

CONFIDENTIAL

mab
66

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ARA/RPA
RAR/P

DATE: January 27, 1961

FROM : Emery J. Adams, For the
Director, Office of Security

SUBJECT: MARI BRAS, JUAN

Ref :

There are transmitted for your consideration the attached documents and/or reports relating to the subject. Should additional data be required, the basic document, when not attached, or the SY file, can be made available upon request.

The information transmitted herewith is for your confidential use only and not for dissemination outside the Department.

Please handle the attached material as indicated:

X A. RETURN TO SY. (report)
X B. RETAIN OR DESTROY. (synopsis)

Attachment:

FBI report dated 12/30/60 at San Juan W/ATT dated 6/30/60 and 1/27/60

SY FILE

39 160148
OFFICE OF SECURITY

FEB 13 1961

RESEARCH & FILE SECTION

SCA:SY:EMJagire:wl

CONFIDENTIAL

In reply please refer to SY/IRB

1 - Mr. Coleman

Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

March 1, 1961

1100

Director, FBI

JUAN MARI BRAS
INTERNAL SECURITY - N
REGISTRATION ACT - CUBA

Reference is made to reports concerning the subject previously furnished to the Department.

A report concerning the subject is enclosed.

Based on the enclosed report, an opinion is requested as to whether the subject has incurred any obligation to register under the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.

This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of the classified enclosure.

105-292

Enc.

Classified by 4612 1/14/77
Exempt from GDS, Category 2.3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

REC-73 105-292-51

2 - San Juan (97-418) (100-4785)

- Tolson
- Felt
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Tavel
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

MAR 6 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (105-292)

DATE: 3/9/61

FROM : SAC, San Juan (100-4785)

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS
IS - N 115

3/17/61
am

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases		
☐ Native Born	☐ Naturalized	☐ Alien
☐ Communist	☐ Socialist Workers Party	☐ Independent Socialist League
☐ Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
☐ Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) <u>Self-employed, attorney, #4 Degetau St., Bayamon,</u> <u>P.R. (with ELIAS GONZALEZ MATHEWS,</u>		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number _____		Responsibility _____
Interested Agencies _____		
Residence Address		

2 - Bureau
1 - San Juan
ECP:am

REGISTERED MAIL

57 MAR 20 1961

105-292
105-292
105-292

EX-111

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ARA/IPA - Puerto Rico
PPT
EAB/P
FROM : Emery J. Adams, For the
Director, Office of Security
SUBJECT: Mari Bras, Juan

DATE: March 15, 1961

Ref :

There are transmitted for your consideration the attached documents and/or reports relating to the subject. Should additional data be required, the basic document, when not attached, or the SY file, can be made available upon request.

The information transmitted herewith is for your confidential use only and not for dissemination outside the Department.

Please handle the attached material as indicated:

- X A. RETURN TO SY. Report
X B. RETAIN OR DESTROY. Synopsis

Attachment:

FBI report dated 2/15/61 at San Juan

✓ SY FILE

39	60148
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR	
MAR 22 1961	
RECEIVED	

CONFIDENTIAL

When separated from attachment handle
this document as.....
OFFICIAL USE ONLY

SCA:SY:ACPlambeck:mjf

In reply please refer to SY/IRB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 3/29/61

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 Sub 1)

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR
PUERTO RICO (COUNTERINTELLIGENCE
PROGRAM)
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL

(OO: SAN JUAN)

Re San Juan letter 1/30/61.

Proposed article relative to FUPI has not yet appeared in
"El Mundo" (u)

The New York Office has furnished a copy of an article
from the 12/4/60 edition of "The Worker" which is by
JESUS COLON entitled, "As We See It From Here", wherein
the text of the statement made by JUAN MART BRAS
(Bufile 105-292) regarding KHRUSHCHEV's statements before
the United Nations (UN) on colonialism is set forth in its
entirety. (u)

It is noted that the Second Annual General Assembly of the
MPIFR was held in Caguas, Puerto Rico on November 26-27, 1960 (u)

-P-

- 2-Bureau (RM)
- 2-New York (RM) (105-32872)
- 1-Chicago (RM)
- 1-San Jan

ECP:vv
(6)

REC-104

25 MAR 31 1961

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBV. CONTROL
Classified by 6078

Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/27/77 BY 1045

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

In the event that it did appear, the following action is proposed by the San Juan Office. (u)

The MPIPR has recently assumed increased importance in the Puerto Rican independence picture by reason of its efforts to unite 8 different organizations advocating independence for Puerto Rico, including the Communist Party. (u)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was one of the MPIPR officers who were in New York during November and December, 1960 during the period that the MPIPR attempted to have that international organization include Puerto Rico in the debate on colonialism which was then in progress. Considerable publicity appeared in local San Juan papers regarding the activities of the MPIPR in this regard. (u)

[REDACTED]

It appears that calling the above two articles to [REDACTED] attention might reasonably result in his resignation from the MPIPR, which would seriously hamper its activities by reason of depriving them of free rent and other payments at this time. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

The New York Office would furnish the San Juan Office with copies of the edition in which this article appeared, as well as copies of the 12/4/60 edition which contained COLON's previous article relative to the MPIPR.

(u) Editions of both of these newspapers would be mailed to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] with a piece of paper attached to the front with the notation, "Independencia Por Medio de Comunismo" (Independence through Communism).

Attention would be directed to the appropriate articles through having them marked with a red or other color pencil.

This matter continues to receive the attention of supervisory and investigative personnel in the SJO. Additional suggestions will be submitted for Bureau approval as opportunities are presented.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: 4-7-61

FROM : [REDACTED]

Parsons	
Belmont	
Callahan	
Conrad	
DeLoach	
Evans	
Malone	
Rosen	
Tavel	
Trotter	
W.C. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Ingram	
Gandy	

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO
(COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM)
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

The captioned program was established August, 1960, to disrupt activities of Puerto Rican nationalist and communist groups which seek independence for Puerto Rico through unlawful means.

The purpose of this memorandum is to request approval for a tactic San Juan desires to utilize.

The Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR), the largest organization in the Puerto Rican independence movement, has assumed increased importance through efforts to unite eight different organizations which advocate independence for Puerto Rico, including the Communist Party of Puerto Rico.

Juan Mari Bras, MPIPR Secretary General, and [REDACTED] MPIPR [REDACTED] were in New York during November and December, 1960, contacting United Nations delegations in an effort to include Puerto Rico in the debate on "colonialism" then in progress before the United Nations.

On two occasions in 1960 Jesus Colon, columnist for "The Worker" in New York City, devoted his column to Mari Bras' statement of appreciation to Nikita Khrushchev for Khrushchev's remarks before the United Nations relative to "colonialism" in Puerto Rico and the MPIPR's plans for an annual General Assembly, to be held in Puerto Rico on 11/26-27/60.

[REDACTED] who furnishes space for MPIPR headquarters and is very active in the MPIPR, according to two sources is "violently anti-communist," as is the MPIPR [REDACTED].

San Juan desires to furnish copies of the pertinent editions of "The Worker" anonymously to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The articles would be marked with colored pencil and a notation attached "Independencia por Medio de Comunismo." Translated, this means "Independence Through Communism."

Enc. 3
105-93124

REC-95

11 APR 11 1961

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

TC: sed (5)

50 APR 14 1961

EX-112

Just (checked)

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont
RE: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO
105-93124

OBSERVATIONS:

Bureau files show that Jesus Colon's column in "The Worker" on 11-20-60 was devoted to the MPIPR and its 11/26-27/60 General Assembly, and on 12-4-60 the column was devoted to the statement by Mari Bras concerning Khrushchev's statement before the United Nations on colonialism in Puerto Rico.

The 11-20 and 12-4-60 editions should be anonymously mailed to [redacted] and [redacted] with the pertinent articles appropriately marked and the Spanish-language statement affixed, for whatever effect it may have on these two MPIPR officers who are reportedly anticommunist.

San Juan should be cautioned concerning the necessity for discreetness in anonymous mailings.

