

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 5/29/63

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

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
(Counterintelligence Program)  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

Re Bulet, 12/14/62 and San Juan letters, 1/28  
and 3/22/63.

On 5/14/63, [REDACTED] Ponce  
Broadcasting Company, Ponce, Puerto Rico, advised that the  
radio program "Radio Bandera" is being broadcast from  
Ponce over Radio Station WKFE, Yauco, Puerto Rico.

& APPROX

1742

On 5/14/63, [REDACTED]

advised that [REDACTED]

In view of [REDACTED] reputation, it is not felt  
that further action in this particular phase of the  
Counterintelligence Program should be carried out, as it  
could well lead to embarrassment to the Bureau.

We presently have under consideration plans for  
a disruptive tactic against the FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY  
STUDENTS FOR INDEPENDENCE (FUPI), and you will be advised  
of this subsequently.

- 2 - Bureau (105-93124) (RM)
- 1 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)
- RHW:gjk
- (3)

REC-16

11 JUN 3 1963

63 JUN 7 1963

JUN 2 15 03 PM '63

RECEIVED

SUBV. CONTROL



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

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- 1 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)

RIN:gjk  
(3)

REC-16

11 JUN 3 1963

63 JUN 7 1963

JUN 2 15 03 PM '63

RECEIVED

SUBV. CONTROL



6

DATE: December 17, 1963

SUBJECT: MARI BRAS, JUAN

REF: Telephonic conversation of 12/17/63.

In compliance with the reference, information concerning the Subject from HMR Records is forwarded.

This file should be given general and limited distribution to your office. Persons who review the file should sign the Inside File Control Sheet. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY MATERIAL BE REMOVED FROM THIS FILE.

PLEASE HAVE THIS MATERIAL RETURNED WITHIN TWENTY-FIVE DAYS  
FROM DATE OF RECEIPT TO THE UNDERSIGNED, ROOM 5073-A.

If you wish to receive information for a single period, please advise the DCA or DPCS.

Exposition (c).

SY File re SUBJ - (Volume II) (#39-60148)

SY File Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 5  
Declassified following detachment

1  
JCM, LFC: JCrowley:jcm

39 | 60148  
OFFICE OF SECURITY  
DEC 17 1968  
RESEARCH & FILE SECTION



SECRET

ARA/RPA - Mr. Topping

February 5, 1965

*g*  
BRAS, JUAN MARI

Your telephonic request of today.

*Same  
as memo  
12/17/63  
request for  
Room 6639  
rather than  
3313-A*

*Room 6639*

SY File Volume 3 #39-60148 (SECRET)

*39-60148*

FEB 5 1965

GROUP 3  
Excluded from automatic downgrading and  
*declassification*

JCrowley:jcm



## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 SUB I)

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

DATE: 11/18/63

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.

ReSJlets, 9/27/63 and 9/11/63.

For the information of the Bureau, the following instances demonstrate additional reaction to the anti FUPI pamphlet and illustrations of the pamphlet's affect on the FUPI:

On 10/1/63, [REDACTED] advised that the FUPI composed and distributed a handbill attacking the newspaper "El Mundo" for publishing information contained in the anti FUPI pamphlet.

[REDACTED]

The informant reported that the reaction of senior FUPI members to the [REDACTED] handbill was overwhelmingly against [REDACTED]. The informant related that the general consensus of older and more mature FUPI members was that [REDACTED] was "acting like a child" in his ridiculous threat to bring a libel action against "El Mundo." The informant specifically

- (3) - Bureau (105-93124) (RM)
- 1 - New York (105-32872) (RM)
- 4 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub I)
  - { 1 - 105-3070 (FUPI)
  - { 1 - [REDACTED]

RWS:mar  
(8)

REC-48.

NOV 20 1963

DEC 2 1963

Classified by 6076  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.



CONFIDENTIAL

reported that during the evening of 9/30/63, former FUPI President [redacted] commented that he thought [redacted] was becoming "soft in the head" for openly attacking "El Mundo" in such a "juvenile manner."

The SJO holds as extremely significant the fact that [redacted] was not selected as President (presiding officer) of the 8th Annual FUPI Congress held on 10/16-17/63.

[redacted] advised that several key FUPI members felt that [redacted] was under heavy strain, which was clearly manifested in the [redacted] threat against "El Mundo" as outlined above. The informant reported that [redacted] was elected President of the Congress instead of [redacted]. It is well known that [redacted] is more conservative and moderate in his views than [redacted]. It is the general consensus that [redacted] does not have the organizational ability which [redacted] possesses. The SJO is of the opinion that this is one reason for the dismal turn out and performance at the FUPI Annual Congress. This, of course, can be traced indirectly to [redacted] fanatical attack on "El Mundo" for publishing portions of the anti FUPI pamphlet.

at [redacted] advised that the 10/23/63 FUPI meeting newly elected FUPI President [redacted] informed that he had recently been in contact with JUAN MARI ERAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, with regard to [redacted] proposal to sue the newspaper "El Mundo" for libel for publishing a portion of the anti FUPI pamphlet. [redacted] advised that MARI strongly advised the FUPI not to undertake any such action against "El Mundo." ORTIZ reported that MARI's reasons against legal action were as follows:

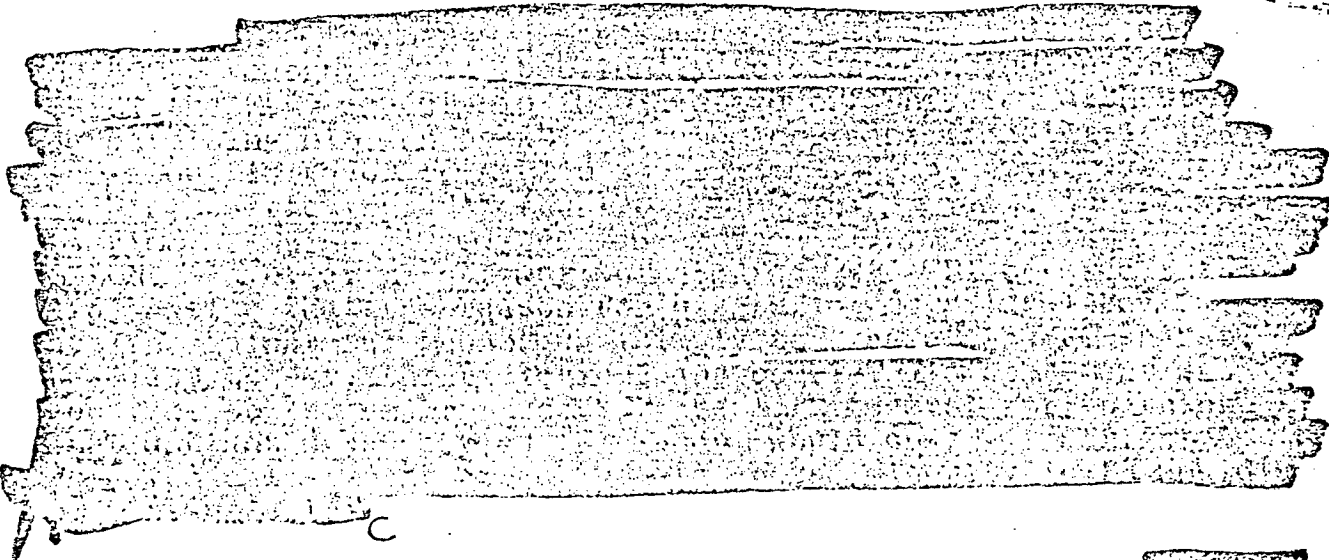
1. "The struggle would be carried to the imperialist court, where an attempt would be made to destroy the FUPI."

2. "'Falsified' material could be used and the FUPI could be placed in a weak position."

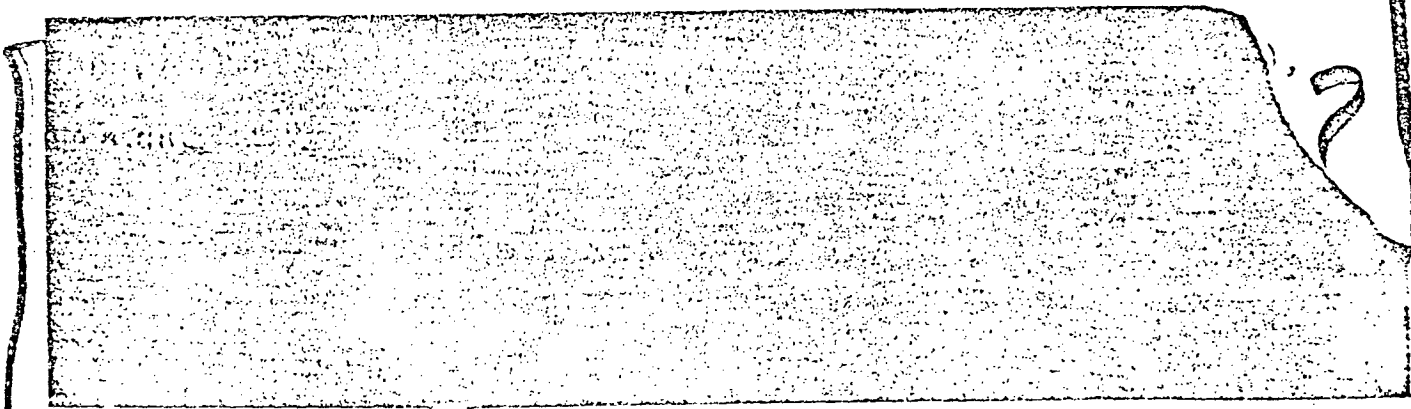
CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL



As has been previously reported to the Bureau, [redacted] was a major policy maker and behind the scenes leader of the FUPI. His recent ill advised threat against "El Mundo" has considerably weakened his position in the FUPI, and very probably in the MPIPR. This was brought about indirectly by [redacted] radical reaction to the anti FUPI pamphlet. It will be noted that the FUPI had made no attempt to deny or explain away the text of the pamphlet nor the photographs of [redacted] and [redacted] which appeared therein. The FUPI's silence in this regard has given even greater credence to the anti FUPI pamphlet.





FBI

Date: 11/13/63

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

Via \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)  
FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 Sub I)  
SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION  
(OO: SJ)

In connection with the counterintelligence program of the San Juan Office we submit for your consideration the following material which we propose to mail anonymously to members of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) and a few other selected individuals in the Puerto Rican subversive field. This material would be mimeographed in the Spanish language in the office on stock that could not be identified with the Bureau and would be mailed in inexpensive envelopes purchased locally and bearing a \$.05, first class stamp.

The envelopes containing the mimeographed materials would be mailed from a locale other than Metropolitan San Juan and the city of Arecibo would probably be the site used since it is sufficiently large that attention would not be attracted by a relatively large mailing. We propose to use the partial mailing list of the MPIPR which consists of about 275 names with an additional dozen or so individuals added.

Following is the text we propose:

(3) Bureau (RM)  
1-San Juan (105-3353 Sub I)  
RLW:zhc  
(4)

REC-50

105-93124-112

4

SULV. CONTROL

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_



" A 'COLONIAL' VOTE IS BETTER THAN NO VOTE AT ALL.

"In 1959 we looked to the newborn MPI as the fresh forward looking progressive group that would lead us out of the darkness of colonialism into the sunshine of independence. We threw in our lot with youthful, Licenciado JUAN MARI BRAS and the prospects for our national liberation looked bright indeed, but soon disillusionment reared its head for our progressive forward looking leaders, after achieving commendable organizational results, seized on the tired old electoral abstention dodge and committed the MPI to that sterile gambit.

"Electoral abstention has failed to bring us a step nearer to independence; in fact, it has actually aided Populares and Statehooders to retain control of our government. Today, we are even farther than ever from ever achieving our rightful place in the family of Antillean nations.

"Now we hear of controversy in the San Juan Central Mission of the MPI as a few demand the right to vote and to show at the polls that the spirit of independence is not dead. We hear that our young MPI leader has threatened those persons who advocate voting with expulsion from the MPI. We say--- let us all flock to the polls and make the vote of the independentists heard throughout Puerto Rico. It is better to vote in the colonial election than not to vote at all.

"PRO VOTING GROUP OF THE MPIPR  
"(Grupo Pro Voto del MPI)"

You should note that in the past few days ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ President of the Partido Comunista Puertorriqueno (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP), and also a member of the MPIPR ninety-member National Council, has indicated he advocates voting and has locked horns with JUAN MARI BRAS over the MPIPR policy of electoral abstinence. This is an issue which is important within the group and we feel that the dissemination of the proposed material above will create a good measure of dissension.



## Memorandum

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE 12/27/63

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

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

Re San Juan airtel, 11/13/63 and Bulet, 11/20/63.

The mailing of an anonymous Spanish language letter as set forth in re SJO airtel, was carried out at Arecibo, Puerto Rico on 11/26/63.

[redacted] has advised that a number of persons commented on receiving the letter and it was the consensus as he saw it that the letter had been sent out by the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO (Independence Party of Puerto Rico) (PIP) as an attack on MOVIMIENTO PRO-INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) Secretary General JUAN MARI BRAS. [redacted] said that in his observations the controversy between MARI BRAS and the PIP which was being carried on in the local press seemed to intensify following the mailing of the letter and he felt that it had brought some confusion in rank and file MPIPR members. He noted particularly a number of MPIPR top leaders at the MPIPR General Assembly conferring quietly in the corner with copies of the letter in their hands.

[redacted] has reported that the letter has disturbed the MPIPR leaders and the top leadership seemed to be divided between blaming the letter on the PIP, while others feel that [redacted] President of the PARTIDO COMUNISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP), is behind the letter. They noted that [redacted] and MARI BRAS have met head-on in this electoral strike question and feel that [redacted] was striking back in his typical cowardly fashion.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - San Juan  
RDW:gjk  
(3)

REC-4

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66 JAN 6 1964

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SUBV. CONTROL



NY 105-32872

of unity within the movement. This is undoubtedly true to a large extent, but as the NYO has previously pointed out, the movement is its own worst enemy. There always has been too many individuals in the movement who envision themselves as "The Liberator", the one who, some day, would be Puerto Rico's FIDEL CASTRO. This has led to feelings of jealousy, petty bickerings and a definite lack of cooperation within, not only the movement, but also within the particular organization.

It is felt that the counterintelligence program is constantly being served by the power struggles, the name calling and the unpredictable antics of the members of the various groups. It is doubtful, under present conditions, that any counterintelligence measures could be more disruptive.

In view of the above, this case is being placed in a P\* status for the present, in order to maintain a watchful eye, from a counterintelligence standpoint, on the movement so that a counterintelligence measure may be instituted if deemed necessary and appropriate.



SJ 105-3353 Sub 1

[REDACTED] said reaction to the letter in general blamed it on the PIP and it was felt that the letter was causing considerable controversy between PIP and MPIPR adherents.

[REDACTED] reported that MPIPR leaders were concerned about its effect on the rank and file.

We feel that this program has been a success and any further information coming to our attention concerning it will be provided the Bureau.



SAC, San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)

November 20, 1963

REC-50

Director, FBI (105-93124) 112

GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE  
FOR PUERTO RICO  
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

Reurairtel 11/13/63.

Bureau authority is granted to mimeograph a letter in the Spanish language and mail copies to selected individuals in the Puerto Rican subversive field and to members of Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico as set out in reairtel.

You should purchase the mimeograph paper and envelopes locally being sure that the material can in no way be traced to the Bureau. You should use regular five cent postage stamps and the letters should be mailed in such a manner that the mailing cannot be traced to the Bureau or to any Bureau employee.

Keep the Bureau informed of results obtained from this counterintelligence procedure.

NOTE:

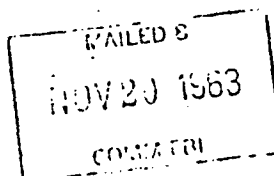
Reairtel requested Bureau authority to mail letter in the Spanish language to MPIPR members and other selected individuals to exploit controversy within MPIPR over the advisability of a policy of abstaining from voting in the forthcoming elections in Puerto Rico. A part of the membership led by [REDACTED], who is also President of the CP of Puerto Rico as well as a member of the MPIPR National Council, advocates voting and the other faction headed by Juan Mari Bras, Secretary General of MPIPR, favors abstention from voting. The letter will be signed "Pro Voting Group of the MPIPR" and will point out the advantages of voting in the elections.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BGLP:cad

(5)

NOV 20 1963



MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



87-105-3353 Sub I

at the upcoming Fifth Annual General Assembly of the  
MPIPR to be held November 30-December 1, 1963.

It is our intention to mail this material  
on November 25 so that it will be in the hands of its  
recipients immediately prior to the General Assembly .

It would be of assistance if the Bureau  
will consult the Laboratory and advise if the mimeographed  
stock used in the field is in any way identifiable  
with either the Bureau or the Federal Government.

We request Bureau authorization to put the  
aforementioned plan into effect immediately.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
**Memorandum**

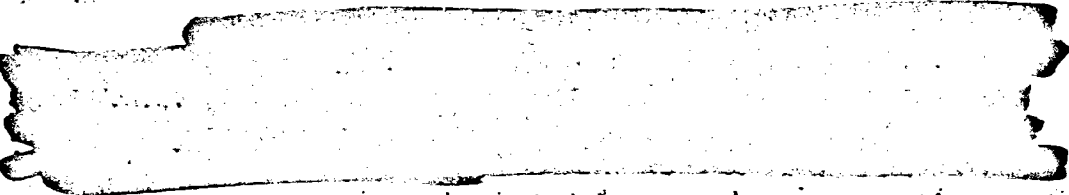
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 1/2/63

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

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

ReBulet 6/1/62.



- 2 - Bureau (Encls 6) CLOSURE  
1 - New York (Encls 3)  
5 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)  
    (1 - 105-6217) (Mesa de Lares)  
    (1 - 105-3401) (MPIPR)  
    (1 - 105-3409) (APU)  
    (1 - 105-3079) (FUPI)

JLS:mev  
(8)

CONFIDENTIAL

105-93124-

8 JAN 7 1963

67 JAN 14 1963

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE

Confidential

SUBV CONTROL SEC. 55-6W-2  
REC'D

10 15 55-6W-23



TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

BOHEMIA LIBRE PUERTORRIQUENA  
San Juan, Puerto Rico  
November 25, 1962  
Page 85

THE FUPI IS NOTHING BUT A COMMUNIST FRONT

Gentlemen:

The silence being observed by the separatist organizations of Puerto Rico in regards to the blockade imposed by the United States on the Communist colony of Cuba, is being broken. The Federation of University Students Pro Independence is sadly honored in being the first of these organizations to manifest itself against the blockade, in a brazen and illogical way. Without a doubt the rest of the separatist organizations - which to me are the same thing - will make statements along the same lines. With this action FUPI has, for once and for all, removed its mask of fighters for the independence of Puerto Rico, showing us its true and repulsive face. There can be no doubt now in the minds of our university students and citizens in general, that the FUPI is nothing but a Communist front. And we are already well acquainted with the purpose of Communism: The destruction, through terror, blackmail, and the use of arms, of the freedom of all nations of the world. How can FUPI be a defender of freedom, when it accepts and support with free (?) propaganda, the existence of a Soviet colony in Cuba? And it also accepts having this colony converted into a center of offensive nuclear weapons with which to blackmail and limit the freedom of the American hemisphere? Since the purpose of Communism is the enslavement of the world, whether Puerto Rico is or is not a republic, does not alter the fact that we are a potential target for a Communist attack.

Translated by: [REDACTED]  
12/5/62  
(8)

105-93124-951

ENCLOSURE



But America has something which apparently the Communists have overlooked; the unity of purpose of the American nations, supported by American power. And this desire to preserve freedom in the Continent is what FUPI is opposed to; this little group of puppets, thirsty for power, wants to make things easier for its masters in Moscow. Very truly yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]



TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

BOHEMIA LIBRE PUERTORRIQUENA

San Juan, Puerto Rico

November 25, 1962

Page A-17

THE FIFTH COLUMNISTS LIE IN AMBUSH

While the Puerto Rican people were applauding the U. S.'s firm determination to arrest the Soviet fortification of Cuba, those pseudo-patriots who shout in favor of Puerto Rican independence were sarcastically opposed to the liberation of Cuba. To this end they put into effect one of the most able resources of the Communist doctrine: confusion. But this is what really happened in the subversive circles on the Island:

The Puerto Ricans expected the "pacifist intellectuals" who were so alarmed last year over the existence of military bases in Puerto Rico to come up with another "Document of Annihilation" condemning the existence of Soviet military power in Cuba. But not one showed his face....

The Lares Board sent a cable to VALERIAN ZORIN, the Soviet ambassador at the U.N., supporting the unyielding attitude exhibited by Russia during the first few days of the blockade. Acting as fifth columnists in the service of a foreign power, the members of that anti-democratic organization assured the Communist diplomat that the statement made by President KENNEDY to the effect that Cuba was the first country in America where launching bases for guided missiles had been installed, was false, because, according to them, "against the will of the people of Puerto Rico numerous American bases for guided missiles have been installed here." This cablegram was not published by the local press, even though it got to the newspapers through teletypes, as a news item dated at the U. N. This would lead us

Translated by: [REDACTED]

12/6/62

(8)



to believe that the support the Puerto Rican Communists gave the Soviet empire was only with the intention of giving other countries the impression that the people of Puerto Rico are against the United States.

The United States' surprising attitude towards Cuba forced the subversive leaders to adopt certain modifications to their tactics. At first, they waited, biding their time to see what course events would take, and then act according to the circumstances. The first two days went by in this uncertainty, then the meetings began, and finally, little by little, heads began to appear.

As opposed to the public statements made by the separatists when the U. S. broke diplomatic relations with Cuba, this time there was no public protest against "Yankee imperialism." However, Radio Havana repeated over and over that Puerto Rican students had taken to the streets to protest against "imperialist aggression." This proves that the support they claimed to have in other countries was false.

During this period there was an apparent defection from the ranks of FUPI, when Mr. JOSE A. CARRERO, founder of the FUPI at the Catholic University in Ponce, said the organization was radical and Communist. Though somewhat late, Professor CARRERO realized the mistake he had made in believing that he was defending his country's independence, when the truth was he was allied to those who would have Puerto Rico become another Soviet bulwark in the Caribbean.

