Central Intelligence Agency
has no Objection to Release
Date: 2003
Sanitized

FBI

8/1/66 Anti-Fidel Castro Activities
7/29/66 Comandos L
9/30/65 MM 92-726 Frank Lang, "Lefty" Rosenthal;
Diego Borges; Herminio Diaz; Luis
Posada; Ramon Escarda; Frank Tamayo;
5/17/65 2-380 Roberto Lejos Arzu; Luis Sierra Lopez

ODD - Intelligence Information Report
7/15/65 #2750008565 Sale of Arms by Cuban Exiles

SYNOPSIS:

Natl Agency Name Check 3/16/63

Shows home address: 967 Wooster Ave., Akron, Ohio
Date and Port of entry 10/10/62, Detroit, Michigan

Leader of group of Cubans sponsored by JURE, training in guerrilla warfare in Central Florida.

In Dominican Rep, Santo Domingo. As of 1/13/65 crew member aboard JURE's M/V VENUS

Indicates postponement of infiltration attempt by Manuel Ray

Indicates Posada possibly among plotters planning to take command of vessel belonging to Manuel Ray, since they believe Ray has no intention to infiltrate Cuba.

PRQ Part I
AKA: Bamby; Scar on center of palm, right hand, blk hair, grn eyes, white complexion, 5'10", 175 lbs

Father: Luis Posada Gonzalez
Mother: Dolores Carriles Vega

Lists: Jorge MAs Canosa as close friend
Believes brother Raul works for Cuban govt

Divorced 6/23/63 in Chicago, Illinois, from Maria Concepcion. Married Nieves Elina GONZALEZ Leyva 8/13/63 in Columbus, GA

Employment:
1/45-1/46 Sugar chemist - Central Pastora
1/46-1/48 " " - Central San Augustin
1956-3/58 Self-employed - Exterminator in Cien Fuegos, Cuba
3/58-3/59 Dept Mr - Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Havana
1/59-10/61 (unemployed)
10/61-3/63 Laborer = Firestone Tire, Akron, OH
3/63-3/64 2nd Lt US Army, Ft Benning, GA
3/64-9/64 Unemployed
9/64-pres. Sprayman = Pan Am exterminating Co

Hunting and fishing, judo

Past member of JURE, member of no other group

TRAVEL:

1957 US - as tourist
1961, Feb 2 - Mexico - Argentine Emb. as political asylee
1961 Feb 28 - arr US
1961 April - Guatemala, preparation for invasion
1964-65 - Santo Domingo

-- Cable 3/31/65 IN 35180
Posada eventually to be used as WAVE KURAR instructor.

-- Cable 3/31/65 IN 35178
Priority request for POA, presently working as auto body repairman

-- POA 4/1/65 201-300985 granted 4/7/65

-- TDCS DB 315/01270-65 4/20/65
List of individuals recruited to participate in attempt to overthrow Guatemalan govt:
Includes Anton Constanzo Palau; Posada

-- Cable 4/17/65 IN 46795
Posada given AMCLEVE-15 as crypt

-- UFG-7314 IN 02605 7/1/65 TDCS DB 315/02246-65
Rept Guillermo BELT Ramirez, former Cuban Amb to US asked Anton Constanzo Palau to help form 150-man compnay for duty in DR. Belt claimed representing US in this matter Posada at meeting discussing plan.

-- TDCS DB 315/02243-65 7/1/65

Jorge Mas Canosa, proposed no demolitions expert that he travel to Spain, Mexico at expense of RECE and place bombs in Communist installations in those countries. RECE had been approached by Carballo (FNU) for financial assistance for an operation involving the blowing up of Soviet or Cuban vessel in Veracruz, Mexico.

As of 6/28, Mas Canosa had in his possession 2/3 lbs of TNT
to be placed as charges on vessel. Mas Canosa in Texas working out details

-- TDCS @ 315/02278-65 7/6/65

Roberto ALEJOZ Arzu, Guatemalan millionaire recruiting Cuban exiles Miami area for infiltration team to Guat. to overthrow govt. Source tying to locate whereabouts of silencer for M-3 machine gun, one of four delivered to Arzu after weapons cache seized by US govt.