ACTION:

If you agree, there is attached a letter to San Juan in accordance with the above observations.

sent 7/57

TC

OK

[Handwritten initials]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (105-292)

DATE: 4/21/61

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS
IS - # N 15

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 00
5/1/61

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases		
☐ Native Born	☐ Naturalized	☐ Alien
☐ Communist	☐ Socialist Workers Party	☐ Independent Socialist League
☐ Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
☐ Tab for Detcom	Race _____	Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female
Date of Birth _____	Place of Birth _____	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) Self employed attorney, 2nd floor, corner of Degetau & Velez St. on De Hostos Plaza, Bayamon, P. R.		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number _____		Responsibility _____
Interested Agencies _____		105-292-
Residence Address _____		NOT RECORDED 4 APR 24 1961

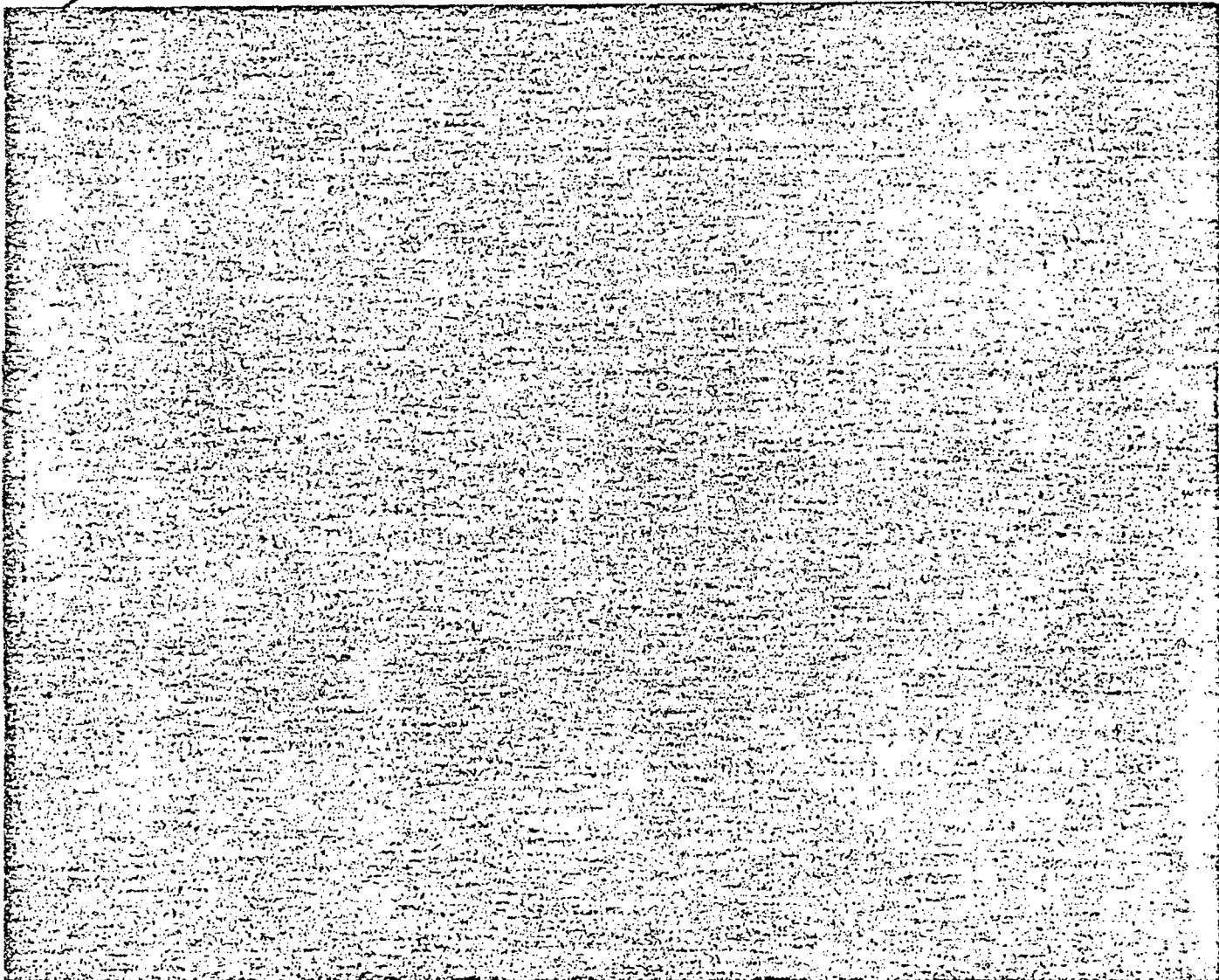
2 - Bureau
62 MAY 2 1961
REGISTERED MAIL
RLW:gv

SUBV. CONTROL

4/21/61

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 24, 1961: A three day counter picket was begun by an estimated 300 to 400 anti-FUPI, anti-Communist students in front of the University of Puerto Rico (UPR). According to press releases, the members of this picket were from various political and religious groups and were organized under the name "Committee for Support of the True Cuban Revolution", to show that the FUPI's pro-CASTRO and pro-Communist views do not represent the views of the majority of the UPR student body.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

16
SJ 105-3353 Sub 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
On 5/1/61 [REDACTED], a former member of the FUPI, entered the San Juan Office and advised he had read the above editorial in "El Mundo" and desired to furnish all information in his possession to assist in the fight against communist orientation of UPR Students.

On 5/2/61 [REDACTED], a current member of the FUPI and one of the individuals who participated in the 4/13/61 FUPI picket of the San Juan Office, entered the San Juan Office and furnished information in his possession concerning FUPI activities. [REDACTED] indicated he had "broken with" the FUPI as a result of the fact that CASTRO had recently confirmed his connection with Russia. Although [REDACTED] did not mention the editorial it is felt the appearance of this editorial was one of the prime motives for his defection from the FUPI.

Any additional reaction to this editorial will be furnished.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 Sub 1)

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO
COUNTER INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM
(SUBVERSIVE CONTROL)

DATE: 6/20/61

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

Re Bulet to San Juan, 6/1/61.

Methods of organizations advocating Puerto Rico's independence range from peaceful, legal separation, advocated by the PIP, to violent revolution, advocated by the NPPR.

The PIP polled only 25,000 votes during the 1960 elections and thus lost its status as a political party. This number is no measure of the independentists in Puerto Rico and the low figure can be largely attributed to the successful campaign of "electoral abstinence" conducted by the MPIPR, and joined by other pro-independence organizations, just prior to the elections. It can be assumed the 25,000 who voted for the PIP were those for the most part who refused to participate in the "electoral abstinence" campaign and actually desired peaceful and harmonious separation from the United States. Paradoxically, the defeat of the PIP has served to increase the threat of violence in Puerto Rico inasmuch as a great number of those who supported the PIP have become disillusioned and have switched to more violent "action organizations," such as the MPIPR and APU.

The NPPR, a small dedicated group, has distinguished itself in the past by erratic acts of violence which, although seemingly futile, have well served the NPPR's calculated purpose of calling world attention to Puerto Rico's "domination" by the United States.