As for FUPI, it met to draw up a plan of protest which for some unknown reason was never put into effect. The main idea was to carry out a peaceful picket in front of the University of Puerto Rico with the motto "We want Peace!" This picket would not be carried out by the better known members of FUPI, so as not to inflict upon the campaign the bad reputation enjoyed by this group of young Marxists.

The night after the public manifestation was not held because of one of the members who attended



the World Congress of Youth in Helsinki, and traveled through several Soviet satellite countries; FUPI held a meeting to lay out a macabre plan of action. In their statement, FUPI members insisted they supported the "Cuban revolution," although nothing was left of it. And in spite of the fact that it is Moscow which determines what FIDEL CASTRO must do.

During the critical period Russia was undergoing, JUAN ANTONIO CORRETJER seem decided to play deaf and dumb. No one knows where he went at the time of the crisis which shook the Caribbean and deterred Communist penetration in America.

JUAN MARI BRAS was making telephone calls to the newspapers to inquire what the attitude of the Police would be towards those extremists who had been advocating violence as the only means of achieving their political ambitions. A few hours later, the MPI Secretary accused the Department of Justice of having arrests warrants already issued and signed against leaders of the Communist Party, the Nationalist Party, the Pro Independence Movement, and Patriotic Unitarian Action. Who gave him this information?

Two days later, MARI BRAS was trying to hang on for dear life, using that convenient ready-made phrase: "I am not a Communist." On that occasion he said he had taken that decision after reading some treatises on that philosophy. However, he contradicted himself by supporting FIDEL CASTRO, that repulsive Communist tyrant.

On the other hand, a certain individual who writes about local goings-on, in the newspaper "El Imparcial," was not heard of for seven days, and then he came out to say "that on the night of the 22nd President KENNEDY's speech had made us hold our breath; on the morning of the 28th Prime minister KHRUSCHEV's message restored our peace of mind." "Thank you, KHRUSCHEV," seems to be the message of this individual, who although writing about local goings-on, is clearly in favor of foreign goings-on, especially those behind the Iron Curtain.



When it seemed that everything was going back to normal, a coded message transmitted from Havana seemed to be trying to make a connection between the subversive movement in Puerto Rico and Soviet strings which move the Communist revolution in Cuba.

Everything seemed to point out that those who during the past months have threatened to bring the same type of misery and abuse which FIDEL CASTRO has inflicted on Cuba, to Puerto Rico, would be the instruments used for carrying out sabotage activities on the Island.

From the moment the crisis in the Caribbean stated, the National Guard, the Air National Guard, the Army and the Police, have been on the alert for any movements which might start a wave of terrorism in Puerto Rico.



TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

BOHEMIA LIBRE PUERTORRIQUENA

San Juan, Puerto Rico

November 25, 1962

Page A-18

ANOTHER PROOF OF TREASON

This cablegram of United International Press, transmitted last October 24 to all newspapers of the world, corroborates once again that BOHEMIA LIBRE PUERTORRIQUENA has been right in denouncing, on several occasions, the treachery of certain leaders who have delivered the ideal of independence into the hands of Russia.

After reading it carefully, no one can have any doubts as to the truth of our previous statements. This historical document is irrefutable proof that those who call themselves patriots and defenders of the doctrines of HOSTOS, BETANCES and DE DIEGO, attempt to bring "independence" to Puerto Rico by handing it over to Soviet imperialism on a silver tray.

The members of the Lares Board, who on numerous occasions have attempted to deceive the democratic people of Puerto Rico with their Nationalist schemes, have once again removed their masks, publicly declaring, without shame, their love for the Kremlin, making clear their wishes to turn us into vassals of the Moscow masters, having Puerto Rico become another Soviet colony in the Caribbean.

The people of Puerto Rico should consider carefully this step taken by the members of the Lares Board. They should be unanimously rejected because they have shown how they act at a given moment, in favor of a foreign power, oppressive and cruel.

Translated by: [REDACTED]

12/5/62  
(8)



Here is the proof of the treachery of the Lares Board and its Five Johns!

Puerto Rico has the floor....

Text of the cable:

"United Nations, Oct. 24 (UIP) - J. A. GONZALEZ in the name of the Pro Independence Movement of Puerto Rico, has published a message addressed to the Soviet delegate VALERIAN ZORIN, president of the Security Council, denying that Cuba is the first country to have nuclear weapons.

"The message is signed by Attorney CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ, president of the so-called Lares Board, and it reads as follows:

"The Lares Board, united front of Puerto Rican independentists, wishes to express before that high organization, that contrary to what President KENNEDY said yesterday, to the effect that Cuba is the first Latin American territory to have nuclear armaments, the Puerto Rican territory, which is Latin American soil, is full of atomic weapons and guided missiles at numerous bases established here by the Armed Forces of the United States, installed without the consent of our people. This fact, publicly denounced in September, 1961 by a group of Puerto Rican professors, represents a dangerous threat today to our country's civilian population who find themselves in the midst of the explosive Caribbean crisis, without being part of the quarrel."

Surprisingly, the text of this informative cable was not published by the newspapers of Puerto Rico.



10ison \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# Independence Backers Decry U.S. 'Oppression'

**By PEDRO ROMAN**  
 LARES—About 1,500 independence supporters gathered here yesterday to issue the second Mesa de Lares declaration—a document decrying “the criminal oppression of the United States for the past 65 years” in Puerto Rico.  
 However, the featured speaker of the day, Justo Tavaréz, head of the Dominican left-wing orga-

nization, 14th of June, didn't appear.  
 Independence leaders told the crowd that U.S. State Department officials in Santo Domingo had revoked Tavaréz's passport. They bitterly denounced this reported action.  
 Principal speaker yesterday was Juan Antonio Corretjer, who charged that the Central Intelligence Agency is harrasing independen-

ce-minded persons in Puerto Rico.  
 Corretjer termed the C.I.A. a “political Mafia.”  
 Another speaker, Juan Mari Bras, secretary-general of the Pro Independence Movement, told the audience—which frequently broke into cheers and chanted anti-U.S. slogans—that the moment will soon come when “we'll let the world know we're not slaves.”

Still another speaker, Mesa Lares President Carlos Carrero Benítez, predicted that in 1966 the 100th anniversary of the original Grito de Lares—Puerto Rico would be free.  
 The Grito de Lares, in 1810 was an abortive revolt against Spain.  
 The meeting, held in the La plaza, started in sunny weather but ended in rain.

*Handwritten:*  
 105-93124  
 105-93124

*The San Juan Star*  
 The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 People's World \_\_\_\_\_

Date 11/23/63

NOV 21 1963

NOT RECORDED  
 141 NOV 21 1963



## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

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

DATE: 1/28/63

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
(Counterintelligence Program)  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

Re San Juan letter, 12/3/62 and Bulet, 12/14/62.

A review of the San Juan file on the ACCION PATRIOTICA UNITARIA (Patriotic Unitarian Action) (APU) discloses that that organization's radio program, "Radio Bandera," is being regularly aired over Station WLEO, Ponce, Puerto Rico; WRJS, San German, P.R., and WKFE, Yauco, P.R. At the present time they have no regular program in the Mayaguez area.

On January 7, 1963 [REDACTED]  
Federal Communications Commission, San Juan, Puerto Rico, advised that Radio Stations WLEO and WKFE are both owned by the Ponce Broadcasting Company and that the principal stockholder and Technical Director of this company is [REDACTED]

The San Juan Office indices are negative concerning [REDACTED] however, San Juan file 100-4912 contains the San Juan report of [REDACTED] dated 7/29/44, captioned, [REDACTED]

No information concerning [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] could be found in the files of the Division of Intelligence Police of Puerto Rico.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)  
RLW:gjk  
(4)

17 JAN 30 1963

6 FEB 5 1963

SUB CONTROL



SJ 105-3353 Sub 1

Federal Communications Commission records disclose that Radio Station WRJS, San German, is owned by Electronics Enterprises, which in turn is owned by "El Imparcial." The Bureau should note that "El Imparcial" is a daily Spanish language newspaper published at San Juan, which consistently shows a leftist, independentist view, and would be hostile to any advances. Accordingly, no attempt will be made to contact WRJS, since it would very possibly result in embarrassment to the Bureau.

LEAD:

At Ponce, Puerto Rico

Will identify and establish the reputation of [REDACTED] of the Ponce Broadcasting Company, and if he appears to be a man of good reputation. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 1/28/63

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

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
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2 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)  
RLW:gjk  
(4)

17 JAN 30 1963

6 FEB 5 1963

COPIES



62 II  
SJ 105-3353 Sub 1

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At Ponce, Puerto Rico

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[REDACTED]



SAC, New York (105-32872)

January 17, 1963

REC-35  
Director, FBI (105-93124) 96

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

Reurlet 1/8/63.

Your suggested counterintelligence procedure of sending an anonymous mailing to fifteen or twenty prominent members of Accion Patriotica Unitaria appears to have merit. After receiving the comments from the San Juan Office as requested in relet, you should submit the text of the proposed mailing in Spanish along with the English translation for Bureau approval. Also submit the full details regarding the proposed mailing including the names of those to whom letters will be addressed.

1 - San Juan (105-93124)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

There has been a rift in the leadership of APU in New York between [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] has been victorious, and handprinted signs in the Spanish language have been found in apartment houses occupied by prominent APU members. These signs carry messages such as "Be alert," "Walk alone," and "Vive Puerto Rico Libre." These messages are believed by APU members to have originated with [redacted]. The proposed counterintelligence action should tend to widen the rift among APU adherence in New York.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
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Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BGLP:fjh  
(5)

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
Classification

10246

JAN 23 5 24 PM '63

For OCT use only

Circular 1300

032 Bras, Mari/1-2363

XR 324.7022  
7/11c.00

Origin

ARA

Info:

CAP

10

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ACTION: CIRCULAR 1300

Department informed that Mari Bras, Secretary General Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) planning visit Brazil Chile Ecuador Uruguay Venezuela in January-February seeking support for discussion QUOTE Puerto Rican Colonialism Issue UNQUOTE by UN Committee of Twenty-four. Reportedly will be guest Salvador Allende in Chile; Ligas Camponesas in Brazil; URD party in Venezuela. May be accompanied by [Gabriel Vicente Maura.]

Department will appreciate receiving information on activities in host country.

End

ACTION: CARACAS  
MONTEVIDEO  
QUITO  
RIO DE JANEIRO  
SANTIAGO

INFO: USUN NEW YORK

RUSK

Excluded by RIA/R

Drafted by:

ARA/RPA:JMCates:jv:mrw 1/23/63

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

Cates

ARA - Mr. Allen

Clearances:

EST - Mr. Wellman

WST - Mr. Belcher Thompson

UNCLASSIFIED  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
Classification

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UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED".



## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 3/22/63

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

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
(Counterintelligence Program)  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

Re San Juan letter, 1/28/63.

On 3/4/63

[REDACTED] was interviewed, and in the course of the interview advised that "Radio Bandera" is no longer being broadcast by any Ponce radio outlet and that the only radio program the APU has is from the radio station at Yauco.

The plan outlined in referenced letter will go forward concerning the radio outlet at Yauco and the Bureau will be advised of progress of same.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)  
RLW:gjk  
(4)

EX-102

REC-35

105-93124-100  
2 MAR 28 1963

SUBV. CONTROL

54 MAR 1963



## Memorandum

II

63

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 3/22/63

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

SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
(Counterintelligence Program)  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

Re San Juan letter, 1/28/63.

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2 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)  
RLW:gjk  
(4)

EX-102

REC-55

105-93124-100  
2 MAR 29 1963

SUBV. CONTROL

54 APR 1 1963



FBI

Date: 1/7/63

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIR TEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)  
 FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)  
 SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
 IS - NM

*phoned to Iberia)* On 1/4/63 [redacted] San Juan International Airport, confidentially advised that the subject has secured a confirmed reservation on Iberia Flight #983 from San Juan to Caracas, Venezuela on 1/20/63.

[redacted] said the reservation was made through the Portela Travel Agency which indicated that a further request would be made for reservations to include Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Quito, Ecuador.

The 1/4/63 issue of the San Juan Star, a daily English language newspaper, stated that MARI BRAS has announced that he may be accompanied on his South American trip by MPIPR Foreign Relations Secretary GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA [redacted]

MARI BRAS told the Star that he would visit Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay, and Chile where he will attempt to gain support for the MPIPR effort to have the Puerto Rican colonialism issue discussed by the United Nations Committee of 17.

MARI BRAS said that in Brazil he will file with the Brazilian Government a copy of a petition signed by many Puerto Ricans requesting that Puerto Rico be included in the denuclearized zone in Latin America suggested by President GOULART recently.

3 - Bureau (105-292)  
 2 - San Juan (100-4785)

ST-101 REC-34

JAN 10 1963

RLW/mev  
 (4)

Approved: *TBB*

Sent

SUBV. CONTROL

Per

COPY FILED IN 105-292-53



SJ 100-4785

MARI BRAS said that in Venezuela he will be the guest of the Republican Democratic Union, the major opposition political party; in Chile he will be the guest of one SALVADOR ALLENDE, a Socialist Party leader; in Brazil his host will be the agrarian party, Ligas Campesinas.

A letterhead memorandum will be submitted when the itinerary is more firmly established.





In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

P. O. Box 4312  
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico

JAN 14 1963

**JUAN MARI BRAS**  
**INTERNAL SECURITY-NATIONALIST**

On January 9, 1963 a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that JUAN MARI BRAS has obtained confirmed reservations to depart San Juan, Puerto Rico with a destination of Caracas, Venezuela on January 17, 1963 via Flight #983 of Iberia Airlines.

On January 18, 1963 the subject has reservations to travel from Caracas to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil via Flight #801, Varig Airlines.

The subject has reservations to travel on January 23, 1963 from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo, Uruguay via Pan American World Airways Flight #203.

The confidential source said that the subject holds an open ticket from Montevideo to San Juan.

The subject will be travelling alone.

The January 4, 1963 issue of "The San Juan Star," a daily English language newspaper published at San Juan, Puerto Rico, reported that JUAN MARI BRAS has announced that he would visit on a South American tour the countries of Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay and Chile. In these countries MARI BRAS declared he would attempt to enlist support of these countries' leaders for the efforts of the MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) to bring the issue of Puerto Rican colonialism before the United Nations Committee of Seventeen on Colonialism.

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080  
ON 3-1-77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF         
DATE       

CONFIDENTIAL  
Group 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification



MARI BRAS, according to the newspaper article, stated that in Venezuela he would be a guest of the Republican Democratic Union, the major opposition political party. In Brazil MARI BRAS will be the guest of the agrarian political party, known as "Ligas Campesinas."

In Chile his host will be SALVADOR AILENDE, identified by MARI BRAS as a Socialist Party leader and one of the leading contenders for public office in Chile.

MARI BRAS said that in Brazil he will file with the Brazilian Government a copy of a petition signed by many Puerto Ricans requesting that Puerto Rico be included in the denuclearized zone of Latin America recently suggested by Brazilian President GOULART.

JUAN MARI BRAS holds U. S. passport # Z-208501.

JUAN MARI BRAS is described as follows:

Race	White
Date of Birth	December 2, 1927
Place of Birth	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
Height	5'10"
Weight	180
Build	Plump
Hair	Black and straight
Eyes	Blue
Peculiarities	Wears thin black mustache
General appearance	Neat
Home Address	Calle Tamesis 1502, Urbanizacion El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico
Occupation	Attorney

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



ST-101 REC-105-292 - 82  
105-85171

1 - Liaison  
1 - Mr. Pettit

Date: January 14, 1963

To: Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - M

GABRIEL VINCENTE MAURA  
SECURITY MATTER - M

Information has been received that one Mari Bras, Passport Number Z-208501, has a reservation on Iberia Flight Number 983 from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Caracas, Venezuela, on January 20, 1963.

Mari Bras who is Secretary General of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) has announced that he may be accompanied by Gabriel Vincente Maura, Foreign Relations Secretary of MPIPR. Vincente Maura holds Passport Number C-064308. Mari Bras has also announced that his trip will include visits to Brazil, Uruguay and Chile in addition to Venezuela. The trip may include travel to Quito, Ecuador. The purpose of his trip is to gain support for the MPIPR effort to have the Puerto Rican colonialism issue discussed by the United Nations Committee of Seventeen which deals with colonialism. Mari Bras and his organization have previously expended considerable effort in this regard.

BY COURIER SVC.  
45 JAN 15  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

3 - Rio de Janeiro (see note page 2)  
2 - San Juan (see note page 2)

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (route through for review)

BGLP:bmt

55 JAN 13 1963  
55 JAN 24 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "J.P.", "C.F.", and "J.H.", along with dates like "JAN 15 1963".



**Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State**

In addition Mari Bras has said that he will file a copy of a petition with the Brazilian Government requesting that Puerto Rico be included in the demuclearized zone in Latin America which was suggested by President Goulart recently.

Mari Bras has said that in Venezuela he will be the guest of the Republican Democratic Union and in Chile he will be the guest of Salvador Allende, a Socialist Party leader. In Brazil his host will be Ligas Campesinas, the agrarian party.

Background information concerning Mari Bras, Vincente Maura and MRIPA has been previously furnished to the Department of State and to the Central Intelligence Agency. This matter is being referred to the Legal Attache, Rio de Janeiro, for contact with appropriate security services to be advised of subjects' activities while in Brazil and Uruguay. It will be appreciated if the Department of State and the Central Intelligence Agency will advise of any pertinent information received concerning their activities in Venezuela, Chile and Ecuador.

**1 - Director  
Central Intelligence Agency**

**Attention: Deputy Director, Plans**

**ATTENTION: LEGAL ATTACHE, RIO DE JANEIRO, AND SAC, SAN JUAN:**

Mari Bras and Vincente Maura are on the Security Index of the San Juan Office. Mari Bras has long been an advocate of independence for Puerto Rico by violent means

**Note continued page three**



Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State

ATTENTION: LEGAL ATTACHE, RIO DE JANEIRO, AND SAC, SAN JUAN,  
CONTINUED:

and as Secretary General of the MPIPR is an influential person in Puerto Rican independence circles. Mari Bras is described as follows:

Race:	White
Age:	35
Born:	December 12, 1927
	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
Height:	5 feet, 10 inches
Weight:	180 pounds
Build:	plump
Hair:	Brown and straight
Eyes:	Blue
Peculiarities:	wears thin black mustache
Occupation:	Attorney

Vincente Maura is described as follows:

Race:	White
Age:	53
Born:	March 18, 1909
	Gayana, Puerto Rico
Height:	5 feet, 9 inches
Weight:	200 pounds
Build:	heavy
Complexion:	light
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Gray, balding on top

You should notify appropriate sources so as to be advised of subject's activities while in Brazil and Uruguay. Information contained in this letter may



Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State

ATTENTION: LEGAL ATTACHE, RIO DE JANEIRO, AND SAC, SAN JUAN,  
CONTINUED:

be furnished to your sources. Remain alert for changes in subject's travel plans advising the Central Intelligence Agency of pertinent changes. San Juan advise the Bureau promptly by letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination of any additional travel plans on the part of subjects.



1 - Liaison  
1 - Mr. Pettit

ST-101  
REC-105-292 - 82  
105-85171

Date: January 14, 1963

To: Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - M

[REDACTED]

Mari Bras who is Secretary General of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) has announced that he may be accompanied by Gabriel Vincente Maura, Foreign Relations Secretary of MPIPR. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mari Bras has also announced that his trip will include visits to Brazil, Uruguay and Chile in addition to Venezuela. The trip may include travel to Quito, Ecuador. The purpose of his trip is to gain support for the MPIPR effort to have the Puerto Rican colonialism issue discussed by the United Nations Committee of Seventeen which deals with colonialism. Mari Bras and his organization have previously expended considerable effort in this regard.

[REDACTED] (see note page 2)  
2 - San Juan (see note page 2)

[REDACTED] for review

BGLP:bmt

55 JAN 23 1963

55 JAN 24 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RECEIVED COPY FILED IN 105-85171



Organización  
Alfisa MBI en  
M-Y.

Intervención de  
la CIA.



**Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State**

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1 - Director  
Central Intelligence Agency

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

[redacted]

[redacted]

Note continued page three



**Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security  
Department of State**

**ATTENTION: LEGAL ATTACHE, RIO DE JANEIRO, AND SAC, SAN JUAN,**  
**CONTINUED:**

**and as Secretary General of the MPIPR is an influential  
person in Puerto Rican independence circles. Mari Bras  
is described as follows:**

<b>Race:</b>	<b>White</b>
<b>Age:</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Born:</b>	<b>December 22, 1927</b>
	<b>Mayaguez, Puerto Rico</b>
<b>Height:</b>	<b>5 feet, 10 inches</b>
<b>Weight:</b>	<b>180 pounds</b>
<b>Build:</b>	<b>plump</b>
<b>Hair:</b>	<b>Brown and straight</b>
<b>Eyes:</b>	<b>Blue</b>
<b>Peculiarities:</b>	<b>wears thin black mustache</b>
<b>Occupation:</b>	<b>Attorney</b>



## DECODED COPY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT 1-17-63  
 TO DIRECTOR  
 FROM SAC SAN JUAN 172134

*0*  
JUAN MARI BRAS, INTERNAL SECURITY - NATIONALIST, BUREAU FILE  
 NUMBER 105-292.

*get*  
 RE SAN JUAN AIRTEL JANUARY 14 LAST.

SUBJECT DEPARTED SAN JUAN THIS DATE VIA IBERIA AIRLINES  
 WITH A DESTINATION OF CARACUS, VENEZUELA.

SUBJECT ADVISED INTERVIEWING NEWSMEN AT AIRPORT THAT  
 HE WOULD TOUR PORTIONS OF SOUTH AMERICA AND RETURN TO  
 SAN JUAN ON JANUARY 24 NEXT.

RECEIVED:

8:29 PM

JCF *a*

REC-35

105-292-84

EX-114

13 JAN 21 1963

*1963*  
 63 JAN 24 1963



60  
SAC, New York (105-32872)

January 17, 1963

Director, FBI (105-93124) 96  
REC-35

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

Reurlet 1/8/63.

