

40282-A

DATE: November 7, 1958
TO: Thomas J. Kelly, Metropolitan Sheriff
FROM: W. D. McKee, Criminal Intelligence
SUBJECT: CUBANA AIRLINES, THREATENING PHONE CALLS

On November 5, 1958, Agents A. L. Tarabochia and Q. L. Weaver on information received from Agent Emrich of the F.B.I. contacted Mr. Adolfo Novo, Station Manager of Cubana Airlines, Miami International Airport with reference to a phone call received by a passenger of the airline.

Mr. Emrich related that a Mrs. Stuart McFarland, guest of the Everglades Hotel had received a phone call at about 9:45 AM, November 5, 1958 during which the voice of an elderly man told her "Don't make that trip today".

Mrs. McFarland and her husband are residents of Sagua La Grada, a locality near Veradero about 120 miles N.E. of Havana, Cuba.

Mr. Novo stated that the McFarlands are well known by the airline employees because they make from two to three trips a week to Miami.

The Station Manager, after checking the passenger list stated that the McFarlands had no reservations for the flight black to Cuba on November 5, 1958 but that they had not shown up for the flight on November 4, 1958 for which they had reserved seats from Miami.

Mr. Novo told the Agents that a Cubana flight to Varadero leaving Miami about 2:45 PM had been cancelled after the incident of November 1, 1958 and that the next flight to Havana, flight 497, was scheduled to leave Miami at 6:40 PM.

After making arrangements for a summary inspection of the baggage by company officials, the Agents left the Company's office.

At 6:00 PM. Agent Tarabochia returned to the airport and again contacted Mr. Novo who gave him a list of the passengers bound for Cuba on flight 497. List is attached.

At about 6:20 PM, the Station Manager accompanied this Agent in a thorough inspection of the plane which had just arrived from Havana, after which the Agent remained in the immediate vicinity of the plane during the refueling operations.

During that period, the Agent was told by the co-pilot of the plane, Mr. Romano, that Cuban authorities had recovered few bodies from the sunken plane which crashed on November 1, and among them was the body of a man dressed in the 26th of July Movement uniform. About 750 rounds of machine gun ammunition were also found on the plane. The body of the hostess was found floating decapitated about 10 miles from the scene.

The refueling operations were hampered by lack of proper equipment and consequently, the departure of the plane was delayed by nearly an hour.

After the passengers had boarded the plane, this Agent went aboard for a final inspection and was stopped at the door by a Cuban male who inquired about my nationality. This man identified himself as a Cuban Security Agent. The plane departed without incidents.

Respectfully submitted,



W. D. McKee, Supervisor
Criminal Intelligence



A. L. Tarabochia
Intelligence Agent

PASSENGER LIST, FLIGHT 497

CUBANA AIRLINES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
<u>William G. Heatzig</u> 23 yrs. U.S.	Geologist	74 Albermale Rd., Newton, Mass.
<u>Clara Ingles Gonzalez</u> 21 yrs. Cuban (passport #30227)	none	2404 S. Spaulding Chicago, Ill
<u>Placido Ramon Gonzalez Mendez</u> 38 yrs. Cuban (passport #10114)	unknown	2404 S. Spaulding Chicago, Ill.
<u>Russell S. Dobbs</u> 50 yrs. U.S.	Engineer Clerk	212 Elmare Haddon- field, N.J.
* <u>Ignacio Arturo Sandoval</u> 35 yrs. Guatemala (passport #77777)		Calle 4th-1230 Guatamala City
<u>Harry Fritz</u> 26 yrs. U.S.	Airline Agent	1648 N.W. 35 St. Miami, Florida.

* Subject cancelled reservation a few minutes before departure.