Between these extremes, the most active organizations in Puerto Rico at the present are the APU, FUPI and MPIPR. Of these, the FUPI and MPIPR work in close harmony due to the fact the policy-making leaders of the FUPI are all members of the MPIPR Directive Board. The APU, however, is at odds with

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - New York (105-32872) (RM)
1 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)

JCB:am Classified by 6096
(4) Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

105-93124-1
REC-15 JUN 23 1961

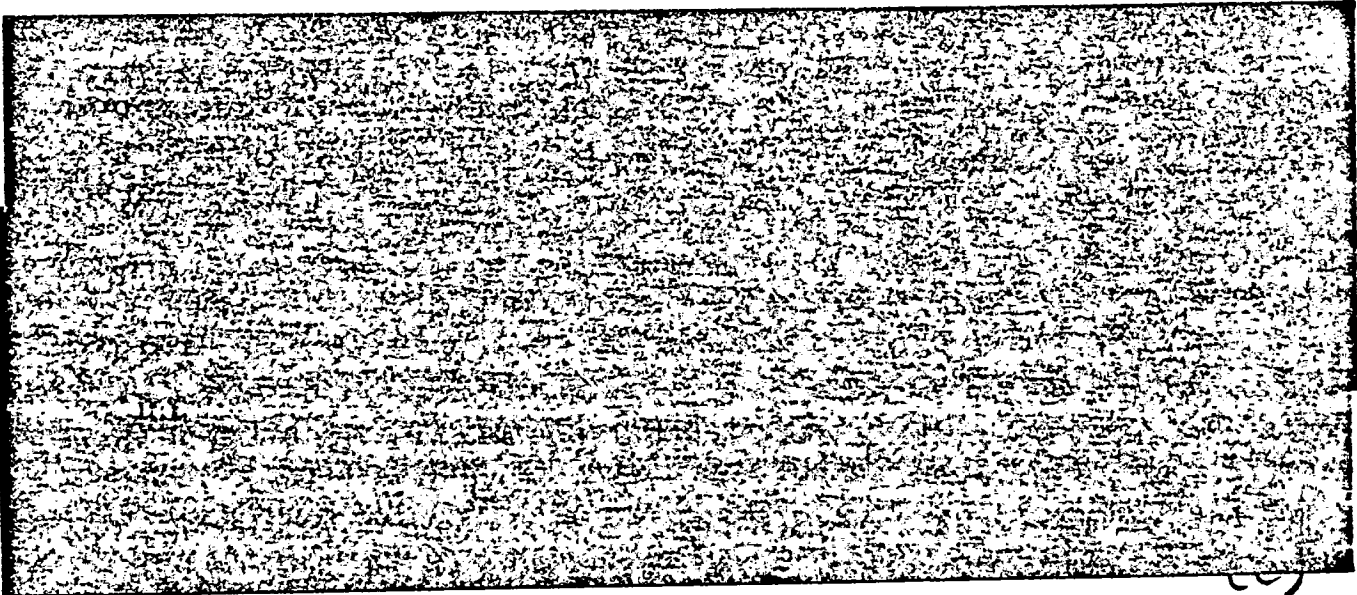
62 JUN 29 1961

2-18-75
CMB~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

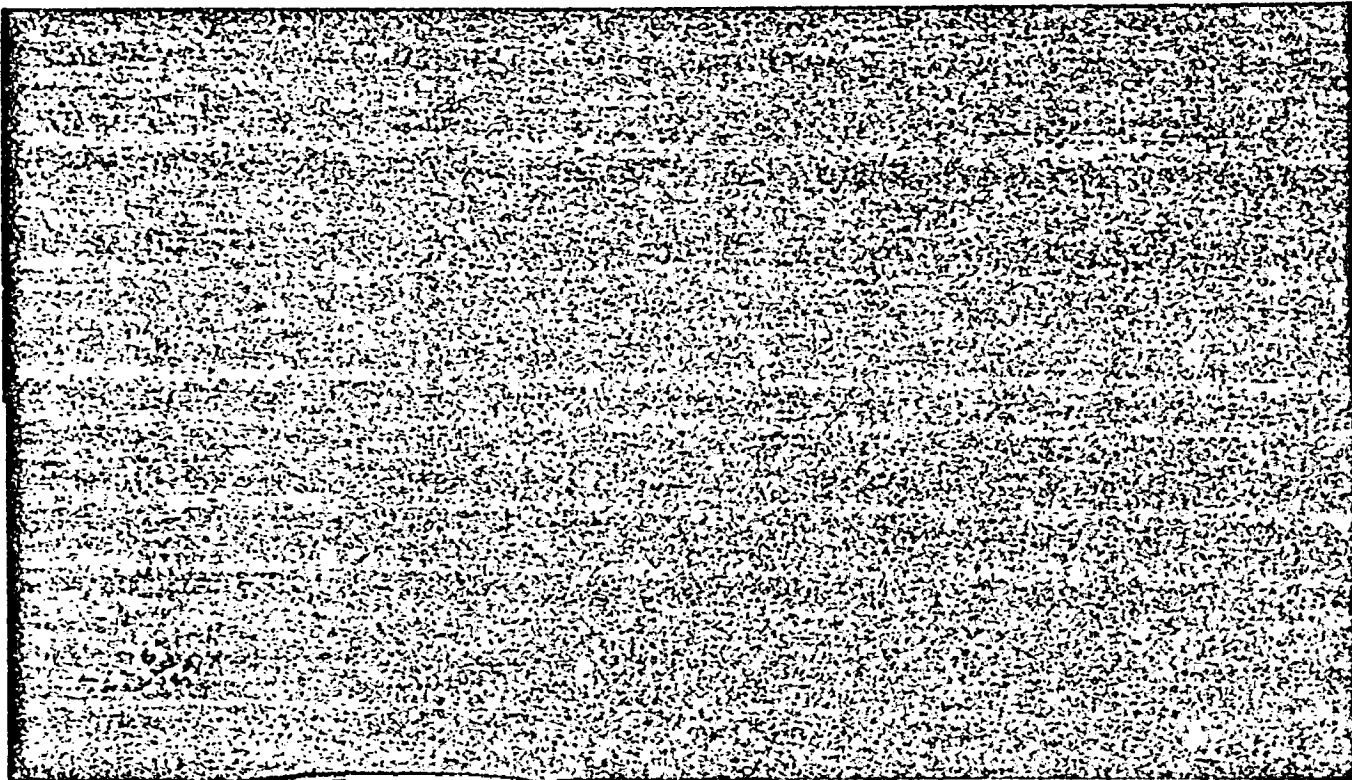
the MPIPR. During the past year, [REDACTED] aligned himself with the MPIPR and attempted to move into a leadership position in this group. When he failed, he became active in the APU and [REDACTED]. He has devoted a great deal of his efforts to winning adherents to the APU from the MPIPR and other independentist organizations and has been moderately successful in this regard. Sources have reported the APU is a rapidly expanding organization under [REDACTED] and that the MPIPR is becoming known more and more as an "intellectual organization" because of its direction by the professional class, doctors, lawyers and university professors. A source has reported the APU appears to have more to offer the common man and the speeches of [REDACTED] and other APU leaders call for more action and are more on the level of the independentist masses who have been disillusioned by failure of PIP's peaceful efforts toward independence.

The above information is being set out for the Bureau inasmuch as it is believed the jealousies and tensions between these two factions may be increased and effectively utilized to disrupt their efforts. At the present time the files of [REDACTED] of APU [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] JUAN MARI BRAS, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are being reviewed for information which could be used in this regard.



CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



[REDACTED] voluntarily contacted the SJO and furnished full information concerning [REDACTED] connection with the FUPI and his recent travel behind the Iron Curtain. She has been married to [REDACTED] father for five years and has been constantly at odds with [REDACTED] concerning his independentist views. She contacted the FBI because of her loyalty to the United States and offered her services, provided such would be held in strict confidence.

Mrs. [REDACTED] is in an excellent position to furnish correspondence maintainin possession of [REDACTED], and background investigation is being conducted with a view of developing her as a Confidential Source.

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

9/10

Reporting Office SAN JUAN	Office of Origin SAN JUAN	Date 6/30/61	Investigative Period 5/2 - 6/19/61
TITLE OF CASE JUAN MARI BRAS		Report made by [REDACTED]	Typed By: ZC
		CHARACTER OF CASE IS - N	

XXXXX

REFERENCES:

11/27/62
11/19/62
176

Reports of SA [REDACTED] at San Juan,
12/30/60 and 2/15/61.

0-1 signed 2 repts.
1-17-62 TC

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Copies of the letterhead memorandum evaluating information mentioned in this report have been disseminated locally to ONI, CIC, and OSI.