Your suggested counterintelligence procedure of sending an anonymous mailing to fifteen or twenty prominent members of Accion Patriotica Unitaria appears to have merit. After receiving the comments from the San Juan Office as requested in relet, you should submit the text of the proposed mailing in Spanish along with the English translation for Bureau approval. Also submit the full details regarding the proposed mailing including the names of those to whom letters will be addressed.

1 - San Juan (105-93124)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

There has been a rift in the leadership of APU in New York between [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] has been victorious, and handprinted signs in the Spanish language have been found in apartment houses occupied by prominent APU members. These signs carry messages such as "Be alert," "Walk alone," and "Vive Puerto Rico Libre." These messages are believed by APU members to have originated with [redacted]. The proposed counterintelligence action should tend to widen the rift among APU adherence in New York.

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Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BGLP:fjh  
(5)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



4

JAN 2 1966



3. 6. 11.

FBI Memo dated 1/14/63 at Washington, D. C.

cc: REA - Mr. Catos  
ARA  
CIA

By Long

24 i



OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
Classification

10246

JAN 23 5 24 PM '63

For DCIT use only.

Origin

ARA

Info:  
CAP  
10

ACTION: CIRCULAR 1300

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INR  
OIA CIA  
NSA  
SY  
RMR

Department informed that Mari Bras, Secretary General Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) planning visit Brazil Chile Ecuador Uruguay Venezuela in January-February seeking support for discussion QUOTE Puerto Rican Colonialism Issue UNQUOTE by UN Committee of Twenty-four. Reportedly will be guest Salvador Allende in Chile; Ligas Camponesas in Brazil; URD party in Venezuela. May be accompanied by [Gabriel Vicente Maura.]

Department will appreciate receiving information on activities in host country.

End

ACTION: CARACAS  
MONTEVIDEO  
QUITO  
RIO DE JANEIRO  
SANTIAGO

INFO: USUN NEW YORK

RUSK

Refined by RM/B

Drafted by:

ARA/RPA:JMCates:jv:mrw 1/23/63

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Cates  
ARA - Mr. Allen

Clearances:

EST - Mr. Wellman

WST - Mr. Belcher Thompson

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Classification

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22

# AIRGRAM

②

FOR RM USE ONLY

UNCLASSIFIED

A-509  
NO.

FOR DEPT. USE

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1963 JAN 25 AM 7 32

*Handwritten initials and signature*

ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION  
BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy CARACAS

DATE: JAN 24 1963

SUBJECT: Visit to Caracas of Puerto Rican MPI President Juan Mari Brás

REF :

In Caracas for a short visit, President of the Puerto Rican Movimiento Pro-Independencia, Juan MARI Brás gave a press interview on the afternoon of Jan. 18. Interviewed in the office of the URD delegation of the Chamber of Deputies, Mari was escorted by URD Deputy José HERRERA Oropeza. Subsequently, Mari was received by the Foreign Policy Committee of the Chamber, which group he addressed. He made the following points to the press and to the Committee:

1. The Government of MUÑOZ Marin is "an instrument of the North Americans" which has lost the support of its own party "in those Youth and Progressive Sectors" which are against the maintenance of the political status quo and hence are in agreement with the independentistas. He stated that his movimiento has branches in all Puerto Rican towns and in New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia.

2. "We want freedom peacefully, but if imperialism wants violence, there will be violence". He wants (a) total transfer of power now held by the Federal Congress to the people of Puerto Rico, and (b) the setting up of a national constituent assembly to organize a new government. In this he wants freedom first and elections to redraw the Constitution afterwards. The movimiento "will not participate in any more elections of governments which have no power".

3. Puerto Rico is a "classic colony" of the U. S. which controls 80% of the normal governmental functions on the Island. The federal veto can nullify the supposed advantages of the "Free Associated States". Even the legal system can be countervened since the U. S. Supreme Court has appellate power in Puerto Rican legal cases.

UNCLASSIFIED

FORM 4-62 DS-323

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

LEStruck:gmc 1/23/63

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Mr. Hill

Clearances:

Enclosure (2)



~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Page 2  
CARACAS 7-3091963

4. Though a facade of self-government exists, "import legislation", affecting international commerce, communications, armed forces, labor-management relations are dictated by the Federal Congress.

5. The Puerto Rican Commissioner in Washington really has no power because he has no vote, and cannot even speak on the floor of Congress except with the unanimous consent of the House.

6. Extensive American military bases take up much of Puerto Rico, and the storage of considerable atomic weapons, including bombs large enough to blow up the Island, is a violation of the sensibilities of the people.

7. A Special Commission of the United Nations, selected in 1961 and charged with investigating colonial and territorial matters has included on its agenda the case of Puerto Rico. The 24 governments represented on this Commission include Venezuela, Uruguay and Chile. Mari intends to petition support of these three governments on the current tour, and later at the UN with representatives of the many Afro-Asian governments which have been admitted since 1953. In 1953 the UN by a majority of 3 votes agreed that the Free Associated State formula amounted to an autonomous government for Puerto Rico. Now, he feels, he can get this statement reversed and successfully elicit help from those new governments whose people "know the meaning of colonialism".

COMMENT: This interview was reported extensively but moderately in EL NACIONAL, with a passing reference only in EL UNIVERSAL and with considerable fanfare and many pictures in leftist CLARIN. EL NACIONAL and CLARIN had versions differing considerably in emphasis. Both reports, and doubtless the interview itself, gravely distorted the relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States.

*L. Edward Shuck*

L. Edward Shuck  
Second Secretary of Embassy

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~



29  
INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

2  
CARACAS 774

UNCLASSIFIED  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

38  
Action.

Control: 16130  
Rec'd: January 25, 1963  
10:21 a.m.

ARA  
Info

FROM: Caracas

CAP  
IO  
INR  
CIA  
NSA  
SY

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 774 January 25, 9 a.m.

DEPCIRTEL 1300

*032 Bras mark*

RMB

Juan Mari Bras in Caracas during past week. Well received by URD Deputies who arranged press interview and meeting with members Foreign Affairs Committee of Chamber. His anti-USG analysis of PR Affair heavily covered in leftist daily CLARIN, prominently reported in major daily EL NACIONAL, mentioned in conservative UNIVERSAL. Note Embassy airgram A-509, copies forwarded Montevideo, Rio, Santiago, Quito. Itinerary presently unknown.

STEWART

SGC

032 BRAS, MARI

Classified by RMA

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**UNCLASSIFIED**

with excisions as shown

Page 6

CARACAS A-519

January 26, 1963

(2)

4. International Notes:

A. Visit of Juan Mari Brás of Puerto Rico:

President of the Movimiento Pro-Independencia of Puerto Rico, Juan MARI Brás, visited Caracas this week as part of a campaign through South America to acquire support in the United Nations for Puerto Rico's "fight for freedom from the United States". His denunciations of the United States for alleged curtailments of Puerto Rican freedom were given wide coverage in the leftist press and appreciable attention in EL NACIONAL. (UNCLASSIFIED)

COMMENT: Mari received attention from a few Unredistas who were able to arrange a press interview and an informal meeting with members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber, but probably had little effect on pro-American feeling here. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

with excisions as shown



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)

DATE: 2/1/63

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)

SUBJECT: *TSB*  
JUAN MARI ERAS  
IS-N  
(OO: SAN JUAN)

*L* Re San Juan airtel, 1/14/63 and radiogram, 1/17/63.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a letterhead memorandum, dated and captioned as above.

Local dissemination of the letterhead memorandum has been made to ONI, OSI, INTC, U.S. Customs, and INS.

*1-0*  
2 - Bureau (Enc. 9) (RM)  
1 - San Juan (100-4785)  
RLW:gjk  
(3)

REC-47

*fm*  
25 FEB 4 1963

EX - 116

9 ENCLOSURE

Copy to *encl State, CIA, RAO*  
by routing slip for  
☒ info ☐ action  
date *2/5/63*  
by *RLW/gjk*

SUBV. CONTROL

*F49*  
62 FEB 6 1963





In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Post Office Box 4312  
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico  
February 1, 1963

JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY-NATIONALIST

[REDACTED]

On January 17, 1963 the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Puerto Rico, advised that the subject  
had left that date for Caracas via Iberia Airlines, Flight #983.

The January 24, 1963 issue of "El Mundo," a daily  
Spanish language newspaper published at San Juan, Puerto Rico,  
reported that the subject returned to San Juan from Caracas  
on January 24, 1963.

The newspaper in its article quoted the subject as  
stating that the purpose of his trip to Caracas had been to  
mobilize the friendly forces of Puerto Rican independence in  
order to exert pressure on the Venezuelan Government and persuade  
it to support the case of Puerto Rican colonialism which would  
soon be brought to the attention of the United Nations. He  
noted that Venezuela has one delegate on the United Nations  
Colonialism Committee and that he is president of the Petitions  
Subcommittee of that colonialism body.

MARI BRAS reported to "El Mundo" that on arrival in  
Caracas, he received an official welcome at a special session  
of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Venezuelan Chamber of  
Deputies, where he had an opportunity to present the case for  
Puerto Rican independence. He said he was promised by a number  
of Venezuelan deputies that they would support Puerto Rico's  
efforts at the United Nations.

MARI BRAS stated that he was received by various  
officials of the Central University of Caracas and he told them



Re: Juan Mari Bras

that there was no autonomy or students rights in existence at the University of Puerto Rico.

He said that he met with several other professional groups including newspapermen, and was interviewed by the press. MARI BRAS indicated that in March, 1963 he and some of his associates would travel to Brazil, Uruguay, and Chile on a mission similar to his in Venezuela.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



**DECODED COPY**

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

☒ **Radio**

☐ **Teletype**

URGENT 2-4-63  
 TO DIRECTOR  
 FROM SAC SAN JUAN 041345

JUAN MART BRAS; INTERNAL SECURITY - NATIONALIST.  
 BUREAU FILE 105-292. *b7d*

PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS (PAA) ADVISES THAT SUBJECT  
 FEBRUARY 1 LAST PURCHASED ROUND TRIP TICKET ON PAA  
 FLIGHT 432, SAN JUAN TO SANTO DOMINGO FEBRUARY 7 NEXT WITH  
 RETURN RESERVATIONS SAME DATE ON FLIGHT 431.

SOURCES BEING ALERTED TO DETERMINE PURPOSE OF TRIP.  
 LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM FOLLOWS.

RECEIVED:

9:33 AM

PEC

EX-120

REC-61

105-292-89

68 FEB 8 1963

FEB 6 1963



DECODED COPY

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

DEFERRED 2-5-63  
TO DIRECTOR  
FROM SAC SAN JUAN 052116

JUAN MARI <sup>P</sup>BRAS. IS - N. BUFILE 105-292.  
REMYRAD FEBRUARY 4 LAST.

INS, SAN JUAN HAS ADVISED SUBJECT'S TRAVEL TO SANTO DOMINGO FEBRUARY 7 NEXT IN CONNECTION WITH HIS LAW PROFESSION AS HE IS REPRESENTING MARCIO ANTONIO MEJIA RICART Y GUZMAN [REDACTED] IN LEGAL ACTION AGAINST PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS. UNLESS SUBJECTS'S ACTIVITIES INDICATE TRIP FOR PURPOSE OTHER THAN LEGITIMATE LEGAL BUSINESS, NO LETTERHEAD BEING SUBMITTED.

RECEIVED: 6:13 PM MGR

REC-61

EX-120

105-292-88

FEB 8 1963

FEB 8 1963



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ b7d

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAN JUAN</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN JUAN</b>	DATE <b>2/7/63</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>12/20 - 2/5/63</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>JUAN MARI BRAS</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b>	TYPED BY <b>zho</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>IS - N</b>	

## REFERENCE:

San Juan report of SA **[REDACTED] b7C** dated 8/7/62.

-P\*-

## LEAD:

## SAN JUAN DIVISION

Will continue to follow and report the subject's activities.

## INFORMANTS:

## Identity of Source:

CLASSIFIED BY **2955 RPS/AC** 11-2-78  
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY **2,3**  
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

File Where Located

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
MATERIAL ATTACHED

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

- 5-Bureau (RM) (105-292)
- 1-ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand)
- 1-471st INTC Detachment, SJ (By Hand)
- 1-OSI, Ramey AFB (RM)
- 3-San Juan (100-4785)

**105-292-90**

**11 FEB 11 1963**

**EX-102**

## DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY	RAO State	CIA	ONI
REQUEST RECD.			
DATE FWD.	2/21/63		
HOW FWD.	R/S		
BY	B. L. R. / ma		

## NOTATIONS

13	10	28	VI	23
SUBV. CONTROL				
NAT. FMN				
3-18-119				

**54 FEB 26 1963**



SJ 100-4785

DETAILS:

I - RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

On January 13, 1963, the subject's wife was contacted by a Special Agent of the FBI under suitable pretext and it was learned that the subject and his family reside at Calle Tamesis 1502, El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

On January 15, 1963, a Special Agent of the FBI observed that the subject is self-employed as an attorney with law offices located at Avenida Ponce de Leon 1122 (second floor), Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

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

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix.

A. Positions Held

Carta Semanal No. 88 dated January 18, 1963 of the MPIPR states that the subject on January 13, 1963 was re-elected as Secretary General of the organization by the MPIPR National Council.

The Carta Semanal of the MPIPR is described as a weekly newsletter published by MPIPR headquarters and sent to its various officials and branch missions.

The masthead of "Claridad" for June and September, 1962 indicates that the subject is on the Editorial Staff of that publication.

"Claridad" is self-described as the official organ of the MPIPR.

B. General Activities

On July 17, 1962, SJ T-1 stated that the subject



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAN JUAN</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN JUAN</b>	DATE <i>fasted</i> <b>2/7/63</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>12/20 - 2/5/63</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JUAN MARI BRAS</b>		REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	TYPED BY <b>zho</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>IS - N</b>	

REFERENCE:

San Juan report of SA  dated 8/7/62.

-P\*-

LEAD:

SAN JUAN DIVISION

Will continue to follow and report the subject's activities.

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source:

File Where Located

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**MATERIAL ATTACHED**

APPROVED <i>TSB</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:  5-Bureau (RM) (105-292) 1-ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand) 1-471st INTC Detachment, SJ (By Hand) 1-OSI, Ramey AFB (RM) 3-San Juan (100-4785)	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">105-292-90</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">REC-26</div>
	<div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">FEB 11 1963</div>	
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		
AGENCY	REQUEST REC'D	DATE FWD
<i>RAO State CIA ONI</i>		
NOTATIONS		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>13 10 28 VII 63</span> <span>SUBV. CONTROL</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>DOM INTEG DIA</span> <span>NAT</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>REC'D</span> <span>13-18</span> </div>		

**54 FEB 16 1963**





In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Post Office Box 4312  
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico

February 7, 1963

JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - NATIONALIST

Reference is made to the report of SA [REDACTED]  
dated and captioned as above at San Juan.

Sources mentioned in instant report have furnished  
reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and  
is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be  
distributed outside your agency.



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

Copy to:

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

Report of:

Date:

2/7/63

Office:

San Juan

Field Office File #:

100-4785

Bureau File #:

105-292

Title:

JUAN MARI BRAS

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - NATIONALIST

Synopsis:

Subject resides at Calle Tamesis 1508, Urbanizacion El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico and is self-employed as an attorney at Avenida Ponce de Leon No. 1122 (second floor), Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. Subject re-elected as Secretary General of MPIPR and has been active on behalf of Puerto Rican independence at United Nations. Subject has expressed himself strongly in favor of FIDEL CASTRO and Cuban Revolution.

-P\*-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification.

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 7  
Date of Declassification Indefinite



SJ 100-4785

DETAILS:

I - RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

[REDACTED]

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The masthead of "Claridad" for June and September, 1962 indicates that the subject is on the Editorial Staff of that publication.

"Claridad" is self-described as the official organ of the MPIPR.

B. General Activities

On July 17, 1962, SJ T-1 stated that the subject



participated in an MPIPR sponsored picket of the home of U. S. Congressman ADAM CLAYTON POWELL at Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. This picket which took place on July 15, 1962 expressed the protest of the picketers for alleged remarks of Congressman POWELL, indicating the possible cessation of Federal aid to education in Puerto Rico.

On July 26, 1962, SJ T-1 reported that on July 24, 1962 the subject spoke at an MPIPR sponsored rally at Plaza Barcelo, Santurce, Puerto Rico, at which time the subject in his address referred to July 25, which is the anniversary of the establishment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as the most shameful in Puerto Rico history since the U. S. Army originally invaded the island 64 years before. During his address the subject praised FIDEL CASTRO and the Cuban Revolution.

The July 28, 1962 issue of "El Mundo", a daily Spanish language newspaper published at San Juan, Puerto Rico, reported the text of a letter addressed to the Governor of Puerto Rico by the subject in his capacity as Secretary General of the MPIPR. In the letter the subject referred to the Governor's plans for a status plebiscite in Puerto Rico. The subject in the letter declared that before a plebiscite could be held it was necessary that the U. S. remove their forces from the island and turn over the power to the Puerto Rico colonial people so that they could make the decisions concerning their own destiny without foreign intervention. In the letter MARI BRAS pointed out that if the Governor insisted on haggling over the destiny of Puerto Rico with the United States, he should know that no one has the right to jeopardize Puerto Rican independence with colonial plebiscites and that he should not attempt to force a vote on independence within the present colonial framework, because the independentists would refuse to participate and they would not allow independence to be discussed on such a basis.

The August 2, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" stated that the subject participated in a panel discussion on the Puerto Rican situation at the Hotel Normandie in San Juan on August 1, 1962, at which time he declared that foreign investments in Puerto Rico yield up to 28% in profits and contribute to the under-development of Puerto Rico. He stated that the



independentists don't want to reject foreign investment, but simply desire to control it. He demanded that the United States yield up its powers in Puerto Rico which it had originally gained by invasion. He said then the status of Puerto Rico can be discussed on a free and equitable basis.

The August 2, 1962 issue of "The San Juan Star", a daily English language newspaper published at San Juan, reporting on the aforementioned panel discussion, stated in addition that the subject claimed that independentists were being persecuted by the authorities and he planned to complain of this to the United Nations (UN).

The August 6, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" reported that the subject delivered an address at funeral services held for EFRAIN RODRIGUEZ SEDA at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. MARI BRAS stated that RODRIGUEZ was a young patriot who was then bearing a message from the Puerto Rican people to God Almighty that they want no more deaths and that they are living in chains. He declared that RODRIGUEZ was departing this life in order to join the other great men of Puerto Rico and that his life was an inspiration to other patriots.

The Puerto Rican press reported extensively that on August 2, 1962 an anti-personnel type bomb exploded in the Farmacia Modelo, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, killing one person and fatally injuring EFRAIN RODRIGUEZ SEDA.

According to the newspaper articles RODRIGUEZ SEDA was a known independentist.

On August 11, 1962, "The San Juan Star", reported that the subject was acting as attorney for NESTOR NAZARIO at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, who was involved in the aforementioned bombing explosion and had been injured in the blast and was hospitalized. According to the article NAZARIO was in a hospital under Police guard and the officer tried to prevent the subject from interviewing his client, whereupon the subject pushed the policeman out of the room, locked the door and conducted his interview.



"Carta Semanal" No. 67, dated August 9, 1962, which was signed by the subject, contained a statement by the subject in which he stated he had had no trouble whatsoever with the Police in Mayaguez, and that they had not attempted to interfere with his interview of NAZARIO. He stated he had simply asked the officer to step out outside while he interviewed NAZARIO and the officer graciously complied.

On August 8, 1962, SJ T-2 stated that on August 4, 1962, the subject participated in an MPIPR sponsored-public rally at Camuy and he delivered a speech urging his listeners to oppose the status plebiscite.

On August 14, 1962, SJ T-3 stated that the subject addressed a meeting of the MPIPR at Santurce, Puerto Rico on August 10, 1962 and urged strong opposition to the Puerto Rican status plebiscite.

[REDACTED]

A characterization of the APU appears in the appendix.

"El Mundo" on August 24, 1962 reported that the previous day the subject testified before the Puerto Rico Legislative Committee concerning the status plebiscite, and indicated that he had plans to request the UN to demand that the United States refrain from approving the plebiscite. The subject referred to the plebiscite as a judicial monstrosity and stated the only solution to the political problem in Puerto Rico is to hold the plebiscite without any Federal intervention whatsoever.

On August 27, 1962, SJ T-3 stated he had learned the subject is the MPIPR delegate to the Mesa de Lares.

A characterization of the Mesa de Lares appears in the appendix.

[REDACTED]



SJ 100-4785

[REDACTED]

"Carta Semanal" No. 69, dated August 24, 1962 quoted the subject as stating that the MPIPR was putting all of its efforts behind the Mesa de Lares in its fight against the status plebiscite.

[REDACTED]

A characterization of the "Grito de Lares" appears in the appendix.

[REDACTED]

On September 10, 1962, SJ T-7 reported that the subject spoke at an MPIPR meeting at Estonian Hall in New York City on September 7, 1962, where he stated that the MPIPR was making every effort to win Puerto Rican independence with its activities at the UN and complained that the U. S. State Department was blocking their activities in this regard. The subject declared that since parliamentary methods were being blocked that violence was the only way to achieve independence for Puerto Rico.

[REDACTED]



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

The September 14, 1962 issue of "El Dia", a daily Spanish language newspaper published at Ponce, Puerto Rico reported on the MPIPR sponsored observance of the birthday of PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS in that city on September 12, 1962.

PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS is the titular head of the MPIPR presently incarcerated in Presbyterian Hospital, Santurce, Puerto Rico for his revolutionary activities.

The article stated that the audience in response to MARI BRAS' speech shouted "We will win", "Fatherland or death" and "FIDEL, Cuba Si, Yanquis No."

In his address, according to the newspaper article, the subject stated that a revolutionary vanguard had been created which was strong enough to face up to troops in the streets. He stated that 78% of Puerto Rican industry and business is in the hands of Continental Americans and that this has made conditions so poor in Puerto Rico that emigration to the United States is the only way that Puerto Ricans can survive. He claimed that Continental Americans took \$150,000,000 per year out of Puerto Rico. He referred to the industrial development agency of the Commonwealth Government stating that they attract anxious investors with promises of low salaries and high profits.