-- Cable IN 11645 7/14/65

Poss. delay in plan for RECE to blow up Cuban vessel in Mexico

-- Cable IN 92982 6/17/65

AMCLEVE-15, deme expert, contacted by Mas Canosa on behalf RECE. Said he was interested but specific details would have to be worked out before he would commit himself. Will continue to monitor further developments.

-- Cable IN 18425 7/24/65

Posada completed two 10lb bombs for RECE. Working directly with mas Canosa. Posada instructed to disengage from activities.

-- Cable IN 18432 7/24/65

Posada reported Diego Borges acting as agent for 3 Americans who seek buy pistols, explosives, blasting caps, hand grenades, silencers. Posada believes Americans John Birch Extremists or Ku Klux Klan. Refused. Tried to sell Borges 9mm sub-machine gun w/ silencer, but it returned to Posada. Posada put Borges in touch with Ramon Escarda for Pentalite. Posada says Tamayo sold Borges 22 cal silencers, promised Posada $3000 commission.

-- Memo WTR-1036 9/17/65

Posada under no cover arrangement but will be employed at Tri-State engineering

-- PKQ Part II 9/22/65

LCFLUTTER’4/14/65

Assessment: of good character, very reliable, security cons.

-- WCV-1066 10/25/65 memo

Technical Supervisor $600 per month

-- 7/21/66 WTR 1299 Memo

RE: Posada’s request to accept position on Cuban set up & govern activities in Miami,send 2 men & set up in Miami. Requested in all previous 7/21/66.
has been excellent."

-- UFGA 25802  8/29/66
Posada now assoc. with RECE and "Coordination of Forces"
RECE is organizing.

-- WCI-1492  9/7/66 Memo
Posada no longer with Tri State engineering

-- WCI-1501  9/21/66
Posada received phone call from mother in Cuba that brother
Robert in London on purchasing mission for GOC. Posada
willing to try to recruit brother.

-- UFG-8576  9/29/66
Posada one of six men on reconnaissance trip to Bahamian
island to locate suitable site for caching weapons

-- 11/18/66 IN 41455
Bill Johnson, (201-110963) told Posada on 11/17/66 that
bombing carried out by Robert E. Sping and Cuban "Mino"
(probably Gervello Gutierrez Concepcion 201-309242, military
coordinator for MIRR) were in Apache plane carrying 600 Lbs
explosives. Pnæ and crew missing. 1959 - Sping involved
purchase of lanes preparing base in Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico
for Anti-Castro group. Sping mentioned report re: illegal
sale of aircraft to Haiti - 2/19/65.

-- IN 58610  12/9/66
Posada desires to purchase 25' boat. Requests guidance
as whether he should be allowed to do so.

-- 12/12/66 IN 57889
Posada will be denied purchase of boat; will enhance his cover.

-- 2/1/67 Memo
WH/3/Venezuela C 03 Requests cancellation of PUA
for their use Posada

-- Memo for record 6/28/67
Re investigation by Justice Department of Left Rosenthal
who they believe tied in with organized crime figures in Miami
area and also involved with 7 recent bombings in Miami area.
Rosenthal went to Norman Rothman in DB and thru him or indir.
thru him Diego. Rosenthal put in touch with Posada. Rosenth
understands Posada attached with CIA and claims Posada supp.
him with caps, primers, and c-4 explosives

-- 6/28/67 REDRAFT Note for the record - telephone conversation

On station instructions, Posada cooperated with Rosenthal as intermediary, passing hand grenades and silencers in July 1965. In Oct '66, Posada recontacted Rosenthal. Under threat of bodily harm, Posada was forced to supply Rosenthal with 150 pencils and some fuses. Station only recently advised of this transaction. Items not agency origin

-- 6/28/67 Memo for the record

Suggests Posada may have been moonlighting for Rosenthal and only reported transactions to agency when it got hotter.
Posada was assigned to Cuba because of question of bona fides, possible affiliation of Cuban intelligence thru relatives; unreported association with gangster elements; thefts from CIA, plus other items. Posada interrogated.