Translations of Spanish language material set out in this report were made by former San Juan Office Translator [REDACTED]

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 5 - Bureau (105-292) (RM) 1 - ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand) 1 - 471st CIC Detachment, SJ (By Hand) 1 - OSI, Ramey AFB (RM) 3 - San Juan (100-4785)	[REDACTED]	100-4785-53	REC-7
		12 JUL 3 1961	
		REC-92 (20-12)	
		K-107	

Copy to ANC, ONE, SATE, Interior
by routing slip for
☐ info ☐ action
date 7-18-61
by HOIN 17

1241001

SP 100-4785

The Special Agent who observed the subject at his home on 6/7/61 was [REDACTED] On that same date SA [REDACTED]

The Special Agents observing the subject at Ponce on March 22, 1961 were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Special Agents who observed the subject at a picket at San Juan, 1/7/61, were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

1/2/61
2/1/61
3/1/61
4/3/61
5/1/61
6/1/61

SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]

noted

It should be noted that the report of SA [REDACTED] dated 2/15/61 concerned possible violation of the subject of the Registration Act. By letter dated April 25, 1961 the Department advised that while the subject is a Puerto Rican nationalist who advocates the solidarity of the Cuban revolutionary government and the Puerto Rican independence movement and has received and distributed propaganda favorable to the CASTRO regime, there is no evidence indicating that he did so at the request or under the direction of the Cuban Government. Accordingly it was not believed that the subject had incurred obligation to register under the Foreign Registration Act.

B
COVER PAGE

SJ 100-4785

Identity of Source

Location

SJ T-1 is [REDACTED]

SJ T-2 is [REDACTED]

SJ T-3 is [REDACTED]

SJ T-4 [REDACTED]

SJ T-5 [REDACTED]

SJ T-6 [REDACTED]

SJ T-7 [REDACTED]

SJ T-8 is an additional symbol
to further conceal [REDACTED]

Other confidential informants who were unable to
provide current information concerning the subject are set
out below:

[REDACTED]
6/16/61
5/28/61
5/29/61
6/5/61
6/5/61

SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]

C
COVER PAGE

SJ 100-4785

Characterizations of the following organizations
were provided as set out below:

FUPI -

SJ [REDACTED]
SJ [REDACTED]
SJ [REDACTED]

APU -

Former SJ [REDACTED]

SANC -

SJ [REDACTED]
SJ [REDACTED]

PCP -

SJ [REDACTED]
SJ [REDACTED]
SJ [REDACTED]

MPIPR -

Former [REDACTED]

LEAD:

SAN JUAN DIVISION

At San Juan, Puerto Rico

Will continue to follow and report the activities
of the subject.

D
COVER PAGE

SJ 100-4785

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
7. ☒ This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL because (state reason) information received from confidential informants could reasonably result in their identification and compromise their future value and effectiveness.
8. ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) when interviewed 6/20/60, the subject appeared cooperative to Bureau Agents, but it was subsequently reported, however, that MARI BRAS made statements alleging FBI harassment and persecution of MPIPR members. Because of this it is not felt an interview at this time would be wise.
9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) when interviewed 6/20/60 the subject declared he believed in the right of the Puerto Rican people to use violence to achieve independence, if necessary, but he did not believe at that time in the use of violence since it would not be successful against the power of the United States. The subject continues as Secretary General of the MPIPR.
11. Subject's SI card is tabbed Detcom.
Subject's activities do warrant Detcom tabbing.

E*
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

1 - ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand)
1 - 471st CIC Detachment, SJ (By Hand)
1 - OSI, Ramey AFB (RM)

Report of:

SA [REDACTED]

Office: SAN JUAN

Date:

6/30/61

Field Office File #:

SJ 100-4785

Bureau File #: 105-292

Title:

JUAN MARI BRAS

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - NATIONALIST

Synopsis:

The subject continues to reside at 1502 Calle Temesis, Urbanizacion El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, and is self-employed as an attorney with offices at Bayamon, Puerto Rico. Subject continues to hold post of Secretary General of the MPIPR and to direct activities of that group. Subject has been frequent speaker at various Puerto Rican holidays and adheres generally to theme that imperialist United States is holding Puerto Rico in colonial status. Subject has continued to support Cuban revolutionary government. Subject in early 1961 organized weekly pickets of MPIPR and other independence groups demanding release of imprisoned Puerto Rican nationalists.

-P-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SJ 100-4785

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence

On June 7, 1961, the Subject was observed by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the porch of his home at 1502 Calle Temesis, Urbanizacion El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

B. Employment

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR)

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix hereto.

A. Official Position

On June 6, 1961, SJ T-1 advised the subject continues to hold the post of Secretary General of the MPIPR. He noted the subject was named to this post at the convention of that organization in November, 1960. He

SJ 100-4785

added that the subject is the driving force in the MPIPR and is in attendance at almost all its meetings and devotes as much time as he can to the group's activities.

B. Activities as MPIPR leader

[REDACTED]

1961 the subject in an address at an MPIPR sponsored "Homage to MARTI" at San Juan, Puerto Rico, stated that the MPIPR would hold pickets on Sundays and holidays at La Fortaleza and other places demanding the release of OEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS and other imprisoned nationalists. These pickets would be drawn from independence sympathizers from all over Puerto Rico.

La Fortaleza is the official residence of the Governor of Puerto Rico.

JOSE MARTI was a 19th century Cuban revolutionary writer and poet, often referred to as the "GEORGE WASHINGTON of Cuba."

PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS is the Titular Head of the NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO (NPPR).

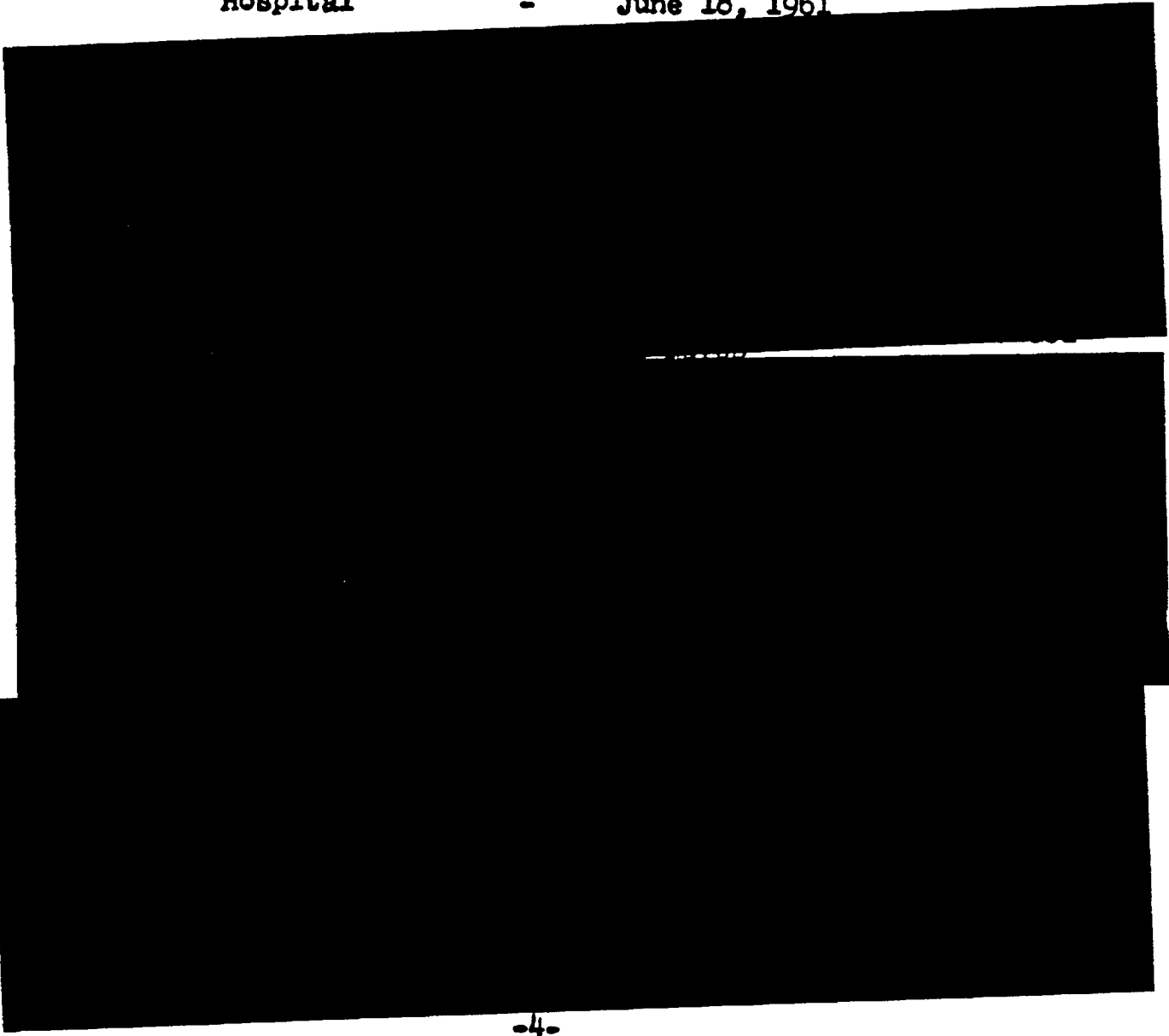
The NPPR has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The subject's file at the [REDACTED] articles in "El Mundo," a daily Spanish language newspaper published in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and SJ T-1 indicate that the subject has participated in MPIPR sponsored pickets demanding the release of imprisoned nationalists at the below listed places on the indicated dates:

La Fortaleza	-	January 29, 1961
Presbyterian Hospital (where PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS is confined)	-	February 26, 1961

8J 100-4785

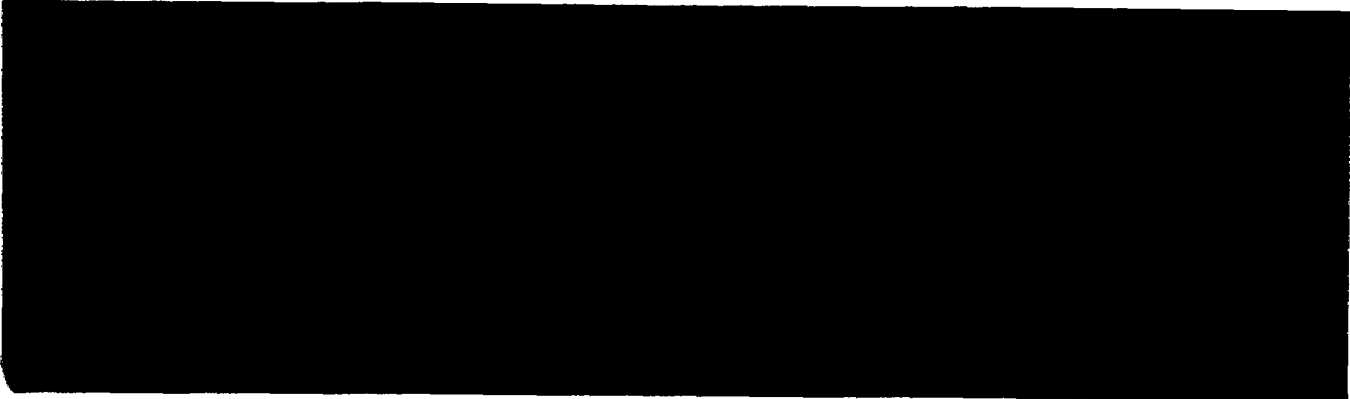
La Fortaleza	-	March 3, 1961
La Fortaleza	-	March 19, 1961
La Fortaleza	-	April 16, 1961
State Penitentiary- Rio Piedras	-	April 23, 1961
La Fortaleza	-	May 7, 1961
State Penitentiary- Rio Piedras	-	May 25, 1961
Presbyterian Hospital	-	June 18, 1961



SJ 100-4785

On April 18, 1961, SJ T-8 advised the subject spoke at the closing exercises of the MPIPR leadership school on April 17, 1961.

An article in the April, 1961 issue of "Claridad," self-described official organ of the MPIPR, stated that the subject had been giving lectures at the MPIPR school for political training.



III. GENERAL ACTIVITIES

A. Independence Activities

The January 17, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" contains an article by the subject in which he repudiates the supreme authority over Puerto Rico of the United States Congress, the President, Supreme Court, Armed Forces, and the big stateside companies. In the article he declared that the United States imposed colonial government on Puerto Rico in 1900 and that the MPIPR defends the right of the Puerto Rican people to select their own form of government.

On January 13, 1961,  Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, advised the subject was among those in a parade observing DE HOSTOS Day at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, January 11, 1961.

EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS was a 19th century Puerto Rican patriot, author, and scholar whose birthday is celebrated January 11.

SJ 100-4785

The January 12, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" in an article states that on January 11, 1961 the subject at a DE HOSTOS Day observance before the DE HOSTOS statue in the campus of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, complained because college officials had refused to allow political demonstrations there. In his remarks, he stated "Independence is coming sooner than anyone expects."

On January 12, 1961, SJ T-3 advised the subject was among those persons participating in an observance of DE HOSTOS Day, January 11, 1961, at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, sponsored by the MPIPR and the FEDERACION DE UNIVERSITARIOS PRO INDEPENDENCIA (Federation of University Students for Independence) (FUPI).

A characterization of the FUPI appears in the appendix hereto.

[REDACTED] In his address, the subject condemned the United States intervention in Latin America and lauded MARTI.

As referred to previously, the subject in closing his remarks on this occasion stated that the MPIPR would mount pickets every Sunday and holidays at La Fortaleza and that these pickets would be composed of independence sympathizers demanding freedom for imprisoned nationalists.

On January 24, 1961, SJ T-6 made available a circular published by the NPPR and signed by LUIS MANUEL O'NEILL as National Coordinator, which urged participation in the subject's pickets to free the political prisoners. The subject was referred to in this letter as "our friend."

The January 30, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" in an article quoted the subject as announcing that the MPIPR would picket every Sunday from ten until noon for the release of [REDACTED] and other imprisoned nationalists.

MARI BRAS was quoted in the above article as stating these pickets would be a permanent thing "until the last political prisoner is released."

The February 21, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated that on February 19, 1961 at Ponce, Puerto Rico, the subject addressed a meeting of the Ponce Branch of the MPIPR at which time he announced that the MPIPR would launch a continental homage to PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS in September, 1961 on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

[REDACTED] at which time he criticized the colonial system of government imposed on Puerto Rico by the United States.

He stated that this government is kept in power by military forces which keep the Puerto Rican people in slavery. In his address he noted that Soviet Russia had attempted to aid Puerto Rico by introducing Puerto Rico's case in the United Nations. He stated that those who defend the independence of Puerto Rico have been accused of being communists and "Fidelistas." He urged that independence sympathizers continue to fight no matter what they are called.

On March 22, 1961, Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject speak at an MPIPR gathering in Abolition Square at Ponce, Puerto Rico. This gathering was to commemorate the Ponce Massacre.

A characterization of the Ponce Massacre appears in the appendix hereto.

The March 23, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" stated that on March 22, 1961 an observance of the Ponce Massacre was held at Ponce, Puerto Rico, and among the speakers was the subject.

The article stated that the chief speaker at the meeting was LUIS MANUEL O'NEILL, NPPR National Coordinator.

SJ 100-4785

On April 20, 1961, SJ T-4 advised that the subject spoke at an observance of BETANCES Day, April 9, 1961, at Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico.

A characterization of the BETANCES Day appears in the appendix hereto.

On April 17, 1961, SJ T-3 advised the subject spoke at a BETANCES Day celebration at Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, April 9, 1961, which was sponsored by various independence groups.

On April 19, 1961, SJ T-5 advised the subject attended a meeting of independence groups on April 16, 1961, at San Juan. Among the groups represented at this meeting were the NPPR, ACCION PATRIOTICA UNITARIA (Patriotic Unitarian Action) (APU), the FUPI, SOCIEDAD DE AMIGOS DE LA NUEVA CUBA (Society of Friends of New Cuba) (SANC), and the MPIPR.

Characterization of the APU and SANC appear in the appendix hereto.

B. Pro-Cuban Activities

On January 7, 1961, Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject among those participating in a picket for solidarity with the Cuban revolutionary government held at San Juan, Puerto Rico, by the MPIPR and the FUPI.

On January 9, 1961, SJ T-7 advised the subject participated in a picket sponsored by the FUPI on January 7, 1961 at San Juan in support of the Cuban revolutionary government.