In his address MARI BRAS criticized the Governor of Puerto Rico for travelling in chartered aircraft and when in New York staying at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where he remains aloof from Puerto Ricans residing in Spanish areas of New York City.

He declared that PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS was a prisoner of Governor LUIS MUNOZ MARIN and that this is a blot on the reputation of the Governor.


The September 14, 1962 issue of "El Mundo", in reporting on aforementioned observance at Ponce on September



SJ 100-4785

12, stated that MARI BRAS during his address outlined the work of the MPIPR being carried on at the UN on behalf of Puerto Rican independence and he sharply attacked the status plebiscite.

The September 24, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" in an article reported on the "Grito de Lares" ceremonies held at Lares, Puerto Rico on September 23, 1962. During the ceremonies the subject made a speech in which he declared that the Puerto Rican people were capable of striking back with all their might against any force which might attempt to interfere with their freedom.



On October 4, 1962, "El Dia" reported that the subject had just participated in a television interview over Station WSUR TV, Ponce, Puerto Rico in a program called "Guest of the City". In this program the subject denied that the MPIPR is Communist dominated, but stated that they do support the Cuban Revolution of FIDEL CASTRO and they oppose the status plebiscite for Puerto Rico by all legal means. In addition, the subject stated that he desired the UN to investigate conditions in Puerto Rico.

"Carta Semanal" No. 75 dated October 5, 1962 is signed by the subject and declares that the MPIPR is a vanguard of independence and must always keep ahead of the people in their quest for independence. The subject in his article noted that it is the responsibility of a vanguard to do as the MPIPR had done some two years ago when the Catholic Church in Puerto Rico was favoring American assimilation. At that time, the subject recalled the MPIPR had denounced the Catholic schools that were using the English language as a teaching vehicle and by their actions they brought about a



SJ 100-4785

statement by the Commonwealth Secretary of Education condemning the use of private schools to Americanize Puerto Rico. Subject declared that it was the duty of MPIPR memers to prepare the people for national liberation and in this regard the MPIPR had sponsored the Mesa de Lares in hope that all vanguard independence forces will join in the struggle. He stated that the MPIPR is committed to merge with any organization which will achieve the union of all independentist forces in Puerto Rico,

[REDACTED]

The October 15, 1962 issue of "The San Juan Star" quoted the subject as declaring that those in favor of statehood in Puerto Rico and supporters of the Commonwealth form of government had joined forces in a plot to crush the island's independence movement. Should this coalition take strong action the subject declared he would take the matter to the UN.

On October 15, 1962, SJ T-8 said that a number of important independentist leaders believed the subject is trying to put all independentists into the MPIPR and then make the Mesa de Lares subservient to that organization.

[REDACTED]

On August 20, 1962, "El Mundo" quoted the subject as stating that it had come to his attention that the Police had arrest warrants for independentist leaders.

[REDACTED]

On October 20, 1962, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

The November 1, 1962 issue of "El Imparcial", a daily Spanish language newspaper published daily in San Juan, Puerto Rico stated that the subject participated in ceremonies at the tomb of GRISELIO TORRESOLA. In ceremonies at the graveside the subject spoke and recalled the struggle of the Puerto Rican nationalists during the October 30, 1950 revolt. He said that in the town of Jayuya where fighting was taking place patriots, heroes and Puerto Rican martyrs sacrificed for their country and sovereign independence.

GRISELIO TORRESOLA was a member of the NPPR who died in an assassination attempt on President HARRY S. TRUMAN at Blair House, Washington, D. C.

"El Mundo" on November 14, 1962 quoted MARI BRAS as announcing seven points reflecting the MPIPR attitude concerning the status plebiscite. They are as follows:

1. The UN has the unavoidable obligation of evading scorn of other nations by solving the Puerto Rico colonial problem.

2. The only way of eliminating colonialism is the unconditional surrender of all powers to those countries which have not yet achieved independence.

3. Any plebiscite carried out while Puerto Rico has not yet achieved its sovereignty would be of no value.

4. The Governor of Puerto Rico and his political henchmen are working in cooperation with their political opposition and they fail to understand the realities in Puerto Rico.

5. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is a pseudo-judicial nonsense having no validity and Puerto Ricans are prevented by it from enjoying their sovereignty.

6. Statehood cannot be imposed on Puerto Rico so long as there exists a robust nationality with definite personality.



7. Independence for Puerto Rico is necessary and inevitable.

Records of the [REDACTED] disclosed that on November 17, 1962 the subject spoke at an MPIPR gathering at Ponce, Puerto Rico, at which time he analyzed the MPIPR efforts at the UN and stated that he did not advocate taking action in favor of independence as did the members of the NPPR since they by their violent actions ended up in jail. He noted that one cannot fight for independence while locked up. The subject declared that the people must be won over to independence and that independence must be achieved by proceeding calmly.

"Carta Semanal" No. 81, dated November 23, 1962 over the subject's signature stated that the plebiscite had been a ruse to deceive the UN concerning colonialism in Puerto Rico and it was good that the plebiscite had died a natural death.

"El Imparcial" for November 17, 1962 quotes the subject as stating that the POPR are illegally persecuting and intimidating delegations of the MPIPR which had been travelling about the Western part of the island engaged in MPIPR activity.

Subject, according to the article, complained that the Police followed in a provocative manner an MPIPR leader in the Mayaguez area and that another Police car parked in front of his parents' home at Mayaguez when he was visiting them and followed him.

The November 27, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" stated that MARI BRAS had announced that he had sent a copy of a letter he had forwarded to the Police complaining of the aforementioned harassment to the UN.

On December 3, 1962, SJ T-5 stated that at a meeting of the Mesa de Lares on November 26, 1962 the subject proposed that a new united front be organized including all independentist groups to struggle for independence; however, his resolution was not accepted by the group.

The December 3, 1962 issue of "The San Juan Star" quoted the subject as announcing the forthcoming Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR. Subject stated that he



had attempted to get a radio station to broadcast proceedings, however, none of them would accept the job. The subject said he intended to complain to the UN about this. The article further stated that the subject complained that the new MPIPR headquarters had been unable to secure a telephone.

On December 11, 1962, SJ T-9 advised that on December 7, 1962 the MPIPR held a cultural activity at the Puerto Rican Atheneum at San Juan, Puerto Rico as the first ceremony of the Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR. At this gathering the subject spoke.

SJ T-9 stated also that the Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR was held on December 9, 1962 at Hato Tejas, Puerto Rico and the subject addressed the gathering at this time.

On December 10, 1962, SJ T-10 stated that on December 7, 1962 the subject participated in and spoke at the MPIPR cultural activity at the Puerto Rican Atheneum.

On December 11, 1962, SJ T-10 stated that the subject was one of the principal speakers at the MPIPR General Assembly on December 9, 1962 at Hato Tejas, Puerto Rico.

The December 11, 1962 issue of "El Imparcial", in an article reported on activities of the Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR held on December 9, 1962. The article quoted the subject in his address to the assembly as stating that the independentists of the MPIPR will abstain from participation in any election or plebiscite while Puerto Rico is still in a colonial status.

According to the article, the subject recounted the efforts of the MPIPR at the UN in New York on behalf of Puerto Rican independence, and the subject demanded that Puerto Rico's sovereignty be returned to the people by the United States before any plebiscite could be held.

The subject, according to the article, stated that he is not a Communist or "Marxist-Leninist", and added that the



MPIPR's position is one of absolute solidarity with the Cuban Revolution because of the historical bonds between Cuba and Puerto Rico.

The December 10, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" reported on the Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR on December 9 and stated that the subject spoke at the assembly. At this assembly resolutions were passed which stated as follows:

1. That, on achievement of the Puerto Rican Republic, the United States Social Security Administration should turn over to the new government all Social Security funds.

2. That the control or ownership of land by foreigners should be strictly forbidden.

3. Private debts in which the creditors are foreigners will be cancelled the moment the Puerto Rican Republic is established.

5. MPIPR members are forbidden to participate in any colonial election, whose purpose is to determine status.

MARI BRAS in his address stated that the MPIPR goal is to form a constituent assembly so that the people of Puerto Rico may vote freely without coercion from the United States. He said that MPIPR members may participate in elections only if these are for the purpose of electing a constituent assembly which will form the basis for the republic.

During the General Assembly a resolution was passed to send a message of solidarity to the people of Cuba, the Cuban Revolutionary Government and its "great leader " Dr. FIDEL CASTRO RUZ.

On December 12, 1962, SJ T-2 reported that the subject spoke at the Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR on December 9, 1962, stating that it was his belief that the authorities were gathering evidence against the MPIPR so that they may be imprisoned. Subject stated that this was exactly what the MPIPR desired and that when its members were



imprisoned they could make a strong complaint to the UN.

On December 17, 1962, SJ T-5 stated that at a meeting of the Mesa de Lares on December 10, 1962 the subject told those there that he had been misquoted in the past in his statements on confiscation of foreign-owned property.

The December 18, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" quoted the subject as stating that from now on the economic development agency of the Commonwealth Government will have to deal with the fact that there is in Puerto Rico a movement which warns all foreign investors that they run the risk of having their investments nationalized as soon as the people gain control of the country's government.

"El Mundo" of January 14, 1962 stated that the subject spoke on January 11, 1962 at ceremonies observing the birth of EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS.

A characterization of De Hostos Day appears in the appendix.

The newspaper stated that besides the Communists who are at the vanguard of the anti-colonialism movement, the Catholic Church, the Pope and the neutral nations of the world defend the MPIPR thesis that colonialism must disappear as soon as possible.

MARI BRAS stated that he had no fear in stating publicly that the Communists are opposed to colonialism and he did not care if he was labeled as a Communist and he was persecuted for it. He said that the Socialist world has supported his battle against colonialism. He added that not only the Communists but the Catholic Church support Puerto Rico's right to do away with colonialism.

Later in his address, according to the newspaper article, MARI BRAS declared that Yankee imperialism is swallowing the Puerto Rican economy having taken 78% of Puerto Rico's national heritage.

"El Mundo" of January 18, 1962 in an article commented further on the subject's remarks at the De Hostos Day ceremonies.



The subject, according to the article, stated that he and the MPIPR are already branded as Communist agents because they advocate nationalization of factories in Puerto Rico. He said that they must redeem Puerto Rico for Puerto Ricans. He said on achievement of the Puerto Rican republic, that people will not be fired from their jobs and noted that the courts will retain the same judges and will follow the same processes except that the Yankee flag will be thrown out.

On October 4, 1962, [REDACTED] Passport Division, Puerto Rico Department of State, advised that the subject on October 3, 1962 made application for a passport. On the passport application he indicated he would leave Puerto Rico on a one-month pleasure trip on or about October 23, 1962, travelling from New York via Pan American World Airways (PAWA) and that he would visit Spain, France, Italy and Portugal. On October 9, 1962, [REDACTED] advised that the subject was issued U. S. Passport No. Z 208501.

On January 9, 1963, SJ T-11 stated that the subject had obtained confirmed reservations to depart San Juan on January 17, 1963 via Iberia Airlines with a destination of Caracas, Venezuela.

On January 18, 1963, the subject had reservations to travel from Caracas to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil via Varig Airlines.

The subject had reservations on January 23, 1962 from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo, Uruguay via PAWA and the subject held an open ticket from Montevideo to San Juan.

"The San Juan Star", January 4, 1963 issue, stated that the subject had announced he would visit the countries of Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay and Chile, where he would attempt to enlist support for the MPIPR efforts to bring the issue of Puerto Rican colonialism before the UN. The subject stated that in Venezuela he would be the guest of the Republican Democratic Union, the labor opposition political party and that in Brazil he would be the guest of Ligas Campesinas, the agrarian political party. He said that in Chile his host would be SALVADOR ALLENDE, a Socialist Party leader and one of Chile's leading contenders for public office.

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en Chi  
esta vez



Viaje a Caracas,  
1963.



He declared that in Brazil he would file with the Brazilian Government a copy of a petition signed by many Puerto Ricans requesting that Puerto Rico be included in the denuclearized zone of Latin America recently proposed by Brazilian President GOULART.

On January 17, 1963 the [REDACTED] advised that the subject had left that date for Caracas via Iberia Airlines, Flight #983.

The January 24, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" reported that the subject returned to San Juan from Caracas on January 24, 1963.

The newspaper in its article quoted the subject as stating that the purpose of his trip to Caracas had been to mobilize the friendly forces of Puerto Rican independence in order to exert pressure on the Venezuelan Government and persuade it to support the case of Puerto Rican colonialism which would soon be brought to the attention of the UN. He noted that Venezuela has one delegate on the UN Colonialism Committee and that he is president of the Petitions Subcommittee of that colonialism body.

MARI BRAS reported to "El Mundo" that on arrival in Caracas, he received an official welcome at a special session of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies, where he had an opportunity to present the case for Puerto Rican independence. He said he was promised by a number of Venezuelan deputies that they would support Puerto Rico's efforts at the UN.

MARI BRAS stated that he was received by various officials of the Central University of Caracas and he told them that there was no autonomy or students rights in existence at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR).

He said that he met with several other professional groups including newspapermen, and was interviewed by the press. MARI BRAS indicated that in March, 1963 he and some of his associates would travel to Brazil, Uruguay and Chile on a mission similar to his in Venezuela.

[REDACTED] the subject spoke at the indicated towns at MPIPR rallies:



Dates:

Towns:

July 1, 1962

Humacao

August 5, 1962

Utuaado

August 26, 1962

Manati

September 2, 1962

Humacao

October 7, 1962

Santurce

October 18, 1962

Fajardo

C. Activities at the UN

The August 3, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" stated that the subject in his capacity as MPIPR chief sent a cable to the UN asking that the question of Puerto Rican colonialism be discussed at the UN.

The August 11, 1962 issue of "El Mundo", stated that the subject in the name of the MPIPR requested an oral hearing before the UN committee on colonialism.

The September 5, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" reported that the subject on September 4, 1962 journeyed to New York City where he hoped to appear before the UN Committee of Seventeen on colonialism.

The September 10, 1962 issue of "El Imparcial" reported that 63 Puerto Rican lawyers had petitioned to the UN Committee of Seventeen asking that they grant the Puerto Rican delegation a hearing on the issue of Puerto Rican colonialism. The subject was a member of this delegation along with two other prominent Puerto Rican independence sympathizers.

The September 10, 1962 issue of "La Prensa", a daily Spanish language newspaper published at New York, in an article stated that the subject and the Foreign Relations Secretary of the MPIPR had announced that they were meeting with the Colonialism Committee of the UN in order to discuss the political status of Puerto Rico and to express their opposition to the plebiscite farce proposed by the Puerto Rican Governor. According to the newspaper article, the subject



insisted that the plebiscite could not be held in Puerto Rico until a transfer of sovereignty had been made from the Congress of the U. S. to the people of Puerto Rico.

The September 14, 1962 issue of "El Mundo" stated that the subject and two other MPIPR officials had visited the Indian Ambassador at New York for two days concerning their request for an audience with the UN committee on colonialism. The subject predicted that the UN would very soon consider the issue of Puerto Rican colonialism.

[REDACTED]

#### D. Pro-Cuban Activities

On September 10, 1962, SJ T-7 stated that the subject on September 9, 1962 spoke at a meeting at Casa Cuba in New York. This meeting was called as a public protest against the possible invasion of Cuba by the United States. The subject in his address stated that the only way to make Puerto Rico free and socialist was by revolution and that he demanded that the plebiscite be discontinued. He stated at this meeting that the last chance to bring about revolution which would result in Puerto Rican independence was at hand.

"Carta Semanal" No. 74 dated September 28, 1962 carried an article over the subject's signature captioned "The MPI and the Cuban Revolution". The subject in the article stated that the Cuban revolution is the motivating force in the fight for national liberation in Latin America, and Cuba is the first socialist revolutionary nation in Latin America. He stated that national liberation is more than merely a struggle for independence, but is rather a recovery of a people's heritage. He stated that the MPIPR was a movement for national liberation and the recovery of the Puerto Rican heritage, now in the hands of foreigners was essential.

The subject informed that imperialism suffered its great defeat in Cuba and the Cuban heritage has been returned to its people. It is the duty of all who are fighting for national liberation to support the people and the revolutionary government of Cuba in their fight against imperialism. He said the



defense of Cuba's right to self-determination is essential to the fight for Puerto Rican independence, but he said MPIPR members need not identify themselves with the Socialist character of the Cuban revolution. He said the MPIPR is not a Socialist organization nor is it Marxist-Leninist. He reiterated that an MPIPR member must support the Cuban revolution in the face of imperialism, but it is not necessary to support the Socialist character of the revolution.

[REDACTED]

*Que con  
Alpha  
66?*

Alpha 66 is an anti-CASTRO organization dedicated to the overthrow of the present Government of Cuba by any available means.

"Carta Semanal" No. 78, dated October 26, 1962 over the signature of the subject, states that there is no doubt that Puerto Rico will be independentist and Cuba will be victorious, and eventually the Antilles will be the determining factor of the balance of America and the world.

Subject stated that to Puerto Ricans Cuba is not merely a friendly nation, but is a part of the Antilles and so a part of Puerto Rico.

He commented favorably on the Cuban resistance to the economic and political aggression of the United States and noted that Cuba provoked no one, but had been attacked by a powerful and gigantic neighbor. He stated that Cuba has taken up arms to defend itself courageously.

The subject declared that the fight for independence will not stop and that he and his followers are willing to make any sacrifice in order to achieve independence.

On November 5, 1962, SJ T-2 stated that the subject spoke at a public meeting at Arecibo, Puerto Rico on October 23, 1962 and publicly stated his opposition to the U. S. blockade



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of Cuba and defended FIDEL CASTRO and the Cuban revolution.



Other informants familiar with subversive activities in Puerto Rico were contacted in January, 1963 and were unable to furnish further pertinent information concerning the subject.

III MISCELLANEOUS:



SJ 100 4785

APPENDIX

DE HOSTOS DAY

EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS was a 19th century Puerto Rican revolutionary leader and philosopher. His birth date is commemorated on January 11 of each year.



SJ 100-4785

APPENDIX:

GRITO DE LARES  
September 23, 1868:

The NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO (NPPR) celebrates this date as the anniversary of the brief rebellion at Lares, Puerto Rico, against the Spanish regime, staged by a group of Puerto Rican revolutionists. On this date the Puerto Rican group established momentary control in the mountain town of Lares and proclaimed the Republic of Puerto Rico. This date has a special significance for the NPPR, inasmuch as a main thesis of NPPR doctrine is the claim that Puerto Rican sovereignty was actually established on September 23, 1868, with the rebellion at Lares. The large NPPR celebration on September 23 of each year is concentrated at Lares.



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APPENDIX

MESA DE LARES  
(Lares Board)

Records of the [REDACTED] reveal the idea for forming the Lares Board was originated by leaders of the MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) in 1960 and its first and only meeting was held on November 20, 1960, at Lares, Puerto Rico. This meeting was presided over by Attorney [REDACTED] and was attended by representatives of all major Puerto Rican independence organizations. This meeting established "the Presidential Board of Lares," vested with the power to call the next meeting and adopted a resolution entitled "Declaration of Lares" proclaiming that the time had come for Puerto Rico to join the free countries of the world, urging the Puerto Rican people to resist the advance of anti-Puerto Rican forces in the fields of culture and economy, proclaiming their faith in the destiny of the Puerto Rican people and vowing to redouble their efforts to gain Puerto Rico's independence in the shortest possible time.

A confidential source advised in August, 1962, that a reorganizational meeting of the Lares Board was called by independentist attorney [REDACTED] and was held on August 22, 1962, at the Darlington Hotel in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, with the six major pro-independence organizations, including the Partido Comunista Puertorriqueno (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP) and the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico (NPPR), in attendance. At this meeting the Lares Board was actually established as a permanent body to coordinate the efforts of the independence groups, its immediate purpose to begin a program of activities opposing the plebiscite recently proposed by Puerto Rico Governor LUIS MUNOZ MARIN to establish a permanent political status for Puerto Rico.

According to the source, the Lares Board is composed of a President, a Secretary General, two delegates from each of the member groups, and seven delegates at large. Each member group is to retain its own organizational identity and the Lares Board is to function as a coordinating body in matters of mutual agreement. No headquarters was established.



APPENDIX

1

SJ 100-4785

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

On June 20, 1960, JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the FBI that this organization was formed January 11, 1959, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, and officially came into being at the MPIPR Constituent Convention on November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico. It was formed by a group of former leaders of the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO (PIP), a former legally constituted political party, who were dissatisfied with PIP policies and decided to form a more active organization to indoctrinate the Puerto Rican people with the ideal of Puerto Rican independence.

Although the MPIPR does not advocate violence, it will accept anyone who believes in Puerto Rican independence regardless of his beliefs on the use of violence provided he agrees with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles. The organization contains both Nationalists and Communists within its membership, but does not assume responsibility for actions they may take not sanctioned by the group.

Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, MARI BRAS said the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a means of obtaining Puerto Rican independence only because he felt that violence would be ineffective against the power of the US Government. MARI BRAS stated he believed 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 they could possibly be successful in their effort.

Headquarters of the MPIPR are located at Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, a suburb of San Juan. During 1962 issues of the MPIPR "Carta Semanal" (Weekly Letter), self-described as a weekly bulletin from MPIPR Headquarters to its various branches, repeatedly stated that the goal for 1962 was to establish an effective branch in every municipality in Puerto Rico and also in New York City.



2

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CONFIDENTIAL

MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO

Records of the [REDACTED] state an estimated 500 persons attended the MPIPR General Assembly held in November, 1961, at Arecibo, Puerto Rico.

Among the members of the MPIPR General Secretariat and National Mission are adherents of other groups seeking independence for Puerto Rico, including the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico (NPPR).

The NPPR has been designated by the Attorney General of the U.S., pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

-31-  
CONFIDENTIAL



# Betancourt Plans Return To Dorado

By A. W. MALDONADO

Venezuelan President Romulo Betancourt's 22-hour visit to Puerto Rico on Monday will be marked by a ceremony in the small town of Dorado where the President spent three years in exile writing and dreaming of the overthrow of dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez.

