by RAFAEL DEL PINO sounded like BATISTA propaganda and that the revolutionary army which was a peoples army was one hundred per cent with FIDEL CASTRO and statements made by DEL PINO were not to be taken seriously.

The February 19, 1959 edition of the "Miami Daily News" contained an article which quoted PERESA CASSUSO, Press Relations Aid for FIDEL CASTRO, as saying that DEL PINO was nothing more than a traitor, coward, informer and complete liar. *copy*

CASSUSO said that DEL PINO was not one of FIDEL's assistants, but was a coward who deserted the July 26th Movement. He said that DEL PINO never worked for the July 26th Movement in Miami, but actually worked for ex-President BATISTA as a paid informer.

The article quoted former Cuban President CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS as stating that everybody in Cuba was together and that he did not believe DEL PINO had the supporters he claimed. The article stated that Cubans in Miami were speculating that President TRUJILLO of the Dominican Republic might be the financial backer for DEL PINO.

(b1)


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[REDACTED]

(b1)

[REDACTED]

On March 16, 1959, DEL PINO and Major GILBERTO FERNANDEZ, Cuban Revolutionary Army, engaged in a two hour debate over Miami radio station WQAM, 560 kilocycles.

This debate was moderated by radio announcer ALAN COURTNEY.

During this debate DEL PINO stated that he was not connected with President TRUJILLO of the Dominican Republic, DANIEL VASQUEZ, editor of the anti-CASTRO newspaper "Tribuna," or former supporters of the BATISTA regime in Cuba.

DEL PINO stated it was his purpose to inform the Cuban and United States public on communistic conditions existing in Cuba and that he had sources of information in Cuba and financial sources in Miami, Florida.

DEL PINO stated he had known FIDEL CASTRO for about twelve years and while they were in Bogota, Colombia, were accused of being communists, but that FIDEL CASTRO did not refute those allegations for fear of losing political support from local communists.

DEL PINO spoke of knowledge of Communist Party terrorism in Cuban labor unions in the middle 1940's and his previous opposition to the communists in Cuba. DEL PINO stated that during his association with RAUL CASTRO in Mexico, RAUL CASTRO told him that he was a communist sympathizer and related his impressions of life behind the Iron Curtain when he attended a youth conference somewhere in Europe.

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DEL PINO said that while he was in Mexico in 1956 with FIDEL CASTRO, FIDEL called to Mexico for a conference some representatives of the Directorio Revolucionario (DR) concerning a plot to assassinate high government officials in the BATISTA regime. After it was agreed on, FIDEL CASTRO sent (FNU) CARBOSA BIAT (phonetic) and another unidentified person to Cuba where they assassinated (FNU) BLANCO RICO, then head of the Cuban Military Intelligence Service. *Mexico*

DEL PINO said that when the news arrived in Mexico City of BLANCO RICO's death, he and FIDEL CASTRO left for Cuernavaca, Mexico. On the way FIDEL stated that then it would be necessary to assassinate CARBOSA BIAT and the other person, inasmuch as if they were fanatical enough to kill BLANCO RICO, sometime in the future they might disagree with FIDEL and attempt to assassinate him. DEL PINO pointed out to FIDEL CASTRO that assassinations could not go on forever and that everyone could not be killed.

Cuba DEL PINO stated that many times FIDEL CASTRO threatened the success of the Cuban revolution and stated this was known by FAURE CHOMON, head of the DR organization, a Cuban revolutionary organization. DEL PINO also stated that CASTRO was responsible for the death of FRANK PAIS, well known Cuban revolutionary leader who died in the Oriente Province of Cuba at the hands of Cuban government soldiers. *Director - Revolution*

(b1) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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(b) [REDACTED]

On March 12, 1959, ROLANDO MASFERRER, 2421 N. W. 7th Street, Miami, Florida, advised that during the BATISTA regime in Cuba he was a senator and newspaper editor in Oriente Province, Cuba.

MASFERRER said that in about 1948, when he was returning home one night at about 1:00 a.m., he stopped in a cafe near his home. From the window of the cafe he noticed some men loitering near his residence. When he left the cafe and approached his residence, several men shot at him with revolvers. Two of these men he recognized as being RAFAEL DEL PINO and FIDEL CASTRO, having known them previously at the University of Havana.

MASFERRER said that sometime later, DEL PINO was near the presidential palace in Havana and when he was approached by a police officer, DEL PINO shot and killed this police officer and escaped.

It is noted that CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, former President of Cuba, was overthrown by FULGENCIO BATISTA on March 10, 1952. BATISTA was overthrown by FIDEL CASTRO RUZ, head of the July 26 Revolutionary Movement on January 1, 1959.

The Directorio Revolucionario (DR) was a Cuban revolutionary organization that helped the July 26 Revolutionary Movement in the civil war in Cuba against the BATISTA government.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Miami, Florida
APR 6 1959

RAFAEL DEL PINO SIERO

(b7c) Reference is made to report of Special Agent [REDACTED] at Miami, Florida, dated and captioned as above.

All informants mentioned in referenced report have furnished reliable information in the past.

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Wasca

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4/14/59

Airtel

mt

To: SAC, WFO

From: Director, FBI (97-3657) - 4

RAFAEL DEL PINO SIERO
IS - CUBA

Re Miami tel 4/2/59 captioned "Rafael del Pino."

Miami on 4/6/59 furnished a report concerning
the subject. [REDACTED]

(b1)

[REDACTED]

1 - Miami (105-1738)

VHN:mtb:jlw *jlw*
(5)

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF
DATE *5/14/59*

sls/ra
Classified by *SP6 BJA/DMS*
Declassify on: OADR *240, 957*

MAILED 27
APR 14 1959
COMM-FBI

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- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Nease _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____

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FBI

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Date: 4/9/59

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (97-3657)
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (105-1738).
RAFAEL DEL PINO
IS - CUBA

(b7c) [Redacted]
Nakko

Re WFO airtel, 4/6/59.

(b1) | [Redacted]

- 3 - Bureau (AM) (RM)
- 2 - WFO (105-30037) (AM) (RM)] RW
- 1 - Miami
- (b7c) [Redacted] sll
- (6)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF
DATE 5/18/84 Class date AW

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97-3657-5

20 APR 11 1959

5/15/84
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EX-135

Under
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Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____