The January 9, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated that the subject was among those in a pro-CASTRO parade held in San Juan, January 7, 1961.

[REDACTED]

states that the subject spoke at the above-referred BETANCES Day observance at Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, at which time he declared that the United States refers to

SJ 400-4785

supporters of FIDEL CASTRO as communists without knowing why. He added that agents of the DI, POPR should be ashamed to be fighting against the Cuban revolution and Puerto Rican independence and that they should not be supporting the imperialist United States.

On April 18, 1961, SJ T-8 advised that the subject spoke at the closing exercises of the MPIPR leadership school on April 17, 1961.

At this time he stated that FBI Agents and Internal Security Agents and other enemies of independence should be warned that although they arrest and prosecute independence supporters they would never be able to exterminate them. He declared that his solidarity with FIDEL CASTRO and Cuba would stop merely being written resolutions and he declared that Cuba should know that the fighters for Puerto Rican independence will defend the Cuban revolution to whatever extent the situation warrants.

[REDACTED]
stated that on April 19, 1961 the subject directed a pro-Cuban demonstration of the FUPI at Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. Included in this demonstration were display of Cuban flags and pictures of FIDEL CASTRO as well as shouts of "Viva FIDEL - Down with the Yankees."

On April 21, 1961, SJ T-7 advised that on April 19, 1961 the subject entered a meeting of the FUPI and announced he had just heard that FIDEL CASTRO had repulsed the invaders of Cuba. This announcement set off a spontaneous demonstration for CASTRO, according to SJ T-7.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED]

On January 31, 1961, SJ T-1 advised the subject has been known to exaggerate the extent of MPIPR activities and their success in various press releases he has in the past made in Puerto Rico and in the United States.

The February 18, 1961 edition of "El Mundo" in an article quoted the subject stating that the death of Congo leader PATRICE LUMUMBA was an "imperialist crime."

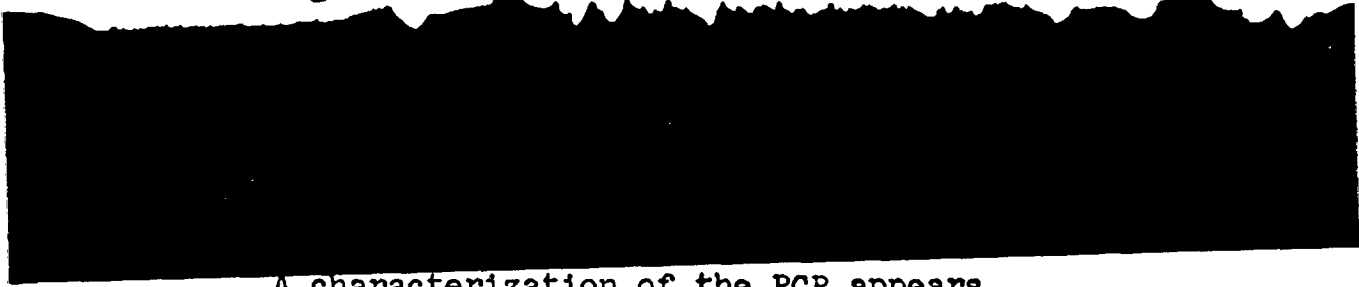
The February 18, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" states that in an address on February 12, 1961 the subject made at an independentist assembly held at Aguada, Puerto Rico, he stated that he accepted the solidarity of the Soviet Union when it, before the United Nations, complained about the colonial status of Puerto Rico.

[REDACTED] states that at the aforementioned meeting on March 22, 1961 at Ponce, Puerto Rico, the subject in his remarks attacked the Catholic Church for stating that the MPIPR was communist dominated. He further stated that Puerto Rico was losing ground rapidly to an autonomous economy and was [REDACTED] for

losing cultural direction. He declared Governor

SJ 100-4785

MUNOZ MARIN was an agent of the imperialist Yankees and spoke out strongly against supermarkets and other related changes.



A characterization of the PCP appears in the appendix hereto.

The May 15, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" in an article quoted the subject who spoke as the head of the MPIPR stating that he feared that the Puerto Rican government was planning to arrest hundreds of independence leaders throughout the island on the instructions of the U. S. Government. According to the article, the subject sent telegrams to President KENNEDY, the United Nations, and Latin America Chiefs of State, including President DORTICOS of Cuba, complaining of the alleged arrest plot. The article further stated that at the same time the subject sent a letter to Governor MUNOZ MARIN in which he complained of the intensification of police patrols around MPIPR headquarters and the homes of its leaders; visits of police members to neighbors and employers of MPIPR members.

He concluded the letter by stating that he was aware that there were hundreds of arrest warrants in the Puerto Rico Department of Justice against independence leaders awaiting only the order to be executed.

The May 25, 1961 issue of "El Mundo" contains an article in which the subject is quoted stating that NPPR President PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS is imprisoned illegally.

The following agencies were contacted as indicated by  and no pertinent information concerning the subject was developed:

SJ 100-4785

[REDACTED]

Other confidential informants familiar with subversive and independence activities in Puerto Rico were contacted in late May and June, 1961 and were unable to provide additional information concerning the subject.

Following is a description of the subject as obtained from sources of the [REDACTED]

Name	JUAN MARI BRAS
Date of Birth	December 2, 1927
Place of Birth	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
Race	White
Height	5'10"
Weight	185
Build	Plump and flabby
Hair	Black and thinning
Characteristic	Wears thin black mustache and wears glasses; face smooth and round; has baby-face appearance.

5 J T-1 and personal observation of Special Agents of FBI.

ACCION PATRIOTICA UNITARIA
(Patriotic Unitarian Action) (APU)

A confidential source advised on January 26, 1959, that the APU was formed at a meeting held in Santurce, Puerto Rico, on January 25, 1959, under the direction of RAMON MEDINA RAMIREZ, who later resigned as President of the NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO (NPPR) on May 3, 1959. This source advised on February 19, 1959, that MEDINA recently stated he plans for the APU to be backed by the NPPR and controlled by him, MEDINA, and the NPPR. He said the APU will be presented to the public as a pro-independence group which favors peaceful methods for obtaining independence for Puerto Rico.

The NPPR has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The above source was in a position to furnish accurate information regarding the policies, activities and members of this organization.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ~~RPA~~
RPA - Puerto Rico
~~RAR/P~~

DATE: July 31, 1961

FROM : Emery J. Adams, For the
Director, Office of SecuritySUBJECT: ~~0~~
MARI ERAS, Juan

Ref :

There are transmitted for your consideration the attached documents and/or reports relating to the subject. Should additional data be required, the basic document, when not attached, or the SY file, can be made available upon request.

The information transmitted herewith is for your confidential use only and not for dissemination outside the Department.

Please handle the attached material as indicated:

- ☒ A. RETURN TO SY. report
☐ B. RETAIN OR DESTROY.

Attachment:
FBI report dated 6/30/61 San Juan

SY FILE

SCA:SY:ACPlambeck; bcd

34-60148

When separated from attachment
handle this part as CONFIDENTIAL
OFFICIAL USE ONLY

In reply please refer to SY/IRB

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)(105-292)

8/21/61

SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 Sub 1)

1101

**GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO
(COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM)
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION**

**JUAN MARI BRAS
IS -N
(OO: SJ)**

ReBulet 6/12/61 bearing first caption above.

Set out below is data bearing on the personality, motivation, weaknesses, and general character of JUAN MARI BRAS as developed from a review of San Juan Office files and contact with [REDACTED]

I. BACKGROUND

A. Early Days

MARI was born 30 odd years ago at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico to SANTIAGO MARI RAMOS, proprietor of a successful colmado (corner grocery store), whose shrewd handling of this humble enterprise has given him a reported worth of about half a million dollars. MARI was bred on a diet of independence sentiment, for his father was a staunch believer in Puerto Rican freedom and at present is a disciple of his son and heads the Mayaguez mission of the NPIPR.

MARI grew up in an atmosphere of well-to-do comfort and has always had his path smoothed by an overly doting mother who has been known to assist her son with money when he has exceeded his resources. In childhood he was something of a "mamma's boy."