La Fortaleza and the Commonwealth State Department yesterday were busy preparing for Betancourt's first visit to Puerto Rico since being elected Venezuela's president in 1958. Following a meeting of police, National Guard, city and government officials at La Fortaleza, the following program was announced:

1. Betancourt, en route to Washington, D.C., will arrive from Caracas Monday morning between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. He will be met at International Airport by Gov. Muñoz, his cabinet and legislative leaders. The ceremony will include military review, words of greeting by Muñoz and perhaps words by Betancourt. The President's official party will include his wife, daughter, and four cabinet ministers.

Representing President Kennedy will be Angier Biddle Duke, chief of protocol of the U.S. government.

2. A motorcade will move towards San Juan, up Fortaleza St. and into La Fortaleza.

3. "An intimate lunch" of only Muñoz and Betancourt will be held at La Fortaleza. An official state luncheon will take place at the Caribe Hilton Hotel in honor of the president. Secretary of State Roberto Sanchez Vilella will preside over this luncheon at which neither Muñoz nor Betancourt will be present.

4. A "simple" ceremony will be held at Dorado at which Betancourt will greet old friends he knew during the three years, 1955-58, he lived in exile there.

5. Muñoz will give Betancourt and his party a full-fledged state dinner at La Fortaleza beginning at 8 p.m.



ROMULO BETANCOURT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*file in file from New York*  
*The San Juan Star*

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2/14/63

*105-292*  
*5/10*  
**NOT RECORDED**  
**184 MAR 27 1963**

**54 MAR 27 1963**



# Betancourt

(Continued From Page 1)  
at 8:30 p.m.

6. Betancourt will board President Kennedy's personal plane taking him and his party to Washington. Departure time is scheduled for 8 a.m. Tuesday.

San Juan International Airport was bustling yesterday also. Large crews of Ports Authority maintenance men were cleaning up the airport buildings and putting the grounds in trim in preparation for Betancourt's arrival.

A committee of various Commonwealth agencies also was active at the airport, making preparations.

It was announced that the airport will be closed Monday from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. in another security precaution.

Betancourt, who has been the object of assassination plots by Venezuelan Communists and rightists, and by the late dictator Trujillo, will be well protected during his short stay here. He will ride in a bullet-proof car from the airport to La Fortaleza. Local government agencies do not expect any incidents.

The Pro Independence Movement, however, will stage an anti-Betancourt demonstration Monday, 4 p.m., at the Plaza Colon in San Juan. P.I.M. leader Juan Mari Bras yesterday issued an "open letter to Romulo Betancourt" charging him with suppressing the Venezuelan people. Mari Bras said that his movement "repudiates" Betancourt's visit.

During his three years in Puerto Rico, Betancourt lived in a modest beach house in a Dorado barrio. He earned a meager living by writing for magazines and doing some teaching at the University of Puerto Rico. There he wrote most of his famous book "Venezuela—Politica y Petroleo."

Betancourt is mostly remembered here for his frequent, long, informal talks with local artists and politicians. There were many talks with Muñoz and the late Puerto Rican poet, Luis Pales Matos. Rep. Jorge Font Saldaña is also a close Betancourt friend.

Betancourt, along with Muñoz,

is considered a leader of the Latin American "democratic left" which is driving for revolutionary social-justice reforms within a democratic government. He is extremely popular with the rural Venezuelan. His main opposition comes from within Caracas, particularly from pro-Castro youths.

Muñoz has issued a proclamation calling on all Puerto Rico to give "such an illustrious guest" a joyful welcome."



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

### To Speak in New York

NEW YORK — Juan Mari-Bras will speak at the Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place, on Friday evening, March 8. His subject will be "The Basis for Puerto Rican Independence — The Movement's Present Orientation."

*file 7/6*

*R. [unclear]*

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 3-4-63

NOT RECORDED  
 184 MAR 7 1963

*The Militant*  
 Page 8

56 MAR 10 1963



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)  
(105-85171)

DATE: 3-26-63

FROM : LEGAT, RIO DE JANEIRO

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - M  
(Rio File 105-501)

GABRIEL VINCENTE MAURA

ReBulet 1/14/63 to the Department of State.

The Bureau will be promptly advised of any information received.

One copy of this communication has been prepared for the San Juan Office.

- ⑥ - Bureau { 1 - Liaison Section  
              1 - San Juan }
- 2 - Rio de Janeiro { 1 - 105-501  
                      1 - 105-502 }

ESS:LM  
(8)

Copy to San Juan  
by routing slip to  
[ ] info [ ] action  
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by RE-LP

62 APR 4 1963

REC-70 105-292-91  
17 MAR 29 1963  
CLASSIFIED BY 4953 RDS/AC  
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 3  
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE  
12-30-78

CONFIDENTIAL

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 105-25171



Emergency Detention  
Program

3/28/63



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: March 28, 1963

FROM : J. Walter Yeagley  
Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY DETENTION PROGRAM

Re: Juan Mari Bras

FBI#: 105-292

*File in* 100-398030

Reports of investigation of the above have been reviewed

☐ as requested by you on \_\_\_\_\_

It has been determined that subject's name should be

☒ retained on security index; ☐ removed from security index.

Remarks:

REC- 74

EX-118

MAR 29 1963

FBI  
MAR 29 1963

~~SECRET~~

SUB CONTROL

M. R. Row

Card UTD

4/2/63

46 MAR 29 1963

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

100-398030

APR 5 1963



An Independence Leader Explains

# How Puerto Rico Is a Victim of Imperialism

By George Lavan

Juan Mari Bras, who granted ~~The Militant~~ the following interview, is the secretary-general of the *Movimiento pro Independencia Puerto Rico* (Independence Movement of Puerto Rico).

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Mr. Mari Bras is 35 years old. He became active in the independence movement while a student at the University of Puerto Rico from which he was expelled in 1948 for a demonstration involving raising the Puerto Rican flag. He then came to the United States and studied at the American University and George Washington University in the District of Columbia. He received degrees in political science and in law. Though Mr. Mari Bras still practices law in Puerto Rico, his time is mainly occupied with the work of the independence movement.

\* \* \*

Q. What is Puerto Rico's precise status today?

A. It is called Commonwealth in English. In Spanish it is called "Free Associated State." But it is just a farce. We are just the same kind of a colony that we always have been since 1898. Most of the governmental powers in the country are directly exercised by the government of the United States and without any approval or participation of the people of Puerto Rico. Juridically, politically and economically we are just a plain colony for investment of American capital. "Paradise of Investment," they advertise it.

Militarily, we are a base of the United States. We have there about ten bases, naval, air and military. Some of those bases include guided missiles installations,

and some have atomic weapons. They are using Puerto Rico as the headquarters of both the Army and the Navy in the Caribbean. And that means 13 per cent of the arable land of Puerto Rico is dedicated to U.S. military installations.

Q. Could you describe in general the living conditions of the population? How big a population is it?

A. It is two and one half million population. But that doesn't give a complete view of the population of Puerto Rico. We have more than a million and a quarter living in the United States that have migrated here, in addition to the two and a half million living on the island. Two and a half million living in 9,000 square kilometers which are roughly 3,500 square miles.

Q. What state in the union would that be comparable to in size?

A. Delaware. Our living conditions — these figures can give you an idea. Our governor said in the last message to the legislature our average income per family is \$3,000 per year. But these figures are not explained. He didn't break them down. The fact is that half the families of Puerto Rico have an income of less than \$1,000 a year. And the average family has more than six persons per family.

5-6-63

The Militant

Page 6

NOT RECORDED

149 MAY 27, 1963

67 MAY 28 1963

Copy to Juan  
by meeting  
info  
5/16/63  
by [unclear]



**Q.** How does the population break down by those who live in the country; farm workers as opposed to city workers?

**A.** There has been a great movement of population during the last 20 years. In 1940 about 70 per cent of the population of the island was rural. Today it is about half and half. Half of the population lives in the country and half in the cities and most of this rural population is composed of seasonal workers of the sugar industry that work three or four months a year in the sugar harvest.

**Q.** And they come to the United States to the fields of the Middle

West with contracts that are slave-labor contracts. They come and stay there for two, three and four months and come back to Puerto Rico, sometimes with no money at all because everything they have earned has been taken for the air trip and their room and board they give them in those encampments.

**Q.** Are there many small independent farmers in Puerto Rico?

**A.** There were but not today. When the Americans invaded the island in 1898 Puerto Rico was, I would say, the country in America with the greatest distribution of land. There was no such thing as great land tenures on the island. (There were many thousands of small peasants owning small farms.) But after the sugar monopolies came to the island and

took over all those farms they took them from the peasants and consolidated those great sugar enterprises. They control most of the main land of the island.

**Q.** And what about industrial and commercial enterprises? Are those owned by Puerto Rican capitalists and small capitalists or are they mostly foreign-owned interests?

**A.** Industrial enterprises are mostly owned by United States interests. Even those industries that were a few years ago in the hands of Puerto Rican capitalists have been transferred to American capitalists. Like the rum industry for instance. One of the most profitable industries in Puerto Rico since the war has been the rum. Well, in the last few years, Seagrams Corporation took control of the major rum factories of Puerto Rico.

**Q.** Could you give me an outline of the history of the Movimiento Pro Independencia — when it was founded, what it stands for?

**A.** Our organization was founded in 1959, the eleventh of January, ten days after Fidel Castro formed the government of Cuba.

**Q.** Was this a coincidence?

**A.** In a way it was a coincidence but the development of the independence movement has been greatly influenced by the fact of the victory of the Cuban Revolution in 1959. We have been a force associated with the 26th of July Movement since Fidel was in the Sierra Maestra. We were part of the independence movement of Puerto Rico, we were part of the Puerto Ricans committee that was raising funds for the 26th of July Movement in Puerto Rico and giving support to that.

So the eleventh of January we organized in a small convention, the organizing committee for the establishment of a nonpartisan patriotic front of all independents of Puerto Rico. Because there existed a great number of small groups organized with different tendencies and different sorts of organi-



Juan Mari Bras



zations. And we started this organizing committee and spent all the year organizing throughout the island.

In November of that year we had our convention, in the city of Ponce with about 1,500 delegates representing the units already formed all throughout the island.

And in that convention we organized the movement. Since then we have developed great campaigns of organization. Last year was dedicated to organization. It was called the Year of Organization. In the last year we achieved the goal of multiplying by ten the number of activists in the movement, card-holding members, and we finished organizing in all the municipalities of the island. We now have sections of the movement organized in every municipality of Puerto Rico, and also in New York and Chicago. And to a great extent we have realized the unity of the independents of Puerto Rico although there are some five or six smaller groups.

**Q. What are the principal planks in the platform of your movement?**

**A.** We stand for complete national liberation of the Puerto Rican people. That means the obtaining of the sovereignty first and independence, of course, and not only that but the development of an economic program that will liberate our people from foreign domination. A return to the Puerto Ricans of all the wealth of our country that is now in the hands of foreign interests. We have already approved a thesis that contains the basis of a liberation program including agrarian reform, industrial development and a very concrete program in which these things are discussed at length.

**Q. I understand the M.P.I. plans to abstain from electoral activities. What sort of activities does it carry on.**

**A.** The main purpose of our organization is to mobilize the mass of the people for militant action to win independence. We have

~~nickets~~ demonstrations and put pressure in every way ~~we can~~ on the United States government like the one we're exercising by our international activities. We are winning the solidarity of most of the countries of the world for the cause of Puerto Rican independence, denouncing the colonial situation in Puerto Rico in the United Nations and every other forum that we find outside of Puerto Rico.

**Q. Is your movement able to carry on all this activity without any interference, do you have complete civil liberties?**

**A.** No, we are very greatly interfered with. There is great persecution by the FBI and by the police. Before the meeting place there is always a member of the police checking everyone who enters. Several acts of persecution have taken place. We have denounced them publicly several times.

**Q. The attitude of many Americans, I would say — that is, average Americans is that if Puerto Ricans want their independence they should have it. A lot of Americans assume because they haven't got it they don't want it. Would you say that the majority of Puerto Ricans do want independence?**

**A.** Yes. Once they are confronted with the reality that the only alternative is independence or the colonial regime, the people of Puerto Rico will decide overwhelmingly for independence.

The colonial forces have created illusions in the people of Puerto Rico that makes some people, great sectors of the masses of the people, believe that it is possible to reach a state of equitable as-



sociation with the people of the United States without losing their national autonomy. An equal association. They say that Puerto Rico could reach a situation similar to the colonies of England today that are members of the so-called British commonwealth of nations.

We are trying to bring to the people of Puerto Rico the reality that that is not legally possible within the framework of the constitutional system of the United States. It is only a trick to keep the people from supporting the only right that we have. That is the right to independence.

But now the whole thing is coming to a climax because Congress will have to say now it is willing to offer this kind of association to Puerto Rico. I am sure that Congress will not offer that and the people of Puerto Rico will then be convinced that the only alternative to colonial status is independence.

**Q. Do you think this projected plebiscite will be the issue around which Congress will show its true attitude and the people of Puerto Rico will see?**

**A.** That's right. Congress has been asked by a resolution of the legislature of Puerto Rico to state what kind of an association they are willing to offer as an alternative to independence.

And they have been asked also to state whether they are willing to grant statehood in the event that the Puerto Rican people select statehood in the plebiscite. I am sure that the association that they will offer is just the same colonial thing that we have today. Of course they will count on the complicity of Governor Muñoz Marín for that.

But when this legislation comes we will ask the people to refrain from voting because the plebiscite will be a choice between this farce and the alternative of statehood which is not feasible either.

**Q. While your movement is specifically a Puerto Rican movement and the history of Puerto Rico and the United States is a very specific one, would you say that your movement is also a part of the broader movement of Latin America like the movement in Cuba and the anti-imperialist movement on the continent of South America?**

**A.** We stated in the thesis that the movement for national liberation in Puerto Rico is and should always be in alliance with all the forces of Latin America.

And as a matter of fact we have been in contact with the liberation forces of Venezuela, with Cuba of course, and with the Dominican Republic. With Chile and Mexico we have participated in several continental meetings, like the one held in Mexico in 1961 under the leadership of Lázaro Cárdenas for national sovereignty and we continue with all this alliance with all the forces of liberation in Latin America.

**Q. My final question is what can Americans who are sympathetic to the idea of self-determination of the Puerto Rican people do to help your movement and generally the Puerto Rican people?**

**A.** All that we would ask of our friends in the United States is to make clear the fact of Puerto Rico's struggle for independence to the people of the United States. We know that the man in the street in the United States, is not interested in maintaining an empire for this country. There are only a minority of very powerful forces that are interested in maintaining this colonial situation. But the great mass of the people in the United States as soon as they realize that the situation is that of a colony and that we are being exploited as all the colonies of the world have been and that we have been prevented from exercising our sovereign right they will immediately sympathize with our cause. And that is what we need of the progressive forces of the United States — to make our case clear to the public and to have the moral support of all the American people.





**WITCH-HUNTERS GO HOME!** Puerto Ricans in San Juan demonstrate against presence of HUAC probers who came there in 1960 to seek "subversion" in the independence movement.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-112098)

DATE: 5/8/63

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (105-6133)

SUBJECT: FIRST NATIONAL FRONT OF ESCAMBRAY  
(OPERATION ALPHA 66)  
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA  
REGISTRATION ACT & CUBA  
NEUTRALITY MATTER  
OO: Miami

Re New York airtel 10/9/62.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 9 copies of a letterhead memorandum dated and captioned as above, plus one copy each for Miami and NYO.

The confidential source referred to in the letterhead memorandum is [REDACTED]

The letterhead memorandum is classified confidential since the information provided by the source if improperly disclosed might tend to reveal his identity and prevent possible future use of the source.

Local dissemination has been made to ONI, INTC and OSI.

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Miami (105-6243) (RM)
- 1 - New York (105-57297) (RM)
- 1 - San Juan

RLW/sgt  
(5)

Copy to: CIA/State/NSA/DIA(2)/Customs  
ONI/OSI/ACSI  
by routing slip for info. /IN/5  
Date 5-10-63 by VHN/ST

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

50 MAY 20 1963

EX-117

8 MAY 13 1963

105-292-

NOT RECORDED  
174 MAY 20 1963

NAT. SEC. REC.  
CONFIDENTIAL  
MATERIAL ATTACHED

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-112098-241



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: FIRST NATIONAL FRONT OF ESCAMBRAY  
(OPERATION ALPHA 66)  
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA  
REGISTRATION ACT - CUBA  
NEUTRALITY MATTER

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI, and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~APPENDIX~~

1

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

On June 20, 1960, JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the FBI that this organization was formed January 11, 1959 at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, and officially came into being at the MPIPR Constituent Convention on November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico. It was formed by a group of former leaders of the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUENO (PIP), a formerly legally constituted political party, who were dissatisfied with PIP policies and decided to form a more active organization to indoctrinate the Puerto Rican people with the ideal of Puerto Rican independence.

Although the MPIPR does not advocate violence, it will accept anyone who believes in Puerto Rican independence regardless of his beliefs on the use of violence provided he agrees with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles. The organization contains both Nationalists and Communists within its membership, but does not assume responsibility for actions they may take not sanctioned by the group.

Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, MARI BRAS said the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a means of obtaining Puerto Rican independence only because he felt that violence would be ineffective against the power of the US Government. MARI BRAS stated he believed 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 they could possibly be successful in their effort.

Headquarters of the MPIPR are located at Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, a suburb of San Juan. During 1962 issues of the MPIPR "Carta Semanal" (Weekly Letter), self-described as a weekly bulletin from MPIPR Headquarters to its various branches, repeatedly stated that the goal for 1962 was to establish an effective branch in every municipality in Puerto Rico and also in New York City.

- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

MPIPR (cont'd)

[REDACTED] indicate an estimated 500 persons attended the MPIPR General Assembly held in November, 1961, at Arecibo, Puerto Rico.

Among the members of the MPIPR General Secretariat and National Missions are adherents of other groups seeking independence for Puerto Rico, including 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.

- 4 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Mari Bras: Independentistas Won't Join Status Study Unit

Pro-Independence Movement leader Juan Mari Bras has declared that no local independentistas would be willing to form part of a committee to study the political status of Puerto Rico.

Mari Bras, referred to a statement reportedly made by Rep. Leo W. O'Brien (D-N.Y.), to the effect

that he was considering introduction of a bill to create a tri-partisan committee to study the status dilemma. The committee would supposedly be made up of Commonwealthers, statehooders and independentistas.

Mari Bras declared that "Rep. O'Brien is wasting his time including in his announced bill participation of the independentistas in the commission he intends to pation of the independentistas in not participate in any kind of compromise aimed at perpetuating colonialism."

He added that the status bill now before Congress and the substitute suggested by O'Brien would only "evade the inescapable responsibility" of Congress to give the island full independence.

W 21  
7-1

file  
5-100

The San Juan Star

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 6/25/63

105-292  
NOT RECORDED  
191 JUL 30 1963

54 AUG 1 1963



FBI

Date: 7/12/63

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)  
FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)  
SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
IS - PRN  
(OO: SJ)

On July 10, 1963, [REDACTED] b7c b7d

[REDACTED] advised that subject had returned to San Juan from New York on July 9, 1963.

For information.

3-Bureau (RM)  
1-New York (105-3002)  
1-San Juan (100-4785)  
RLW:zhe  
(5)

F229  
55 JUL 18 1963

EX-102

11 JUL 15 1963

Wick  
Approved: CB

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

SUBV. CONTROL  
M P





STAR Photo by David Acordado  
**MARI BRAS PASTES UP AN ANTI-AMERICAN SIGN ON A LIGHT POLE**  
 ... about 40 members of the P.I.M. took part in demonstration yesterday

## P.I.M. Defies Cancio, Puts Up Posters

By NORMAN GALL

About 40 members of the Pro Independence Movement (P.I.M.), yesterday pasted posters on walls, lampposts and other public places in Puerta de Tierra, San Juan and Rio Piedras without the interference of police threatened last week by Secretary of Justice Hiram Cancio.

Led by by P.I.M. Secretary-General Juan Mari Bras, the independence advocates quietly marched up Muñoz Rivera Ave. from Sixto Escobar Stadium to the Plaza de Colon under the supervision of policemen in squad

(See P.I.M., Page 21)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

105-275  
 NOT RECORDED  
 191 SEP 6 1963

The San Juan Star

Washington Post and \_\_\_\_\_  
 Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_

The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 7/22/63

60 SEP 19 1963

File 5788



## P.I.M.

(Continued From Page 1)

cars and on foot.

In an interview, Mari Bras, carrying a pot of glue, said he had no explanation for the apparent back-down from the threat of prosecution made by the authorities. "I guess they just decided we were right," he said.

### Lawyer Argues Rights

Mari Bras, a Harvard-educated lawyer, has been carrying on a running argument with government officials over what he has called the right of his movement to post handbills in the same places where the government and private organizations display announcements of their own.

Contending that the law requires official permission to paste up much announcements, Cancio has threatened arrest for those who post handbills without permission of property owners or the government.

Also participating in the poster-hanging procession were novelist-columnist Cesar Andreu Iglesias and a group of University of Puerto Rico professors and students.

Meanwhile, the P.I.M. announced that it will hold a meeting Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Rio Piedras town plaza "culminating the special campaign in protest against the North American intervention in our fatherland 65 years ago."

Speakers at the rally, to be held on the eve of Constitution Day celebrations, are scheduled to include Mari Bras, Andreu, Francisco Manrique Cabrera, Carmen Rivera de Alvarado and Lorenzo Piniro Rivera.

### Six Detained In Bayamon

In Bayamon yesterday meanwhile, six P.I.M. members were detained for about 20 minutes at police headquarters after being arrested at about 2:30 p.m. for pasting up handbills in downtown Bayamon which read: "That's enough: Independence now."

The six were picked up at the corner of Dr. Velez and La Palma Sts. and were taken to the police station three blocks away. They were released after a desk officer made some telephone calls on the case. No charges were made.





JUAN MARI BRAS

# Mari Bras Hits 'Colonialism' In Puerto Rico

An estimated crowd of 1,000 heard four leaders of the Pro Independence Movement blast what P.I.M. Secretary-General Juan Mari Bras termed "65 years of North American colonialism in Puerto Rico", Wednesday night in the public plaza of Rio Piedras.

Mari Bras said that he and the other speakers, Carmen Rivera Alvarado, professor Matrique, Cabrera and writer Cesar Andreu Iglesias, were all members of the P.I.M. "National Mission" which is the executive committee for the movement.