Posada sensitive to questions relating to dealings with Lefty Tosenthal, possibly over amount of items he had been instrumental in getting for Tosenthal.

Posada's brother possibly member of Cuban CP (Roberto), but also believed brother Raul may by with Cuban intelligence. Raul spent a year of training in the USSR in 1962, to best of Posada's recollection.

Posada took several items with him to Caracas which were passed. Originally LN/HARP or CIA items: 3 or 4 smoke grenades, booby traps, delay fuse, primer cord, MK2 grenades, 10 pencils, metascope, etc.

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PRQ Patr I Update 5/22/68 IN 5/28/68

Presently with Ministry of Internal Relations for Venez

Friend - Augusto Val Des Miranda

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IN 08516 5/10/68

"Posada described as very productive."

"This does not mean he might not engage in side activities of his own."

Request test for him to take him off "hostile" list.

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IN 01396 5/1/68

Agreed Lugo, on gangster mission for Chucho Fernandez, Miami, said to be on look out for Cubans sent from Cuba to assassinate Pres. Leonidas Francisco Linares, Cmdr Wm Galvez. Abelard Colon, aka Furry.

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Intell Info Cable TDCSB 315/01471-68 4/25/68

Ref: Involvement of the US Military in the exile plots.
attack Cuba.

2/68 investigation in Venezuela or reports that Venezuelan
procuring arms for Cuban exile group. Two Cubans identified:
Salvador Romani Orue Garcia and Reinaldo Bonifacio Gonzalez
Leon Garcia, close friend of Masferrer Rojas. Plan cancelled
when it became clear that Ministry of Interior knew about
Ministry of Defense's involvement.

-- IN 92196 4/16/68

Posada working on [illegible] case involving poss. smuggling from
Negro who infiltrated by LNERGO into black power groups in
Miami.

-- [22] 15345 4/10/68

Indicates Posada on 24/01. Notes of
guerilla training in Cuba 66-67 indicate training heavy on
explosives

-- [22] 15198 2/19/68

Indicates Posada requested curare poison for hypodermic
needles on behalf of Gustavo Artiz Fage. Request made to
[illegible] without Posada's knowledge.

--- 2/2/68 IN 36499 Cite director 71540

Tendency Posada becomes involved in clandestine sabotage activities
failure to report to CIA. POA cancelled, to be handled as
hostile. Continue as source of information; no joint
operations; no requirements levied on him.

--- 12/6/67 [illegible] 27/16-17

--- Request for cancellation of Posada 8/8/67

--- 7/25/67 UFGA 28079

Reports Posada terminated 7/11/67 because he resigned
from position as military coordinator for RESC. MININT does
not have current need. Plans to seek employment in Caracas
through an old friend who resides there.

--- 9/7/67 IN 47458

[illegible] willing accept Rosada for OMA-QAR contract as sale
$590 per month plus [illegible] and return air fare for one
military personnel at any time.
DELETIONS:

DOD intel info report 5/8/68 Venez. Govt aid to Cuban anti-Castro exiles

# 2 753 0015 68
Luis Posada Carriles

VOLUME III

(Detailed document by document reviews of file will not be done, although entire file will be read and summarized)

Synopsis:

File dated from approximately August 1968 to March 1973. Indicates that Posada was given a new crypt CIFENCE-4 3/31/72 and is later referred to as WSCARLET-3.

In April 1970 he was questioned regarding allegations that he might have been involved with James Melville Hart and Orlando Garcia Vasquez in $300,000 in arms shipments Venezuela. There are indications that purchasers were American rightists. Posada denied involvement with these individuals, claiming he had met Garcia in 1969 and had not seen him since.

In March 1972 Posada's PRQ Part II was submitted.