B. College Days

After being affiliated with a number of independence youth groups in Mayaguez, MARI found greater scope for his activities at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) at the opposite

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end of the Island from his home. He enrolled as a pre-law student in 1944 and was a member of the ROTC where he was rated as a poor student.

With other cronies he lowered the U. S. flag from the UPR tower flagstaff on 12/15/47, the day that PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS returned to Puerto Rico. He was later jailed for participating in a student independence riot and was expelled from the UPR in 1948.

In order to complete his education MARI "emigrated" to the United States where he received his AB degree at Florida Southern College in 1949 graduating 38th in a class of 62. It would appear that he did not devote himself as assiduously to his studies as he did his independence activities.

In the Fall of 1949 MARI entered the George Washington University Law School where in 1950 he was placed on academic probation for scholastic deficiency. He moved on to the American University Law School where he finally got a law degree in 1954.

C. Marriage

MARI married FRANCISCA "Paquita" PESQUERA in 1951. She is a couple of years his junior, attractive, and is presently on the UPR faculty in the economics department. Outwardly she shares his independence zeal and frequently gives lectures at independence and MPIPR functions on the economic relationships of the United States to Puerto Rico with emphasis on the claim that Puerto Rico is in economic bondage to the United States. On the surface they appear to be well suited to each other.

It is being rumored, however, that all is not well in the MARI household. MARI devoted every moment of his spare time to his political activities and has little time for PAQUITA or their two children. Since PAQUITA is employed daily and in addition is frequently occupied with support of her husband's independence programs, the children are left in charge of the grandparents in Mayaguez. Lately PAQUITA is

reported to be dissatisfied with MARI's preoccupation with outside affairs and the possible effect this may have on their children. He has reportedly told her "they are your children -- take care of them" when she raised this point.

D. Employment

On gaining his law degree, MARI practiced for a while at Mayaguez, then moved to Rio Piedras, and finally settled down to his law practice at Bayamon. It is doubted that he does too well at this. In passing it is well to note that he is not regarded as a particularly good attorney although he is loud and knows how to attract attention. This ability to attract attention with courtroom histrionics stands him in good stead in his political career.

II. POLITICAL ATTITUDE

A. Motivation

1. As mentioned above MARI is fired with the ideal of independence stemming from his original family environment.

2. It is believed that MARI gained a hatred for the United States when he was expelled from the UPR for his exploit of lowering the American flag. In some way he appears to blame the United States for his exile from Puerto Rico.

3. There is little doubt that MARI sincerely desires independence for Puerto Rico and many believe he has no personal ambition other than to achieve this.

4. MARI is further inspired by the success of FIDEL CASTRO in Cuba and the overthrow of FULGENCIO BATISTA and sees that as an example of what might be done in Puerto Rico.

B. Present Situation

1. MARI heads the MPIPR which is variously reported to number between one and two thousand members. He is the leader in truth as well as in title and the group centers

2. He has made the MPIPR a haven for those of all political faiths, including communist sympathizers provided they profess to be proponents of independence. His admission of communists has reportedly antagonized such stalwarts as GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA, a devout independentist, but one who is unalterably opposed to communism. MAURA is supposed to be considering withdrawing from the MPIPR because of its Communist, pro-Cuban attitude and may affiliate with a revived Partido Independentista Puertorriqueno (PIP).

3. MARI presently finds that his MPIPR is in a struggle for independence leadership with the more aggressive Accion Patriotica Unitaria and his dream of acting as the focal point of the independence team may be a glimmering.

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III. PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

A. Personal Relationships

1. MARI is well regarded by those around him who are his social and educational equals for his intelligence and sagacity as well as for his singleminded devotion to the independence cause.

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2. Underlings and those not in leadership status find MARI cold and distant with an annoying superior attitude. He is a fiery speaker, however, and can arouse the interest and patriotic fervor of an audience.

3. MARI appreciates the intellectual atmosphere and has for the most part surrounded himself by intellectuals in the MPIPR hierarchy, ie.

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B. General Characteristics

1. The subject is not above exaggeration to impress his followers with his personal or organizational success. It has been noted that his reports of attendance at meetings are considerably inflated over figures set out in press and police reports.

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2. MARI is tireless in his devotion to independence activities; every spare moment is spent circulating throughout the island speaking before groups in hamlets as well as towns in support of the Puerto Rican cause.

3. MARI apparently enjoys excellent health.

4. In appearance MARI is not appealing; he is fairly tall but plump and flabby; his face is fat and his cheeks jiggle unbecomingly as he speaks. He dresses well and always appears in coat and tie, this in a land where professional man and laborer alike bow to the climate and dress in slacks and sport shirts.

IV. MISCELLANY

A. Financial Situation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The MARI's live in an upper middle class neighborhood and occupy a home that is worth probably \$30,000. It is one of the smaller and less pretentious houses in the vicinity. They drive a 1958 Volkswagen. They appear to employ a full time maid.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] it is generally felt that he is not particularly appealing to women.

C. Drinking

MARI drinks moderately, usually Scotch or rum.

BJ 105-3353 Sub 1

D. Criminal Record

MARI has no arrests barring his arrest for inciting to riot while at the UPR in 1948.

E. Religion

MARI is reported to be a devout Roman Catholic who faithfully fulfills his church duties. Sources have noted the inconsistency of his religious activities with his espousal of the CASTRO-Cuba cause and tacit support of communism.

F. Supermarket Complex

In many of his speeches MARI has attacked the growing number of supermarkets in Puerto Rico as the symbol of the menace of Yankee imperialism and the threat of an economic takeover of the Island by American interests. Possibly some of this conviction stems from the fact that his father is a small grocery operator. PAQUITA, however, does not share his hatred of the Yankee supermarkets or at least does not permit it to inconvenience her shopping habits.

[REDACTED]

V. CONCLUSIONS

From a study of the above facts it would appear that MARI's weaknesses that would most readily lend themselves to disruptive tactics are:

A. [REDACTED] the reported domestic differences with PAQUITA over the children.

B. Possible withdrawal of principal supporter G. VICENTE MAURA who is becoming disenchanted with the pro-Cuban swing of MARI and the MPIPR.

C. MARI's financial problems.

RECEIVED JAN 27 1961

D. Differences between the MPIPR and the APU.

VI. PROJECTED ACTION

B. Perhaps of more value is the reported projected withdrawal of G. VICENTE MAURA from the MPIPR. MAURA has been a key supporter of MARI and the MPIPR and his loss would be a severe blow. This situation is still in the rumor stage but it may well be that this heralds the breakup of the MPIPR with dissidents who are disturbed by the pro-Cuban Communist trend going their separate ways to the PIP, APU and other groups. This situation will be closely observed so that should a crack appear in the MPIPR's organizational structure, it may be exploited to the utmost.

C. Developing at the moment are differences between the APU and the MPIPR. It is too early at this juncture to determine the extent of the ill-feeling. This too will be closely observed and if warranted plans will be made to keep it going.

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-3353

Office Memorandum

UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)

DATE: 9/19/61

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS

1103

IS-N

(OO: SJ)

Re Bulet dated 6/12/61 captioned "Groups Seeking Independence for Puerto Rico (Counterintelligence Program) Subversive Control Section;

Re San Juan letter to the Director dated 8/21/61 bearing substantive caption as well as subversive control caption.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In connection with the disruptive tactic program, the New York Office is requested to attempt discreetly to develop information concerning MARI's philandering and make it available to the San Juan Office.

As noted in referenced San Juan letter, it is not intended this will be used as personal harassment of MARI although his domestic affairs appear to be in a tangle, but rather to use this information as a means of shaking MARI's reputation in the independence movement and perhaps lessen the faith of his followers in him.

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2-Bureau
2-New York
1-San Juan (100-4785)
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APPENDIXMOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO
(Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR)

A confidential source advised on January 31, 1959, that the MPIPR was formed at a meeting of former leaders of the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO (Puerto Rican Independence Party) (PIP), a former legally constituted political party, in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, on January 11, 1959, as a result of discussions by various PIP members who were dissatisfied with the PIP and who desired to form a more active organization. The announced purpose of the MPIPR was to work for the complete independence of Puerto Rico through propaganda and other peaceful means. The source advised that no information had come to his attention indicating that the MPIPR advocated the use of violence as a means of obtaining independence for Puerto Rico.