The Rio Piedras meeting was timed to coincide with the eve of the celebration of the 11th anniversary of the Commonwealth constitution.

The P.I.M. alleges that the Constitution has "perpetuated North American colonialism in Puerto Rico," according to Mari Bras.

He also stated that he thinks the actions and declarations of the Commonwealth government in the last year have demonstrated what he termed "the failure of Munoz' 'grand design'."

Mari Bras said that the Wednesday meeting was held to publicize the P.I.M. "victory" in its recent campaign to paste posters in all municipalities of the island denouncing "North American intervention in Puerto Rico". He estimated that as many as 18,000 such posters have been put up around the island, since the campaign of "political education" of the P.I.M. began this year.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*The San Juan Star*

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 7/26/63

REC- 44

NOV 1963  
191 SEP 6 1963

60 SEP 19 1963

EX 104



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~1 - Liaison~~

(SC) 105-292

Date: August 14, 1963

To: Director  
Bureau of Intelligence and Research  
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - PUERTO RICAN NATIONALIST

Reference is made to our letter dated August 12, 1963, concerning the captioned individual who is Secretary General of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico, an organization dedicated to obtaining independence for Puerto Rico whose leaders have in the past advocated violence as a means of obtaining this independence.

- 1 - Legal Attache, Madrid (Enclosure)  
1 - Legal Attache, Paris (Enclosure) (SEE NOTE FOR LEGATS, MADRID AND PARIS, PAGE TWO)  
1 - New York (105-2003)  
1 - San Juan (100-4785)  
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit

Tolson  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Casper  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Gale  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

12 AUG 19 1963

REC'D MAIL ROOM

BY COURIER SVC.

44 AUG 15

COMM-FBI

SEE NOTE PAGE 3

57 AUG 23 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



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 SJ T-1 through SJ T-12 if improperly disclosed might tend to reasonably result in their identification and inhibit their future use.

8. ☒ Subject previously interviewed (dates) January, 1960.
- ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

when interviewed in 1960 the subject afterwards made statements alleging FBI harassment and persecution of MPIPR members and he has continued in that vein since.

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 in 1960 the subject indicated he believed in the right of the Puerto Rican people to report to violence to gain independence, if necessary, but did not believe that violence should be used at that time since they then could not hope to win independence against the power of the United States.
11. ☒ Subject's SI card ☒ is ☐ is not tabbed Detcom.  
☒ Subject's activities ☒ do ☐ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <u>NEW YORK</u>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <u>SAN JUAN</u>	DATE <u>8/21/63</u>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <u>7/31-8/25/63</u>
TITLE OF CASE <u>JUAN MARI BRAS</u>		REPORT MADE BY <u>[REDACTED]</u>	TYPED BY <u>mla</u>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <u>IS - PRN</u>	

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF FD-263  
DATE 8-23-77

## REFERENCES:

San Juan teletype to the Bureau and New York, 7/29/63.

[REDACTED]

- P -

1-65 New  
(Juan Mari)

Copy to OSI  
1/14/64  
B. [REDACTED]

J.F.M.

APPROVED  
COPIES MADE:

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

1 AUG 23 1963

REC-24

EX-115

SUBV. CONTROL

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NY 105-3002

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

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NY T-1

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NY 105-3002

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File Number Where Located

NY T-2

105-3002-186  
105-40519-115  
105-48468-15  
105-32451-411  
-416  
105-57854-107

NY T-3

105-3002-Sub A

NY T-4

105-3002-Sub A

NY T-5

NY T-6

Instant report

NY T-7

105-51139-9

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- E -



NY 105-3002

Identity of Source

NY T-8

File Number Where Located

Instant report

LEADS:

No leads are being set out for other offices as the NYO does not have sufficient information on file in this case to determine if such leads would be warranted. This matter is being left to the discretion of the office of origin, based on the information contained in instant report.

Information copies of instant report are being submitted to the following offices in event San Juan determines if further investigation is necessary in their division: Baltimore, Chicago, Newark and Washington Field.

Extra copies of instant report are being submitted to the Bureau for transmittal to [REDACTED] if the Bureau so desires.

NEW YORK

At New York, New York.

COVER PAGE

- F -



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED]  
Date: [REDACTED]

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File #: 105-3002

Bureau File #: 105-292

Title:

JUAN MARI BRAS

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - PUERTO RICAN NATIONALISTS

Synopsis:

[REDACTED]

-P-

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

JUAN MARI BRAS and the MPI are further characterized in the Appendix of this report.

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification.



NY 105-3002

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S (CONT'D)

	<u>PAGE</u>
[REDACTED] .....	83 - 84
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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.....	85 - 87
[REDACTED] .....	87
[REDACTED] .....	87 - 90

ORGANIZATIONS CHARACTERIZED IN APPENDIX PAGES:

[REDACTED]  
CASA CUBA

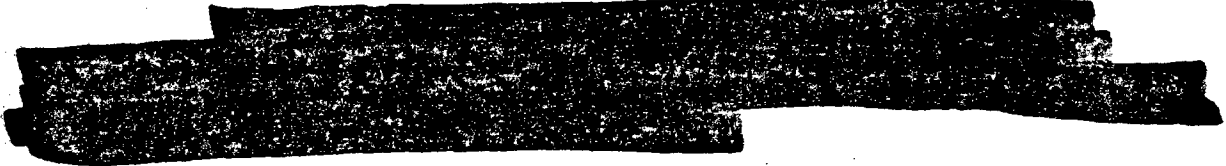
PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

PUERTO RICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT

WORKERS WORLD PARTY



NY 105-3002



The above information received from NY T-3  
cannot be made public except by issuance of a subpoena  
duces tecum.



1.

APPENDIX
CASA CUBA CLUB

On July 26, 1961, a source advised that the Casa Cuba Club (CCC), 691 Columbus Avenue, New York City, was originally founded as a social club by persons of Cuban background living in the New York City area, and was generally regarded as the focal point for Cuban social activities in New York City. During the years when FIDEL CASTRO was struggling to overthrow the BATISTA government in Cuba, the general membership of the CCC was predominantly sympathetic to the revolutionary aims of CASTRO and supported CASTRO's 26th of July Movement by contributing funds and clothing for the needy and oppressed peoples of Cuba.

After CASTRO came to power in Cuba, on January 1, 1959, and it became apparent that he was establishing a Communist form of government in Cuba, the membership of the CCC gradually declined in numbers, and the loyal supporters of CASTRO, and the leaders of the 26th of July Movement, New York City, assumed leadership in the activities of the CCC.

A second source advised, on August 20, 1962, that at a CCC meeting, held on August 14, 1962, CCC member (and later Vice-President) HUGO JIMENEZ, spoke of the need to follow Marxist-Leninist policies.

On October 22, 1962, this same source advised that CCC President JOSE GARCIA, at a CCC meeting held October 17, 1962, discussed holding weekly classes or indoctrination meetings on Marxism-Leninism.

This same source also advised on a number of occasions during October-November, 1962, that the CCC participated in pickets held in New York City during that period to protest United States policy during the crisis which arose from Russian missiles being stationed in Cuba.

On March 26, 1963, a third source advised that at a CCC meeting held on March 20, 1963, CCC Vice-President HUGO JIMENEZ said the CCC should concern itself with orienting its membership in socialism and communism and prepare them for their eventual return to Cuba, to fit into the new society that is now Cuba.



2.APPENDIXCASA CUBA CLUB

On May 22, 1963, the second source advised that newly-elected CCC President JUAN GONZALEZ MONAGAS announced, at a recent CCC meeting, that there would be a series of fifteen forums held at Casa Cuba during the next few months, designed to assist members in understanding the purposes of socialism.

The 26th of July Movement was a revolutionary organization founded and led by FIDEL CASTRO, present Prime Minister of Cuba. It was dissolved during 1962 when it was absorbed into the Integrated Revolutionary Organization in Cuba, along with the Communist Party of Cuba, and the other principal political parties.



1.

APPENDIX

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

On June 20, 1960, JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the FBI that this organization was formed January 11, 1959, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, and officially came into being at the MPIPR Constituent Convention on November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico. It was formed by a group of former leaders of the Partido Independentista Puertorriqueno (PIP), a former legally constituted political party, who were dissatisfied with PIP policies and decided to form a more active organization to indoctrinate the Puerto Rican people with the ideal of Puerto Rican independence.

Although the MPIPR does not advocate violence, it will accept anyone who believes in Puerto Rican Independence regardless of his beliefs on the use of violence provided he agrees with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles. The organization contains both Nationalists and Communists within its membership, but does not assume responsibility for actions they may take not sanctioned by the group.

Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, MARI ERAS said the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a means of obtaining Puerto Rican independence only because he felt that violence would be ineffective against the power of the United States Government. MARI ERAS stated he believed 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 they could possibly be successful in their effort.

Headquarters of the MPIPR are located at Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, a suburb of San Juan. During 1962 issues of the MPIPR "Carta Semanal" (Weekly Letter), self-described as a weekly bulletin from MPIPR Headquarters to its various branches, repeatedly stated that the goal for 1962 was to establish an effective branch in every municipality in Puerto Rico and also in New York City.



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APPENDIX

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

[REDACTED] an estimated 500 persons attended the MPIPR General Assembly held in November, 1961, at Arecibo, Puerto Rico.

Among the members of the MPIPR General Secretariat and National Mission are adherents of other groups seeking independence for Puerto Rico, including the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico (NPPR).

The NPPR has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.



1.

# APPENDIX

MOVIMIENTO LIBERTADOR DE PUERTO RICO  
(MLPR), Also known as Movimiento  
Libertador Puertorriqueno (MLP) and  
Movimiento Libertador (ML)

A source, on April 24, 1963, furnished the following information relating to the Movimiento Libertador De Puerto Rico:

The Movimiento Libertador De Puerto Rico is also known as the MLPR, the Movimiento Libertador Puertorriqueno, MLP, Movimiento Libertador and ML.

The MLPR was organized during the early part of 1959. The MLPR, for the most part, has confined its activities to New York City.

The MLPR maintains no regular headquarters or offices. MLPR business is conducted by the Secretary General of the MLPR, wherever he may be. The Secretary General is the officer of the MLPR who dominates and controls the MLPR.

The MLPR has one goal, that is, to achieve for the island of Puerto Rico the status of a nation; completely free, independent, and sovereign.

The MLPR, through its Secretary General, has stated that Puerto Rico will never achieve its independence through plebiscites in Puerto Rico or through the action of the United Nations (UN) because the imperialist United States Government is able to control both the plebiscites in Puerto Rico and the activities of the UN.

The MLPR, through its Secretary General, has advocated that the people of Puerto Rico be made to realize that violence must be used in order to attain independence for Puerto Rico. The MLPR Secretary General has stated that the people of Puerto Rico must be made to realize that they must be ready to give up all their worldly goods and even their very lives in the struggle for the independence of Puerto Rico.

The MLPR, depending upon the whim, mood and caprice of its Secretary General, may or may not cooperate with other groups which advocate independence for Puerto Rico.



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1.

APPENDIX

"WORKERS WORLD"

On May 6, 1963, a confidential source advised that the "Workers World" is the official newspaper of the Workers World Party, published twice monthly, with editorial offices located at 46 West 21st Street, New York, New York.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

August 21, 1963

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Title	Juan Mari Bras
Character	Internal Security - Puerto Rican Nationalists
Reference	is made to the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

1-ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand)  
1-471st INTC Det., SJ (By Hand)  
1-OSI, RAFF (RM)

## Report of:

## Date:

8/26/65

## Office:

SAN JUAN

## Field Office File #:

100-4785

## Bureau File #:

105-292

## Title:

JUAN MARI BRAS

## Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - PUERTO RICAN NATIONALIST

## Synopsis:

Subject resides Calle Tamesis 1502, Urbanizacion El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico and is self-employed as an attorney at Avenida Ponce de Leon 1122 (Altos), Rio Piedras. Subject re-elected Secretary General of MPIPR 1/13/63. Subject frequently travelled to New York City where he lobbied for Puerto Rican independence at the UN and was in contact with Cuban UN Mission. Subject established MPIPR Mission in Chicago in March, 1963. Subject has displayed strong anti-U. S. and pro-Cuban attitude. Subject has stated that if statehood comes to Puerto Rico violence will erupt.

[REDACTED]

- P\* -

Group 1

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

Classified By 6020

Exempt from GDS, Category 2.3

Date of Declassification Indefinite

3-1-77



DETAILS

I. RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

On July 31, 1963 a Special Agent of the FBI observed the subject at his residence, Calle Tamesis #1502, Urbanizacion El Paraiso, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. On that same date a Special Agent of the FBI observed the subject at his law office, where he is self-employed as an attorney at Avenida Ponce de Leon 1122 (Altos), Rio Piedras.

II. ACTIVITIES WITH THE MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) AND ON BEHALF OF PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix.

A. Positions Held

"Carta Semanal" #88 dated January 18, 1963 reported that the subject was re-elected Secretary General of the MPIPR January 13, 1963 at a meeting of the 90-member MPIPR National Council.

The "Carta Semanal" of the MPIPR is self-described as a weekly letter transmitted from MPIPR headquarters to its various branch missions.

The masthead of "Claridad" for December, 1962 and the issues of January, March and April-May, 1963 list the subject as a member of that publication's editorial staff.

"Claridad" is self-described as the official organ of the MPIPR.

B. General Activities

On February 6, 1963 SJ T-1 advised that the subject was the principal speaker at a public meeting of the Mesa de Lares held February 3, 1963 at the Rio Piedras plaza. In his address the subject stated that the citizens of Venezuela were solidly behind the Puerto Rican independentists and added that the U. S. Congress should relinquish all of its powers over Puerto Rico to the people of Puerto Rico so that they could then select their own political destiny.



A characterization of the Mesa de Lares appears in the appendix.

The February 7, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated that the subject had announced that MPIPR members would picket headquarters of the Police of Puerto Rico (POPR) if the MPIPR did not receive satisfactory answers to their demands that the police cease persecution of them.

"El Mundo" is a daily Spanish language newspaper published at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The February 8, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" quotes POPR Superintendent SALVADOR ROIG as stating that the MPIPR has a perfect right to picket police headquarters if they so desire and said that the police would protect them in their picketing as long as they remained orderly.

The MPIPR "Carta.Semanal" dated February 8, 1963 stated over the signature of the subject that the MPIPR was inviting all independentists in Puerto Rico to participate in a combination meeting and picket February 18, 1963 at the Plaza Colon in San Juan. The purpose of this picket, according to the letter, was to protest the projected visit of Venezuelan President ROMULO BETANCOURT to Governor Luis Munoz Marin of Puerto Rico.

The February 19, 1963 issue of the "San Juan Star" reported that on February 18, 1963 pickets of the MPIPR led by the subject paraded in the Plaza Colon in protest of the visit of President BETANCOURT to Governor MUNOZ. The article stated that some 8,000 copies of an open letter to BETANCOURT signed by the MPIPR were distributed. These letters accused BETANCOURT of siding with imperialism. In an address at the picket the subject denounced a purported agreement between BETANCOURT and MUNOZ to back Commonwealth status for Puerto Rico at the United Nations.

"San Juan Star" is an English language newspaper published daily at San Juan, Puerto Rico.



The February 19, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" reported that the subject led the aforementioned MPIPR picket February 18, 1963 and added that members of the FEDERACION DE UNIVERSITARIOS PRO INDEPENDENCIA (Federation of University Students for Independence)(FUPI) participated.

A characterization of the FUPI appears in the appendix.

The "El Mundo" article stated that the subject accused President BETANCOURT of planning to support the U. S. in any discussion of Puerto Rico at the United Nations (UN). The article said the MPIPR protested the BETANCOURT visit to Puerto Rico since he was a representative of imperialism. The subject in his speech at the picket said that the great revolution initiated by FIDEL CASTRO would sweep through all of Latin America and that the liberating revolution would first occur in Venezuela, then in Santo Domingo and finally in Puerto Rico.


SJ T-1 on February 25, 1963 reported that the subject spoke at the aforementioned anti-BETANCOURT picket and in his speech emphasized MPIPR solidarity with Revolutionary Cuba.

On February 18, 1963 Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject to participate in the MPIPR anti-BETANCOURT picket at Plaza Colon and noted that the subject was the principal speaker. An estimated 175 persons participated in the picket.


The February 21, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" contained a letter from the subject to the editor of "El Mundo" complaining of unfavorable bias to the MPIPR in that newspaper's articles. In the letter the subject protested "El Mundo" printing false news of a slanderous character about the MPIPR and complained that "El Mundo" is constantly stirring up the people of Puerto Rico by hinting that independentists are planning violence. He challenged "El Mundo" to publish this letter and stated that if they do not discontinue their libelous and slanderous reference to him and the MPIPR, he would be forced to take appropriate legal action.

[REDACTED]





An article in the March 7, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" stated the subject had recently arrived in New York City and planned to continue the MPIPR's work at the UN. He also planned to hold three lectures on March 7, 14 and 21, 1963 on the topic of Puerto Rican independence.



On March 14, 1963 SJ T-5 advised the subject delivered a lecture at Estonian Hall, New York City, under the auspices of the MPIPR. He declared that the MPIPR was a non-partisan movement seeking to consolidate the Puerto Rican independence forces and that two conditions were necessary for the success of the independence movement:

- 1) The movement must have a realistic and effective program.
- 2) The movement must put into practice plans which will bring about realization of its program.

Subject declared that the UN and the world wide anti-colonial drive would eventually force the United States to grant Puerto Rico its independence.



A member of the audience asked MARI BRAS if, on achievement of independence, Puerto Rico would have a Socialist government as in Cuba and if he was a Marxist-Leninist. According to SJ T-5, the subject refused to declare himself; however, he denied that the MPIPR was a Marxist-Leninist movement or any type of Socialist movement.

The subject stated that he has never made a proposition calling for armed revolution to obtain independence for Puerto Rico and noted that before discussing revolution peaceful means must be exhausted. He said that if the time should come when revolution is the only possible way to obtain independence then it will be possible to see who the true revolutionists are.

disclose that a meeting of the 90-member MPIPR National Council was held March 10, 1963 at Ponce, Puerto Rico. At this time the subject reported that more people were joining the MPIPR every moment and that the independence sentiment was growing. He declared to his audience that before he would permit Puerto Rico to be a state he would take up arms and fight, and would die before letting this eventuality come about. He stated that the only good man in Latin America is FIDEL CASTRO and lead a chorus of "Cuba si, Yankees no."



[REDACTED]

MPIPR Carta Semanal #96 dated March 14, 1963 reported that the Subject delivered a report on his work with the UN to a meeting of the National Council at Ponce on March 10, 1963. As a result of the subject's work the National Council passed the following resolutions:

1) To congratulate the Puerto Rico Bar Association for the service they had done patriotic Puerto Ricans in their recent plebiscite status resolution.

2) To invite the anti-colonial element in Puerto Rico to participate in concerted action along the lines of the Bar Association statement concerning the immediate and irrevocable transfer of all powers to the people of Puerto Rico.

SJ T-8 on March 10, 1963 reported that the subject addressed a meeting of the Militant Labor Forum of the Socialist Workers Party held March 8, 1963 at 116 University Place, New York City. The subject in his address described poverty and exploitation in Puerto Rico and noted that many families have an income of less than \$500 per year. He estimated that the living cost in Puerto Rico is higher than in any other State of the Union. The subject told his audience that the U. S. Government uses 12½% of the arable land for military establishments. The subject told the audience that recently Cubans had gone to Venezuela to spread pro-CASTRO revolutionary ideas there and that Venezuela was ripe for revolution. Then the Dominican Republic and then all of Latin America would rid itself of imperialism. The subject stated that the Puerto Rico Bar Association had branded him a Communist two years before and had almost physically ejected him from a meeting, but more recently he was favorably received. He concluded his address with a hope for the end of American imperialism and the independence of all Americans.

A characterization of the Militant Labor Forum appears in the appendix.

[REDACTED]

(C)



SJ T-5 on March 21, 1963 said the subject delivered a lecture to an MPIPR meeting at Estonian Hall, New York City, March 14, 1963. The subject stated that Puerto Rico has all the characteristics of a nation in that it has geographic unity, ethnic unity, historical background and its own language, culture and economy. He said Puerto Rico lacks sufficient means of political expression. He said the proposed Puerto Rican plebiscite is not a valid method of self-determination for the people of Puerto Rico because the Puerto Rican Government, which is the colonial government of the United States, is in charge of the plebiscite and because the U. S. Government controls the means of communication such as the mails, radio and television, and further because the U. S. controls the forces of repression, that is, the Army, the National Guard, the FBI, the Police and the judicial system. Subject charged that the plebiscite seeks to avoid the obligation of the United States as set forth in the UN resolutions relating to colonial peoples and areas. He said that the economy of Puerto Rico is geared to supply the needs of the exploiting U. S. and that only by independence will the people of Puerto Rico recover their natural resources. He said Puerto Rico could easily achieve independence and democracy because Puerto Ricans are one people and they do not discriminate against each other on the basis of color. He said that in the United States Negroes and Puerto Ricans are never treated as equals. He said that in an independent Puerto Rico property rights would be respected and workers' organizations such as unions would be permitted to exist. It was his hope that Puerto Rico would become a part of the Latin American family of nations and take its place in the UN.

MARI BRAS said an independent Puerto Rico would maintain cultural as well as commercial relations with the United States on the basis of two sovereign nations dealing with each other with mutual respect.

On March 15, 1963 SJ T-9 advised the subject addressed an MPIPR meeting at Estonian Hall in New York, where he stated that Puerto Rico has little chance of securing its independence through action of the UN because the United States controls the finances of that international group. He said the United States industry now controls Puerto Rico and that these industries make tremendous profits and share only a small percentage of their earnings with native employees.



MARI BRAS stated that 82½% of the arable land in Puerto Rico is controlled by the United States and that when independence is achieved all industries will be nationalized, as well as internal finances.