In September 1972 there are references in POSada's file to Ricardo Morales, Aton Constantzo Palau. Morales told Posada he is affiliated with LNERO.

Memorandum of Oral commitment to Posada 1/1/73

February '73 - Posada may be involved in smuggling cocaine from Colombia thru Venezuela to Miami, also in counterfeit US money in Venezuela.

March 1973 - Decide not to directly confront Posada with allegations so as not to compromise ongoing investigation.

CIA cables indicate concern that Posada serious potential liability. Anxious to terminate association promptly if allegations prove true.

By April 1973 it seems sure that Posada involved with narcotics drug trafficking - seen with known big time drug trafficker.
VOLUME III

DELETIONS:

DEA

3/14/73    Luis Posada    BNDD 1622
3/12/73    "    "    BNDD 1554
3/12/73    "    "    ZB-73-0001

2/5/73     General file-HumbertoTrueva,    SGI -9-0006

3/12/73    Luis Posada    BNDD 1585 Miami

STATE:

2/26/73    Luis Posada - Humberto Trueva    Caracas 1686
3/8/73     Luis Posada    Caracas 1981
2/28/73    Difficulties in sale of voting machines to Venezuela
MEMO OF CONVERSATION (EMB-Caracas)

FBI

3/13/70    James Melville Hart RA-Venez. 105-193849 Wash, DC
Synopsis:

File covers period from approximately March 1973 to September 1976. In early 1973, agencies covering Posada's movements to Spain, Italy. Interrogated May 1973 and tested in March and found guilty only of having the wrong kind of friends. Interrogators were convinced by his denial of drug trafficking. He had been in contact with such individuals of interest to the BND as Jose Gomez and Humberto Trueva.

August 17, 1973 a memo indicates coverage of Posada's phone was discontinued after it was ascertained that conversations during the time of coverage indicated he was not involved with drug trafficking.

January 1, 1974 Posada requests whether he can provide Domingo Abreu with a Venezuelan passport. The request was denied. Memo declares that agency cannot permit controlled agents to become directly involved in illicit drug trafficking.

May 1974 Report indicates Posada does not intend to look for another job (following the loss of his job).

June 30, 1974, Posada's was amably terminated from agency.

February 1976 cable indicates Posada retains significant contacts with extremists exiles, including regular correspondence with Orlando Bosch.

Orlando Bosch reported in Venezuela on Feb 2, 1976 traveling on Chilean passport. Bosch of interest to FBI since early 1975.

Report that WKSCARLET 3 saw Frank Castro in Venezuela who said he was there to kill Pascal Allende and that Rolando Otero was willing to help.

Posada unwitting of WKSCARLET's contact with BKHERALD.


Posada informing agency that he must go thru with attempt to contact Bosch as though he did not know that Bosch had been arrested. Posada concerned that Bosch will blame Posada for leak of plans. Posada allegedly going to see Bosch in Costa Rica re: his own investigation of a letter bomb sent in Venezuela.

Pokas wishes to contact Frank Castro in Costa Rica also.

March 1976 DEA requesting information regarding Nieves Elina Gonzalez de Posada, wife of Posada regarding cocaine smuggling from Colombia.

March 1976 media indicates Posada still maintains contact with whom.

February 1976 Cable regarding Bosch presence in Venezuela for plot against Pascal Allende.

June 1976 Posada seeking help of CIA for visa to the U.S. for vacation.

September 1976 Posada recorded as private investigator at present, formerly officer in DISIP, dismissed when Carlos Andres Perez became President. Posada was known at DISIP as "Comisario Basilio." Posada trying at this time to make a deal thru an emissary with BKHERALD to provide information to BKHERALD.
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**State:**

4/4/73 AMEMB Caracas
Caracas 2866
Letter rogatory in case of elections systems corp vs. AVM Corp.
Synopsis:

File covers period from 10/9/76 to 8/25/77. Indicates Posada arrested in Venezuela on October 12, 1976 for October 6, 1976 bombing of Cubana Airlines airplane. Posada suspected of working with Orlando Bosch and others in plot. Also mentioned: Ricardo Morales Navarrete, Freddy Lugo, Hernand Ricardo Lozano, etc. Persons suspected in Letelier killing also mentioned. CIA did trace on them for FBI.