On June 20, 1960, Juan Mari Bras, Secretary General of the MPIPR, furnished the following information to Special Agents of the FBI:

Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, Mari Bras stated that the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a method of obtaining Puerto Rico's independence only because he feels violence would be ineffective against the force of the United States Government. Mari Bras believes in the right of a people, specifically the Puerto Rican people, to use violence to obtain their freedom if and when the circumstances are such that they could possibly be successful in their effort.

Mari Bras stated this same philosophy when he was interviewed by Special Agents of the FBI in March, 1944, subsequent to the NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO (NPPR) shooting in the United States Congress. Mari Bras feels great pride and admiration for those Nationalists who have given their lives for their country.

The MPIPR General Secretariat and Directive Mission are made up of leaders of the independence movement in Puerto Rico and include leaders from other groups seeking independence for Puerto Rico, including the NPPR.

SECRET

MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO
(Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR)

The MPIPR has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The above source was in a position to furnish accurate information regarding the organization, aims and purposes of the MPIPR.

SECRET

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URGENT 10-17-61

TO DIRECTOR AND SAC NEW YORK

FROM SAC SAN JUAN 172133

WPIPR, IS - N. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT
 WPIPR SECRETARY GENERAL JUAN MARI ERAS AND WPIPR FOREIGN
 RELATIONS SECRETARY GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA LEFT SJ 4 PM
 TODAY VIA FLIGHT 212, PAMA, FOR NYC. SOURCES HERE BELIEVE
 THEY WILL ATTEND UNITED NATIONS SESSIONS CONCERNING
 PUERTO RICAN COLONIALISM. NEW YORK WILL THROUGH AVAILABLE
 SOURCES DETERMINE ACTIVITIES OF MARI AND LAURA.

Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico
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If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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105-85171

Date: October 19, 1961
To: Office of Security
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: JUAN MARI BRAS
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA
SECURITY MATTER - R

Reference is made to reports previously furnished
you concerning the subjects.

[redacted] advised that Juan Mari
Bras and Gabriel Vicente Maura, Secretary General and
Foreign Relations Secretary, respectively, of the Movimiento
Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico, departed San Juan, Puerto
Rico, on October 17, 1961, en route to New York City.

Confidential sources, who have furnished reliable
information in the past, believe that the subjects will
attend sessions of the United Nations in the near future
at which Puerto Rico's status as a "colony" of the United
States will be discussed.

BY COURIER SVC.

20 OCT 20
COMM-FBI

Any additional pertinent information received
concerning this matter will be promptly furnished you.

BY COURIER SERVICE 105-292-57

Mr. J. Cordell Moore
Director
Division of Security
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.

Assistant Attorney General
Walter Yeagley

NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE 2.

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**Office of Security
Department of State**

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Names of the subjects are maintained in the Security Index. The Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico is an organization formed for the purpose of obtaining Puerto Rico's independence. Mari Bras, its leader, has stated he believes in the right of the Puerto Rican people to use violence to obtain their freedom if and when the circumstances are such that they could be successful in their effort. Maura has on several occasions in the recent past reportedly contacted United Nations delegations of neutral nations and Soviet-bloc nations in an effort to obtain their backing to urge that Puerto Rico's status be reconsidered by the United Nations.

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105-292
105-85171

Date: October 19, 1961

To: Office of Security
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: JUAN MARI BRAS
INTERNAL SECURITY - N

████████████████████
SECURITY MATTER - N

Reference is made to reports previously furnished
you concerning the subjects.

████████████████████
Confidential sources, who have furnished reliable
information in the past, believe that the subjects will
attend sessions of the United Nations in the near future
at which Puerto Rico's status as a "colony" of the United
States will be discussed.

BY COURIER SVC.

20 OCT 20 1961

COMM-FBI

Mr. J. Cordell Moore

Director
Division of Security
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.

BY COURIER SERVICE

105-292-57

OCT 24 1961

Assistant Attorney General
Walter Yeagley

NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE 2.

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Office of Security
Department of State

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Names of the subjects are maintained in the Security Index. The Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico is an organization formed for the purpose of obtaining Puerto Rico's independence. Mari Bras, its leader, has stated he believes in the right of the Puerto Rican people to use violence to obtain their freedom if and when the circumstances are such that they could be successful in their effort. [redacted] has on several occasions in the recent past reportedly contacted United Nations delegations of neutral nations and Soviet-bloc nations in an effort to obtain their backing to urge that Puerto Rico's status be reconsidered by the United Nations.

Office of Security
Department of State

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Names of the subjects are maintained in the Security Index. The Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico is an organization formed for the purpose of obtaining Puerto Rico's independence. Mari Bras, its leader, has stated he believes in the right of the Puerto Rican people to use violence to obtain their freedom if and when the circumstances are such that they could be successful in their effort. [REDACTED] has on several occasions in the recent past reportedly contacted United Nations delegations of neutral nations and Soviet bloc nations in an effort to obtain their backing to urge that Puerto Rico's status be reconsidered by the United Nations. Letter classified "Confidential" because it contains information from a source, the unauthorized disclosure of which could reasonably result in identification of the source and compromise future effectiveness thereof. Relet advised recipients that subjects en route to New York and sources believed they may contact persons connected with United Nations

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : OIA - Mr. Byrnes

DATE: October 26, 1961

FROM : Emery J. Adams, For the
Director, Office of Security

SUBJECT: MARI BRAS, Juan

Ref :

There are transmitted for your consideration the attached documents and/or reports relating to the subject. Should additional data be required, the basic document, when not attached, or the SY file, can be made available upon request.

The information transmitted herewith is for your confidential use only and not for dissemination outside the Department.

Please handle the attached material as indicated:

 A. RETURN TO SY.

 X B. RETAIN OR DESTROY. MEMO

Attachment:

FBI memo dated 10/20/61 at Washington, D. C.

CC: RPA - Mr. Day
RAR/P

✓ Sy File

SCA:SY:ACPlambeek:jcm

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS DOCUMENT IS OFFICIAL USE ONLY

39-60148	
OFFICE OF SECURITY	
OCT 27 1961	
RESEARCH & FILE SECTION	

In reply please refer to SY/IRB

Nov. 22, 1961

3

L. E. McJohn - Memo

Mr. W. J. [redacted]

Subject: MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA de Puerto Rico

Mr. Tracy Coleman, Federal Bureau of Investigation, referred to two Bureau letters dated October 17th and October 20th regarding Juan Mari BARRA and [redacted], members of the Puerto Rican Independence Movement and said that the Bureau had received information that members of MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA de Puerto Rico were to meet with [redacted] on Wednesday or Thursday.

~~Not printed under [redacted]~~
~~on the organization~~ 11/27/61

11/27/61

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-75715)

FROM: SAC, WFO (100-37090) (RUC)

**MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO
(PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT) (MPIPR)
IS - NATIONALIST
IS - CUBA
(OO: SJ)**

Enclosed to the Bureau are nine copies and to New York and San Juan, one copy each of a letterhead memo dated and captioned as above.

The confidential informant mentioned in the enclosed letterhead memo is [REDACTED]. The confidential source used in the appendix in documentation of the MPIPR is [REDACTED].

Enclosed letterhead memo is classified "Secret" due to the sensitive nature of [REDACTED]. In the event this info is later downgraded, it should receive the classification of "Confidential" inasmuch as it reflects our investigative interest in a diplomatic establishment of a foreign power and also because the info reported could reasonably result in identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise his future effectiveness.

- 3 - Bureau (Encls 9)
- 1 - New York (Info) (RM) (Encl 1)
- 1 - San Juan (105-3401) (RM) (Encls 1) (AM)
- 2 - WFO
(1 - 105-39771)

JES:ejh
(7)

SECRET
MATERIAL ATTACHED

105-292-
NOT RECORDED
201 DEC 7 1961

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-75715-196

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