SJ T-5 on March 28, 1963 said the subject delivered a lecture at an MPIPR meeting at Estonian Hall, New York City on March 21, 1963. The subject said that the youth of Puerto Rico are leaving by the thousands to live in the United States and this works strongly against the development of an energetic independence movement. He said that the independentists of today must not commit the mistakes of the independentists of yesterday. He said that independentists must develop allies even among those who are not entirely in agreement with their sentiments and that eventually the independence movement will grow. He noted that colonialism is losing favor around the world and that when world opinion is convinced of the colonial status of Puerto Rico then the UN will force the United States to do something about it, as otherwise the United States will stand before the world as a colonial, imperial and oppressor nation.

MARI BRAS said that it was impossible to tell what the MPIPR would do when all legal steps to attain independence had been exhausted. He said, however, he was certain that the men and women of the MPIPR would act as valiantly and courageously when the time comes as those who participated in the Ponce Massacre.

A characterization of the Ponce Massacre appears in the appendix.

MARI BRAS stated he was not convinced at this time that revolution was the only way to obtain independence for Puerto Rico. He noted that other countries had been liberated from colonialism because a wave of anti-colonialism was growing in the world backed by the UN, and that eventually the United States would be forced to grant independence.

[REDACTED]

Puerto Rico



On March 25, 1963 SJ T-9 reported that the subject spoke at an MPIPR meeting March 21, 1963 in New York. He indicated the subject had little faith in the UN doing anything for Puerto Rican independence. In addition he commented on newspaper accounts of the POPR seizing an arms cache in Puerto Rico attributed to independentist persons. He said these were probably civilians and that the POPR was making a big thing out of it. Subject also stated that if the time for action came, the United States and Puerto Rican Governments would not be able to prevent the people of Puerto Rico from shedding blood in the struggle for independence.

The March 27, 1963 issue of "El Imparcial" in an article stated that the subject had recently been interviewed on a round-table radio program in New York of UN correspondents. In the course of the broadcast the subject stated that the United States is trying to avoid UN action on Puerto Rico with the complicity of the Commonwealth Government. He noted that Puerto Rico was a colony in the classification sense and that the United States controls all important Government functions. He complained that the United States investors were getting 28% return on their investment, which was double the rate they were getting in the United States.

"EL IMPARCIAL" is a daily Spanish language newspaper published at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The March 31, 1963 issue of "El Diario de Nueva York" in an article stated that the subject had sent a telegram to the Afro-Asiatic bloc at the UN requesting the opportunity to appear before them and discuss independence for Puerto Rico. He was advised by the Afro-Asiatic bloc that his request was under consideration.

"El Diario de Nueva York" is a Spanish language newspaper published daily at New York City.

On April 8, 1963 SJ T-10 advised a meeting of the Mesa de Lares was held April 3, 1963, at which time the subject declared it would be years before the UN ever considered the Puerto Rican question.

A characterization of the Mesa de Lares appears in the appendix.



The April 9, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" reported in an article that the subject in his capacity as MPIPR officer had announced that the case of Puerto Rico would be considered during the current session of the Committee on Colonialism of the UN.

The April 17, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" reported that the subject spoke at MPIPR-sponsored ceremonies observing Betances Day at Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico on April 14, 1963.

A characterization of Betances Day appears in the appendix.

The subject declared that no MPIPR member or Puerto Rican independentist will testify or answer any questions posed by the Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives or before the Internal Security Committee the U. S. Senate in Puerto Rico or in Washington.

The subject said local newspapers had reported that the Un-American Activities Committee might hold hearings in Puerto Rico to investigate possible Communist infiltration of the independentist movement, but he doubted that the Congressmen would risk coming to Puerto Rico because they know that they would be received with massive demonstrations even stronger than those which the students and people of Los Angeles carried out several years ago against the same committee. He said these congressional committees in their origin and spirit are of a McCarthy character and their investigations are of a Fascist nature. The MPIPR leader said, "We do not recognize the right of the U. S. Congress to intervene in internal organization problems and methods of fighting of the MPIPR."

The April 11, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated the subject had complained to the Chief Justice of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court that Agents of the DI, POPR had tape-recorded a speech of NORMAN PIETRI, a member of the 19-member National Mission of the MPIPR, when he spoke at Betances Day ceremonies at Cabo Rojo. The subject complained that the DI, POPR Agents used a room of the District Court in Cabo Rojo overlooking the Plaza to record the speech and he felt that this is a violation of their civil rights.

*Puerto Rican Independence Movement*  
*Puerto Rico*



A characterization of the APU appears in the appendix.

On April 16, 1963 Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject to lead an MPIPR De Diego Day demonstration in the San Juan Municipal Cemetery. At this time the subject addressed the assembled people.

A characterization of De Diego Day appears in the appendix.


SJ T-1 on April 19, 1963 stated that the subject led MPIPR De Diego Day ceremonies at Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico on April 16, 1963. The subject spoke, stating that the United States does not want Puerto Rico to be a State and Puerto Rico feels the same way. Subject declared that if statehood came it would be over the dead bodies of thousands and thousands of Puerto Ricans.

The April 16, 1963 issue of "El Imparcial" contains an article over the subject's byline in which he described the struggle of JOSE DE DIEGO against consolidation of the American regime in Puerto Rico by the imposition of United States citizenship on all Puerto Ricans by the Jones Law. MARI BRAS



pointed out that JOSE DE DIEGO lost this struggle but he conceived a strategy for survival for independentists by accepting the Jones law but developing the idea of fighting against the regime within. The subject declared that the MPIPR's motto might be defined as, "Against the regime and pushing the regime from the inside and from the outside."

The April 23, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated that Radio Havana reported the subject as declaring that Congressional investigators do not dare to come to Puerto Rico to investigate Communism in the independence movement and further that no independentist would testify anyway.



*N7  
Puerto Rico*  
MOVIMIENTO LIBERTADOR DE PUERTO RICO  
(MLPR).

A characterization of the MLPR appears in the appendix.

SJ T-12 on April 24, 1963 stated that MARI BRAS is probably the most dedicated independentist in Puerto Rico and exists for the welfare of the people of the island. He is not a Communist sympathizer but is willing to accept help from anyone, anywhere, in order to further the independence struggle. In modern Puerto Rico his position might be likened to DE DIEGO in his time and ALBIZU CAMPOS in his period of greatness, and many feel that MARI is taking up the independence struggle from where ALBIZU left it.

When Puerto Ricans today think of independence they think of MARI BRAS and he is truly Puerto Rico's maximum leader. He is a devoted Roman Catholic and would never accept the godless dogma of Communism. He accepts help from Cubans because they are willing to help the independence struggle and he admires the national liberation that is taking place in Cuba. He feels that Cuba has returned to its people by the Cuban Revolution, although he does not subscribe in any way to the excesses of the present Cuban regime, such as their habit of using the "paredon."



No information was ever developed from the [REDACTED] confidential sources that the projected meeting at Mayaguez ever took place.

[REDACTED] disclose that on May 11, 1963 some 200 persons observed an MPIPR meeting at Penuelas, Puerto Rico. Subject spoke at this meeting and complained of heavy foreign investment in Puerto Rico and urged businessmen to fight against all forms of foreign capital.

[REDACTED] disclose that during May, 1963 information was received that a committee had been formed in Santo Domingo for the liberation of Puerto Rico and that the subject was a member of this committee.

The April-May, 1963 issue of "Claridad" contains the text of a message signed by the subject dispatched to the UN Committee of Twenty-Four concerning the O'Brien political status bill for Puerto Rico. The text of the message is as follows:

"On April 30, 1963, Congressman LEO O'BRIEN, president of the Sub-Committee on Territories, together with other congressional leaders, presented in the U. S. House of Representatives a resolution to solve Puerto Rico's political status. We are enclosing a copy of this resolution. It is an attempt on the part of the U. S. Government, abetted by its colonial agents in P. R., to impede the enforcement of Resolution 1514 in our country, making permanent the state of political, economic, social and cultural subjugation suffered by the Puerto Ricans since 1898."

"This resolution clearly proves that the U. S. wants to condition the transfer of powers to the Puerto Rican people to the previous establishment of a pact which, judging from what the congressional resolution points out, would be degrading for the Puerto Ricans. This pact is based on the present colonial relationship which is unequal. How unequal can be seen in the committee which will study it: it is composed by eight persons appointed by the presidents of the U. S. Congressional houses and by the U. S. President, four appointed by the colonial Governor of P. R. The Puerto Rican patriots who are represented by the organizations fighting for national independence, will not be represented on this committee."



"The basis of this pact is completely contrary to those recognized by International Law and the U. N. as valid. It begins by affirming, in the congressional resolution, that this pact must establish 'a permanent and repealable union with the U. S.,' which is in itself a violation of the principle which states that any association must be subject to termination at the will of the country entering it.

"Puerto Rican sovereignty is supposedly recognized, but this is only a mockery because one of the conditions of the pact is that it include 'common citizenship, common defense, common coin, free market, common loyalty to the values of democracy and other conditions considered, in the pact, to be of mutual benefit for the U. S. and P. R.' This is a guarantee that the colonial machine which has been in operation for 65 years, keeping us completely subject to the U. S., will remain intact.

"All these fancy words are merely a cover for the purpose of keeping intact the regime of colonial exploitation through which the U. S. has turned our country into a gigantic military base, forced us to buy solely from their market, paying over \$200,000,000 a year in excess for their products, and turning our country into a paradise for its investors, who already control 78% of the capital invested on the Island, and who obtain an average profit on these investments of 30% a year.

"The congressional resolution states that eventually the people of P. R. will be consulted so they might choose in a plebiscite from the alternatives of association (as defined in the statute), statehood and independence. But such a plebiscite would be of no value. For one thing, it would be under the political, economic and military control of the U. S. Therefore, there would be no free determination. Also, the U. S. Congress will not agree to recognize any other of the alternatives in case they should be chosen on the plebiscite.

"Therefore, it is obvious that the purpose of this plebiscite is to perpetuate the present regime and to ignore the orders of the U. N. contained in the Historic Resolution 1514.

"Our presentment before that Hon. Committee of 24 has not yet been considered by that organization. We know that



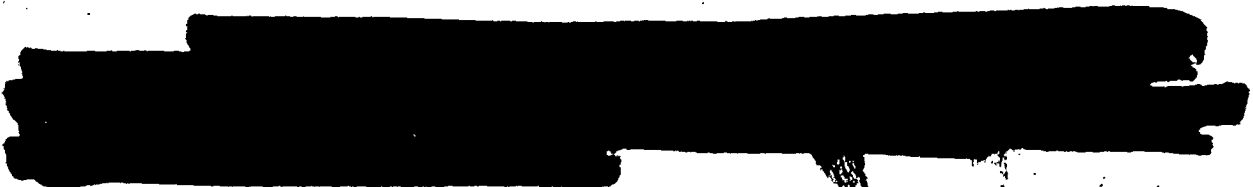
the subcommittee on work approved a report which presented a preliminary list of non-autonomous territories, stating that it will draw up a second list of 'territories which have not yet achieved their independence.' Therefore, we know that eventually the Committee of 24 will have to face the Puerto Rican issue, since ours - we have no doubt - is the most notorious in the last category of Resolution 1514.

"But we fear that a delay in the consideration of our case by the Committee of 24 might have disastrous results.

"If the Committee of 24 does not take quick action to hear those of us who defend Puerto Rico's inalienable right to sovereignty, a situation might arise which could degenerate in violence in P. R., having a negative effect on peace in the Caribbean area, which is at present one of the zones of most international tension. This is so, because Puerto Rican independentists will employ all necessary methods to stop the U. S. Government from impeding the enforcement of Resolution 1514 in P. R., involving future generations of our country in a pact which is degrading to all Puerto Ricans, as it gives the colonial situation a permanent character.

"To stop the U. S. from carrying out a fait accompli in our case before the Committee of 24 studies it, with all the consequences this might bring for Puerto Rico and the peace in the Caribbean, we urgently request that your Excellency present before the pertinent sub-commission of the Committee - the Work and/or Petitions sub-commission - our petition to be heard at once. We are certain that if this committee consents to hear us, this will bear a decisive influence over the U. S. Congress in their action regarding P. R."

(Signed: JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General; GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA, Foreign Relations Secretary; J. A. GONZALEZ, Permanent Delegate before the U. N., MPI.) "





[REDACTED]

"Carta Semanal" #104 dated May 11, 1963 disclosed that the subject and two other members of the MPIPR would testify at the Congressional hearings on the status of Puerto Rico.

On May 18, 1963 [REDACTED] advised that subject testified before the House Sub-Committee of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee during May 16 and 17, 1963.

The May 24, 1963 issue of "El Imparcial" set forth the complete text of the testimony of the subject to the House Sub-Committee studying the status situation in Puerto Rico during May 16 and 17, 1963. Set forth below is the text of the subject's testimony:

"We are here to represent the Pro Independence Movement of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico's patriotic, non-partisan vanguard. Our movement, which is organized throughout the Island, in N. Y. and Chicago, is actively fighting for the elimination of colonialism in P. R.

"In regards to Resolution 5945, we heartily favor the resolution's objective, as stated in its title: that is, 'To establish proceedings for the rapid solution, in a democratic manner, of Puerto Rico's political status.' Verily, it is time for Congress to discharge the responsibilities it acquired through the Paris Treaty of defining the political condition of the inhabitants of P. R. Upon doing this, Congress must obey international law on this matter in today's world. The law of the jungle is no longer acceptable in international conduct. The primitive notion that small and weak nations can be bartered with and conquered, is now rejected by all civilized countries. His Holiness Pope JOHN XXIII has said in his recent encyclical, Peace on Earth: 'in the whole world men have become, or will soon become, citizens of independent nations. No one wishes to be subject to political powers outside their own country or ethnic group.'

"Therefore, we must see if this project will provide as its title suggests, a speedy solution, in a democratic manner, to Puerto Rico's political status.



"There is one simple and indispensable method for the elimination of colonialism in the world. It is to be found in the U. N.'s Resolution 1514-XV. The fifth clause of this declaration states the following:

"In all non-autonomous territories and other territories which have not yet achieved their independence, measures should be taken immediately to transfer all powers to the inhabitants of those territories, without conditions or reserves, in accordance to their wishes, regardless of race, color, or creed, that they might enjoy complete freedom and independence."

"This resolution quotes the world's orders to colonial powers regarding the measures they must take to eliminate colonialism, in all its forms and manifestations, in the world.

"In the case of P. R., the U. S. is presently faced with a grave decision, affecting its foreign policy: Is that country going to respect the world's orders, given through the U. N., in this very important problem, or is it going to disregard them?

"If the U. S. follows the course laid down in the subject of this hearing, it is undoubtedly violating the U. N.'s orders.

"To comply with the U. N.'s resolution, you must, first of all, transfer unconditionally to the people of P. R. all those powers which Congress presently exercises over the Island. That is what the recognition of sovereignty means.

"The Bar Association has mentioned this in its recently approved resolution on the Minimum Requirements for the Solution of P. R.'s Political Status. This resolution defines the concept of sovereignty as follows: 'A sovereign country is one which has the ultimate source of power.' In our case, the resolution adds, this means that the U. S. Congress must renounce all powers over P. R., transferring these powers to the people of P. R. In this way, when the people select one of the formulas or alternatives, they will be expressing their sovereign powers.

"The Association's resolution gives several points of view on our country's final destiny, in regards to the



[ pre-requisite of complete and unconditional sovereignty which is necessary for the solution of our colonial status. ]

"Gentlemen, the project you are now considering does not comply with this essential pre-requisite.

"FIRST: Because it will not recognize P. R.'s sovereignty unless a pact is made between the U. S. and P. R.

"You know very well, as we do, that such a pact is impossible within the U. S.' constitutional sphere.

"SECOND: Because it requires that such a pact be for 'a permanent and irrevocable union between the Government of the U. S. and the people of P. R.' Therefore, it nullifies the recognition of sovereignty for the people of P. R.

"THIRD: It pre-determines the range of the so-called union between P. R. and the U. S., therefore, leaving untouched the fundamental factors which define P. R. as a colony which is being militarily, economically and politically exploited by the U. S.


"We know very well this project does not provide for the elimination of our colonial situation. At present, since we do not have much time, we are unable to explain our plan for the purpose of eliminating colonialism. Whenever the Committee requests that we do so, we will be happy to present a memorandum to this respect, or expose our plan verbally.

"(Representative LEO W. O'BRIEN, who was presiding over the hearings, interrupted at this time to request that a memorandum be sent to the Committee as soon as possible giving the MPI's solution to the Puerto Rican political status. Attorney MARI BRAS promised to send it as soon as possible.)

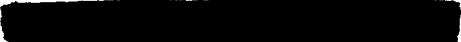
"To conclude, gentlemen, we wish to inform you, and through you, the U. S. Congress, that the independentist forces will accept nothing short of the absolute recognition of Puerto Rican sovereignty. We are not denying Puerto Rico the right to enter into an association with the U. S. at a later date. But such an association would have no validity whatsoever if it should originate from our present colonial situation. Only free and independent nations can associate validly.



"In regards to the attempt of this project to make the present situation of P. R. in relation to the U. S. permanent, I warn you, in the name of thousands of patriots who are fighting for my country's independence, that any attempt to perpetuate Puerto Rico's colonial situation would only produce such friction and tension that the situation in P. R. might very well degenerate into an American Algiers. We trust you will have the good sense to avoid such a situation. "



The May 13, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated that the third national leadership seminar of the MPIPR would be held at the Rosario Hotel, Mayaguez, through June 2, 1963. Subject would preside over a discussion of "The Constituent Assembly as an Alternative to the Plebiscite to Determine the Political Status of Puerto Rico."

 disclose that the subject spoke at the aforementioned seminar and in part stated that if statehood came to Puerto Rico bloodshed and death would spread throughout the island.

The May 31, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" quoted the subject as stating that he would shortly complete a memorandum on his proposed constituent assembly as a solution to the political status of Puerto Rico and that he would submit the memorandum to Congressman O'BRIEN, who had requested it. Subject also indicated that he is putting into writing a resolution concerning his formula for a constituent assembly, which is being done at the request of a U. S. Congressman whose name MARI BRAS said he was not authorized to reveal.

"El Imparcial" of June 4, 1963 reported on the Constituent Assembly plan suggested by JUAN MARI BRAS. In general terms the newspaper article stated MARI BRAS proposed the following steps:



1) Recognition of Puerto Rican sovereignty by the United States.

2) Retain the present government in office for the time being after the granting of sovereignty.

3) Compose a constituent assembly, allowing each party and group to work for the election of its respective candidates at the assembly in free election, so that the constituent assembly faithfully represents the electoral support which the different constitutional plans presented to the people will have.

4) Once established the assembly will consider discussing and studying the different political formulas.

5) The people will ratify through referendum the formula approved by the constituent assembly.

*Patriotic Unionist Action*  
SJ T-11 on June 10, 1963 stated that [REDACTED] considers the subject to be a traitor to the independence cause since he has indicated publicly he might consider voting on the plebiscite. [REDACTED] said that the subject is thus siding with Governor MUNOZ. [REDACTED] said regretfully that he had once considered MARI BRAS the leader who could lead Puerto Rico to independence but that he now recognizes him only as a political opportunist. *Puerto Rico*

"Carta Semanal" #108 dated June 13, 1963 stated that the subject was willing to have his idea of a constituent assembly discussed at a meeting of the Mesa de Lares for the benefit of all independentists, noting that there has been some unfavorable criticism from those independentists to his plan.

SJ T-5 on June 14, 1963 said that the subject's constituent assembly idea is opposed by most other independentists. They regard his plan to set up a provisional government based on the present Commonwealth Government after the attainment of freedom, to be naive and other independence groups are angry because the subject did not consult them before submitting his plan.



[REDACTED]

*Puerto Rican Independence Movement*

[REDACTED] P.R.


The June 25, 1963 issue of the "San Juan Star" reports that the subject had said that no independentist would ever participate in any committee to study the Puerto Rico political status and would not cooperate in any study designed to perpetuate colonialism. Subject specifically referred to a projected bill of Congressman O'BRIEN to have a committee study the political status of Puerto Rico. Subject declared that Congressman O'BRIEN was wasting his time by trying to include independentists on this project. The subject said the solution is very simple; Congress must give up its powers over Puerto Rico and transfer them to the people of Puerto Rico.

The July 2, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" reported that MPIPR members had been posting placards on trees and utility poles throughout Puerto Rico which accused the United States of economically exploiting the island and demanded that the United States leave Puerto Rico. The POPR in various parts of the islands had arrested the MPIPR persons affixing these posters and charged them with violation of Section 517 of the Puerto Rico Penal Code, which makes it a crime to affix posters on public or private property without proper authority.

On July 9, 1963 SJ T-5 stated the subject spoke at a July 3, 1963 MPIPR meeting at New York City. The subject explained his plan for the status of Puerto Rico reiterating that the United States must relinquish sovereignty to the Puerto Ricans and that the present government of Puerto Rico would be temporarily in charge of routine government functions until the constituent assembly could be formed and the people finally decided their political destiny



by referendum. During the meeting the subject stated that the MPIPR would not advocate violence nor revolution but if the Government of the United States attempted to force statehood on Puerto Rico, that the MPIPR members would be willing to go into the streets fighting with whatever weapons might be available and while they might lose their lives, their blood would prevent this abuse on Puerto Rican nationality.



The July 9, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" in an article stated that the subject's name was included on a list of Puerto Ricans who openly harbour anti-United States sentiments, according to Congressman WILLIAM C. CRAMER. This list was included in a report of the Senate Internal Security Committee.

SJ T-1 on July 16, 1963 stated the subject spoke at an MPIPR meeting July 12, 1963 at Rio Piedras. Subject stated that on Sunday, July 21, 1963 MPIPR members all over Puerto Rico would begin to post anti-American placards on utility poles and trees and would then see if the police would arrest them. He said he would lead members of the National Mission of the MPIPR in posting placards in the San Juan area.

"Carta Semanal" #113 dated July 14, 1963 referred to the upcoming placard posting for July 21, 1963 and carried instructions from four members on how to act while posting the placards. Among the instructions were that no one should indulge in the use of alcoholic beverages while the placards were being posted and that automobiles used by members engaged in posting must meet all vehicular law regulations so the police would have no excuse to arrest them. They were further instructed, if arrested, to not resist arrest and it was noted that the MPIPR would have attorneys available to immediately represent them.