DELETIONS: State Dept

8/25/77 Caracas 8438 Govt charges "Cubana Airliner: Defenders with military crimes"
3/9/77 Caracas Orlando Bosch & Letelier ASSass.
1/22/77 Caracas 0680 Charge that Posada implicated in CIA plot to kill Castro publishe
10/20/76 State 259140 OMANG Query about Posada
10/19/76 Caracas 12401 Press queries re: Bosch/Cubana case
10/19/76 LDX message 0714 Additional questions

FBI

6/8/77 Director Salvador Alderguia; Espionage
2/15/77 Coordination of United Rev. Orgs(CORU)
11/4/76 Director Bombing of Cubana Airlines DC-8 near Barbados, West Indies, 10/6/76

-- 2300172 962167

Cable indicates Dominican Air Force Colonel Juan Armand Montes attended meeting of anti-Castro exiles in DR early November 1976 at home of former senator of Batista govt. Meeting took place when Orlando Bosch and others discussed terrorist acts such as placing bombs on Cuban aircraft. Participants of meeting included Colonel Abreu; Luis Posada and others.

-- IN 133384 12/17/76

Info that Posada arrived in Santo Domingo June 1976. Call
Departed June 7.

-- Memo for FBI director CIR 316/04881-76

RE: information regarding anti-castro figures possibly involved in NA violations. Info requested on following persons: Guillermo Novo Sampil; Ignacio Novo Sampil; Freddy Lugo Alejandro; Hernan Ricardo Lozano; Orlando Bosch Avila; Luis Posada Carriles; Roberto Carballo Diaz.

-- HEQA-09809 11/15/76

Memo re: Byron W. Gutradt knew Posada while Posada at Ft Benning (1964) (Note: Posada at Ft Benning 1963-64). Gutradt had already terminated relationship with BKHERALD. Posada generally knowledgeable of Gutradt's background, although two were not close.

Gutradt met Bosch circa 1963 in Miami when Gutradt was training Bosch in BKHERALD-sponsored program.

-- IN 088993 11/3/76

Results re judicial hearing on investigation of Cubana Airline bombing: Detention orderd for Posada, Bosch, Lugo, Lozano.

-- 937064 030008Z

Report received by Panamanian Natl Guard - recvd letter 10/22/76 from proprietor of "Pasco's Seafood" 1030 West 23rd St, Hialeah, with info re: Cubana airline incident (apparently to establish bona fides with Panamanian govt.) Says Posada responsible for plane bombing with assistance of Aldo Vera. Bosch went to Venezuela to settle differences between Vera's group and Bosch's group.

-- IN 081802 10/27/76

RE: Evidence to support Posada's involvement includes billing invoices seized in raid on ICICA offices (Posada's office)

-- IN 074928 10/20/76

Indicates agency had no relationship with Posada's investigative agency.

-- 10/20/76 To Immed Director, [illegible texts]

Formal termination of Posada 2/13/76. Contact beyond 1974 dealt to terminate Posada due to necessity of resolving outstanding tax matters. After 2/76 contacts with [illegible texts] were at Posada's own initiative to request information for return for assistance U.S. visa for self and family. Told agency 2/76 of plot of Bosch and Frank Castro, against Salvador Allende. Appr. 6/22/76 Posada again contacted. [illegible texts] reptsld info concerning
possible exile plans to blow up Cuban airliner leaving Panama and requested visa assistance. Last [6/7] contact few days later for counseling on this matter. Unsuccessful attempts made to contact Posada 10/7/76.

-- IN 074149 10/19/76

Indicates WKTANGO-1 (W-1) name popping up in reference to bombing. As of yet no hard evidence linking W-1 or Ricardo Morales in bombing. May have become accessories after the fact.