*Puerto Rican Independence Movement*

*FL Department of Justice*

The July 17, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" in an article provided a resume of an article printed in the Cuban magazine "Bohemia." "El Mundo" referred to this magazine as a Communist magazine. In the "Bohemia" article the subject was quoted as stating that the MPIPR was in contact with the forces of revolution in Venezuela, Cuba and Santo Domingo. The article stated that MARI BRAS early distinguished himself in the anti-imperialist battle when he was expelled from the UPR and noted that the subject was among hundreds of students who were imprisoned and deprived of their right to study in the Yankee colony but that MARI BRAS, after serving his prison sentence, enrolled in George Washington University, where he obtained his law degree. The article noted that the subject has distinguished himself in the defense of the Cuban revolution.

In response to a question as to if the majority of Puerto Ricans wanted independence, the subject declared affirmatively. He said that once the people are faced with the only alternative to colonialism is independence, they will select independence. He complained that colonial forces have created an illusion among the Puerto Rican people so that many of the people believe that association with the United States can be had without loss of autonomy. He said he and the MPIPR are trying to make the Puerto Rican people realize that it is not possible within the United States constitutional structure and that this is nothing more than a ruse to keep the people from demanding their independence.

The July 19, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" stated that the subject had directed a letter to Governor MUNOZ MARIN of Puerto Rico stating that the MPIPR would not be challenged by threats or terrorist tactics and that MPIPR National Mission members would post anti-American placards on July 21, 1963 and dared the police to arrest them.



*to  
Rico* { SJ T-11 on July 19, 1963 stated that at a meeting of the Mesa de Lares on July 15, 1963, Mesa de Lares President CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ commented strongly against the subject's constituent assembly plan and had prepared a memorandum against it. At this meeting the subject's constituent assembly plan was backed by JUAN SANTOS RIVERA, President of the PARTIDO COMUNISTA PUERTORRIQUENO (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP), and [REDACTED]

A characterization of the PCP appears in the appendix.

The subject stated he wanted the backing of the people of Puerto Rico and did not care how he got it. Subject complained that an APU member recently had stated that the subject had been offered the Governor's post in Puerto Rico by Congressman O'BRIEN in Washington and the subject desired to categorically refute this.

On July 21, 1963 a Special Agent of the FBI observed the subject and other members of the National Mission of the MPIPR to post placards on utility poles and trees on a route from Sixto Escobar Stadium in Puerta de Tierra to Plaza Colon in San Juan. The poster stated, "Sixty-Five years of Yankee colonialism is enough." The placard posters were observed by the police but no arrests were made.

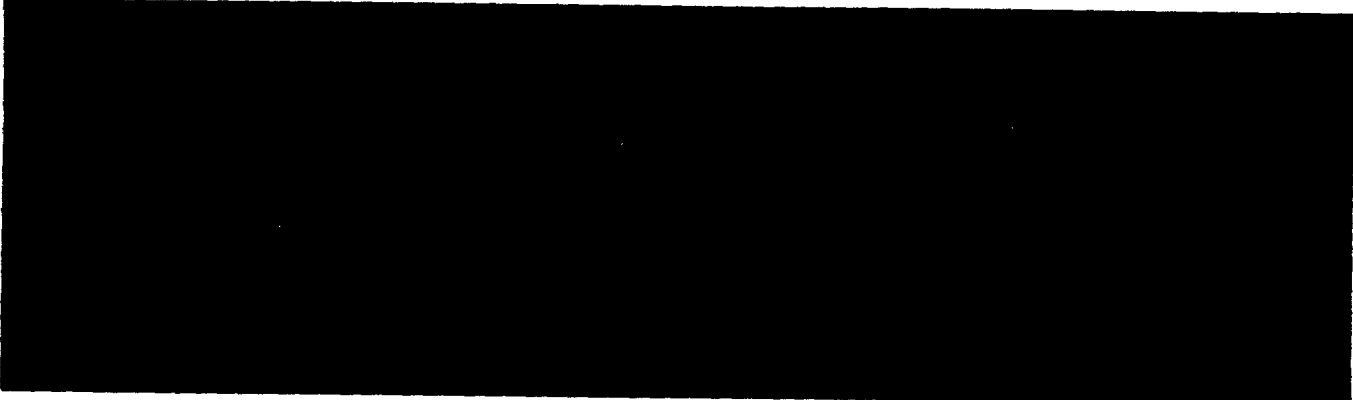
[REDACTED]

The July 22, 1963 issue of the "San Juan Star" stated that the subject led the MPIPR National Mission July 21, 1963 in posting anti-American placards. The "Star" quoted the subject as stating he could not understand why the police had not arrested him and his companions, unless the police had finally decided that he is right.


"El Imparcial" of July 22, 1963 reported that at a recent speech of the subject at Arecibo, Puerto Rico, he declared that most of the mayors of Puerto Rico are independentists but are fearful of leaving the political safety of association with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.



The July 24, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" stated that on July 23, 1963 the subject contacted a San Juan District Judge and informed him that he had been posting anti-American posters. He demanded of the Judge to know if he was guilty of breaking the law and if so he felt that he should be arrested. According to the article the Judge said that he would need to have the subject arrested and some kind of complaint filed before he could render any decision.



On July 26, 1963 SJ T-2 reported the subject addressed a public meeting July 24, 1963 at Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. The meeting was sponsored by the MPIPR. The subject declared that 65 years of North American colonialism were enough in Puerto Rico and said the Government of Governor MUNOZ MARIN had failed to promote successfully its plebiscite plan. The subject said Commonwealth authorities, including the police, were now afraid of the MPIPR because of their success in the poster campaign.



C. Subject's Travel

On February 5, 1963 the San Juan Office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) advised the subject is travelling to Santo Domingo February 7, 1963 via Pan American Airlines



Flight 432 and would return the same day. It was their understanding that his trip to Santo Domingo was in connection with a legal matter he was conducting and that it involved legal action against Pan American Airlines.

On February 7, 1963 [REDACTED] advised the subject left for Santo Domingo February 7, 1963 via Pan American Airlines.

On February 7, 1963 [REDACTED] advised the subject returned from Santo Domingo that date via Pan American Airlines.

[REDACTED]

On March 5, 1963 SJ T-3 advised the subject arrived in Chicago March 2, 1963 from New York and departed for New York March 3, 1963.

On March 30, 1963 [REDACTED] advised the subject arrived March 30, 1963 from New York via Eastern Airlines.

[REDACTED] advised on May 14, 1963 that the subject left San Juan that date for New York via Flight 296 of Pan American Airlines.

[REDACTED] on May 18, 1963 advised the subject arrived at San Juan, Puerto Rico from New York via Pan American Airlines Flight 211.

[REDACTED] advised on June 13, 1963 that the subject, accompanied by JUAN ANGEL SILEN and CARLOS JUAN RECIO, both MPIPR officials, departed San Juan en route Santo Domingo via Compania Dominicana de Aviacion (CDA) Flight 601.

*Puerto Rico Independence Movement*

The June 15, 1963 issue of "El Mundo" advised that the subject and two MPIPR officials had gone to Santo Domingo to observe the June 14 holiday on an invitation from Dr. MIGUEL A. TAVAREZ JUSTO.



[REDACTED] advised on June 15, 1963 that the subject, accompanied by SILEN and RECIO, returned to San Juan from Santo Domingo via Pan American Airlines Flight 431.

[REDACTED] on July 1, 1963 advised the subject left San Juan for New York that date via Eastern Airlines Flight 833.

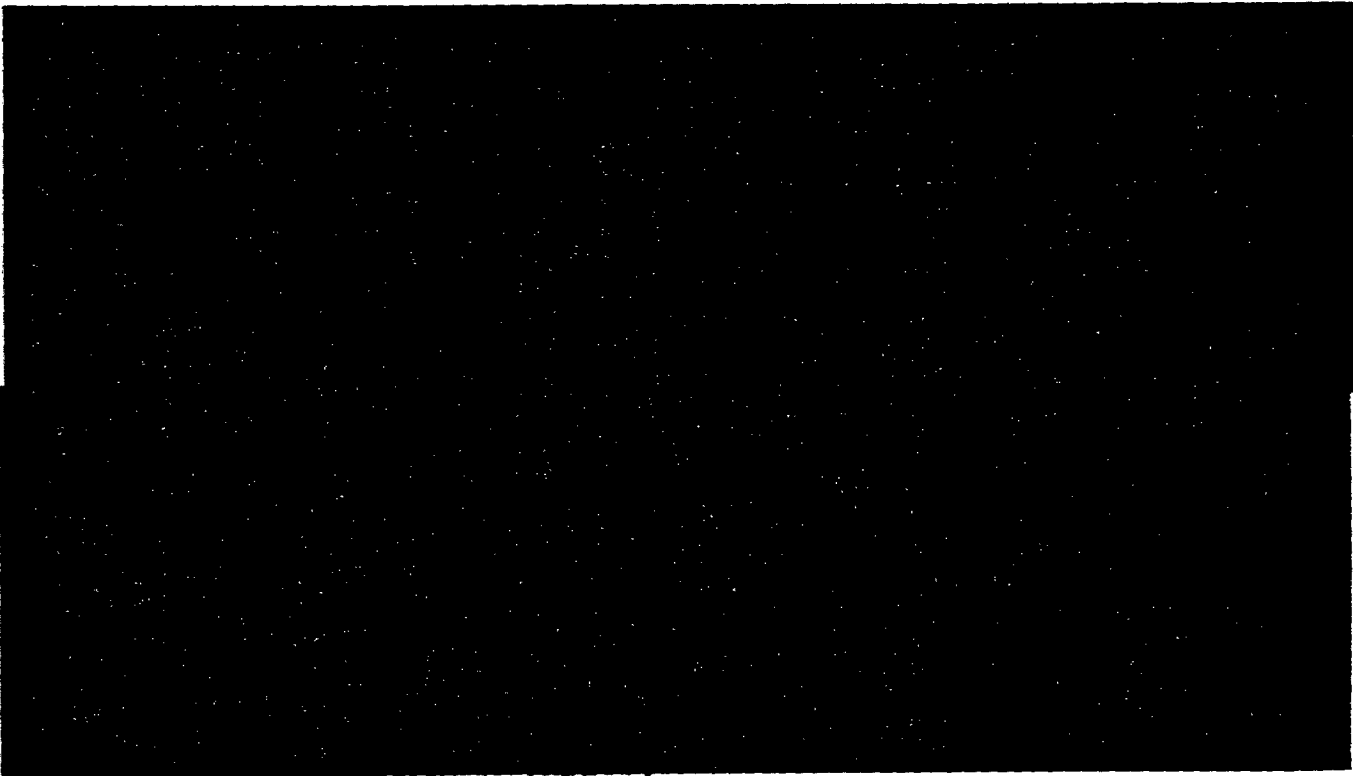
On July 10, 1963 [REDACTED] advised the subject arrived in San Juan from New York July 9, 1963.

On July 27, 1963 [REDACTED] advised that the subject had obtained through the Portela Travel Agency a one-way air bus ticket to New York on on Eastern Airlines Flight 800, July 31, 1963.

On July 31, 1963 Special Agents of the FBI observed the subject depart San Juan for New York via Eastern Airlines Flight 800.

On August 8, 1963 SJ T-5 advised the subject left New York August 8, 1963 en route Paris, France via Pan American Airlines.

P.R.





IV. MISCELLANEOUS

The following listed agencies were contacted as indicated below and were unable to furnish further pertinent information concerning the subject;

471st Intelligence Corps Detachment, Fort Brooke,  
July 31, 1963

Office of Naval Intelligence, 10th Naval District,  
San Juan, July 14, 1963

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



1

APPENDIX

BETANCES DAY - April 8, 1830

This is the birth date of Dr. RAMON EMETERIO BETANCES (1830-1898), who was a physician, writer, and revolutionary leader closely identified with both the Cuban and Puerto Rican revolutionary movements. A public celebration on this date is held each year at Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, the birthplace of BETANCES.



APPENDIX

DE DIEGO DAY  
APRIL 16, 1866

JOSE DE DIEGO was born on April 16, 1866. He was a Speaker of the Puerto Rican House of Representatives and was one of the most outstanding leaders in the Puerto Rican independence movement. The NPPR claims DE DIEGO was one of its pioneers, despite the fact that DE DIEGO died several years prior to the organization of the NPPR. NPPR public celebrations are held on this date in San Juan and its suburb, Santurce, Puerto Rico.

April 16th is not exclusively an NPPR celebration, but it is a Puerto Rican official holiday.



FEDERACION DE UNIVERSITARIOS PRO INDEPENDENCIA  
(Federation of University Students for Independence)  
(FUPI)

According to information appearing in "Patria," self-described official organ of the FUPI, the FUPI was formed as a student organization at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR), Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, in October, 1956. "Patria" stated that the FUPI was not connected with any political organization and would work for independence for Puerto Rico through legal and peaceful means.

On August 20, 1959, a source advised that LUIS MANUEL O'NEILL, then President of the NPPR National Board, had stated that FUPI members were generally considered among NPPR leaders to be Nationalists at heart and that it was felt when an emergency arose under an NPPR plan for independence, the FUPI would join the NPPR. According to the source, O'NEILL also stated that the youth in the independence movement, such as members of the FUPI, frequently approached NPPR leaders for instructions in the independence movement.

Information received from another source revealed that from 1959 to 1963 FUPI representatives attended various student conferences to foreign countries, including Communist China and Russian Satellite countries, to promote the cause of independence for Puerto Rico. This source advised on May 28, 1962, that the FUPI was elected an integral member of the International Union of Students, Prague, Czechoslovakia, in October, 1960, and elected to the International Union of Students, Executive Committee, and since June, 1961, had maintained a representative, NARCISO RABELL MARTINEZ, in Prague as a member of the International Union of Students (IUS) Executive Committee, his salary and expenses paid by the IUS. According to the source, the propaganda activities of the FUPI in the international field have followed the "anti-imperialist" theme of the IUS.

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



2

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," prepared and released by the committee on Un-American Activities, US House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following information concerning the International Union of Students:

"1.

"The World Federation of Democratic Youth brought into being the International Union of Students, which held a meeting in Prague on August 17 to 31, 1946. The administration and direction of this project was entrusted to a 17-man Executive Committee, of whom 12 were known Communists. Also cited as one of the "long established Soviet controlled international organizations" which speak identical lines of propaganda and stand together on all phases of Soviet foreign policy and which has "affiliated organizations in the US, which consequently have also been turned into instruments in the 'peace' campaign."

"(Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 271 on American Youth for Democracy, April 17, 1947, p. 13; and House Report 278 on the Communist 'Peace' Offensive, April 25, 1951, originally released April 1, 1951, p. 77.)"

"2.

Cited as being among 'International Communist fronts...functioning at the present time.'

"(International Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, P. 93, also p. 59.)"



MESA DE LARES  
(Lares Board)

Records of the Police of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico, reveal the idea for forming the Lares Board was originated by leaders of the MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) in 1960 and its first meeting was held on November 20, 1960, at Lares, Puerto Rico. This meeting was presided over by Attorney CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ and was attended by representatives of all major Puerto Rican independence organizations. This meeting established "the Presidential Board of Lares," vested with the power to call the next meeting and adopted a resolution entitled, "Declaration of Lares" proclaiming that the time had come for Puerto Rico to join the free countries of the world, urging the Puerto Rican people to resist the advance of anti-Puerto Rican forces in the fields of culture and economy, proclaiming their faith in the destiny of the Puerto Rican people and vowing to redouble their efforts to gain Puerto Rico's independence in the shortest possible time.

A confidential source advised in August, 1962, that a reorganizational meeting of the Lares Board was called by independentist attorney CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ and was held on August 22, 1962, at the Darlington Hotel in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, with the six major pro-independence organizations, including the Partido Comunista Puertorriqueno (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP) and the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico (NPPR), in attendance. At this meeting the Lares Board was actually established as a permanent body to coordinate the efforts of the independence groups, its immediate purpose to begin a program of activities opposing the plebiscite recently proposed by Puerto Rico Governor LUIS MUNOZ MARIN to establish a permanent political status for Puerto Rico.

According to the source, the Lares Board is composed of a President, a Secretary General, two delegates from each of the member groups, and seven delegates at large. Each member group is to retain its own organizational identity and the Lares Board is to function as a coordinating body in matters of mutual agreement. No headquarters was established.

The above source advised on April 8, 1963, that the Lares Board continued to hold weekly meetings at various localities in the San Juan metropolitan area.



## APPENDIX

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

On June 20, 1960, JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the FBI that this organization was formed January 11, 1959, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico and officially came into being at the MPIPR Constituent Convention on November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico. It was formed by a group of former leaders of the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUENO (PIP), a formerly legally constituted political party, who were dissatisfied with PIP policies and decided to form a more active organization to indoctrinate the Puerto Rican people with the ideal of Puerto Rican independence.

Although the MPIPR does not advocate violence, it will accept anyone who believes in Puerto Rican independence regardless of his beliefs on the use of violence provided he agrees with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles. The organization contains both Nationalists and Communists within its membership, but does not assume responsibility for actions they may take not sanctioned by the group.

Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, MARI BRAS said the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a means of obtaining Puerto Rican independence only because he felt that violence would be ineffective against the power of the U. S. Government. MARI BRAS stated that he believed 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.

Headquarters of the MPIPR are located at Rio Piedras, a suburb of San Juan.

Issues of the MPIPR "Carta Semanal" (Weekly Letter), self-described as a weekly bulletin from MPIPR headquarters to the various branches, during 1963 have reported that MPIPR branches have been established, at least in name, in almost every town and hamlet in Puerto Rico and in Chicago, Illinois and New York City.



APPENDIX

The Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR was held December 9, 1962, at Hato Tejas and, according to press reports, one of the resolutions passed by this body was one of complete support and solidarity with the Cuban people, the Cuban Revolutionary Government, and FIDEL CASTRO.

[REDACTED]

Total membership of the MPIPR is believed [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] to be between 1,000 and 1,300 persons.

Among the members of the 90-man National Council of the MPIPR are adherants of other independence-seeking groups, including the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico.

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



APPENDIX

1

PARTIDO COMUNISTA PUERTORRIQUENO  
(Communist Party of Puerto Rico)  
(PCP)

According to the publication, "Puerto Rico, Ayer, Hoy, y Mañana" (Puerto Rico Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow), by JUAN SANTOS RIVERA, President of the PCP, The Communist Party of Puerto Rico, was founded in Ponce, Puerto Rico on September 23, 1944. According to sources, the PCP is a Communist Party in its own right and not a district organization of the Communist Party, USA, although it is based on the same Marxist-Leninist principles of the Communist Party, USA.



APPENDIX

PONCE MASSACRE  
March 21, 1937

On March 21, 1937, nineteen persons were killed and one hundred injured (including members of the NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO) (NPPR) in a gun battle between Nationalists and the Police of Puerto Rico at Ponce, Puerto Rico. The armed clash occurred when NPPR members, having been denied a permit for a public parade in Ponce, nevertheless formed ranks with a large body of NPPR Cadets in the lead and attempted to parade through the streets of Ponce. This is commemorated annually by a public celebration staged by the NPPR at Ponce.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SJ 100-4785

THE MILITANT LABOR FORUM

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past on October 3, 1962 advised that The Militant Labor Forum is the name given by the New York local of the Socialist Workers Party to open forums it sponsored.

A second source stated that the New York local of the SWP was founded during January, 1938 in New York City.

A third confidential source stated on May 10, 1962 that the New York local of the SWP is affiliated with and follows the aims and purposes of the national SWP.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Post Office Box 4312  
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico

August 30, 1963

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY-PUERTO RICAN NATIONALIST

Reference is made to report of Special Agent [REDACTED], dated and captioned as above.

Insufficient contact has been had with SJ T-12 to form an estimate of his reliability. SJ T-14 is a responsible person [REDACTED]

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

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



7-1  
2-1

*San Juan, N.Y.*  
Attorney JUAN MARI BRAS, who heads the Pro-Independence Movement in Puerto Rico and who has publicly admitted that he and other members of his organization favor Castro's Cuba and the subversive movements in Venezuela, Dominican Republic and other Latin American countries, is actively denouncing Yankee Imperialism in and out of the Island of Puerto Rico. In a meeting held in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, before an estimated crowd of 1,000, he denounced that the Commonwealth constitution of Puerto Rico has "perpetuated North American colonialism in Puerto Rico." According to reliable sources, Mari Bras' organization advocates the independence for Puerto Rico by violence or force, if necessary, and has quite a number of agents who have travelled throughout the Iron Curtain and Cuba, several of them having had guerrilla training in Castro's Cuba.

25 AUG 30 1963

FBI  
CIB  
Román  
with clippings

5-8 SEP 5  
ENCLOSURE

Blair  
5B



# Mari Bras Hits 'Colonialism' In Puerto Rico

An estimated crowd of 1,000 heard four leaders of the Pro Independence Movement blast what P.I.M. Secretary-General Juan Mari Bras termed "65 years of North American colonialism in Puerto Rico", Wednesday night in the public plaza of Rio Piedras.

Mari Bras said that he and the other speakers, Carmen Rivera Alvarado, professor Manrique Cabrera and writer Cesar Andreu Iglesias, were all members of the P.I.M. "National Mission" which is the executive committee for the movement.

The Rio Piedras meeting was timed to coincide with the eve of the celebration of the 11th anniversary of the Commonwealth constitution.

"The P.I.M. alleges that the Constitution has "perpetuated North American colonialism in Puerto Rico," according to Mari Bras.

He also stated that he thinks the actions and declarations of the Commonwealth government in the last year have demonstrated what he termed "the failure of Munoz's 'grand design'."

Mari Bras said that the Wednesday meeting was held to publicize the P.I.M. "victory" in its recent campaign to paste posters in all municipalities of the island denouncing "North American intervention in Puerto Rico". He estimated that as many as 18,000 such posters have been put up around the island, since the campaign of "political education" of the P.I.M. began this year.

*Belmont*



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAN JUAN</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN JUAN</b>	DATE <b>8/30/63</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>7/1-8/21/63</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JUAN MARI BRAS</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b>	TYPED BY <b>vvn</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - PRN</b>	

**SYNOPSIS:**

REFERENCE

San Juan report of SA **[REDACTED]** **2/7/63.**

-P\*-

LEADS

Information copies are designated for Chicago and New York since the subject has visited those cities and conducted activities there and may so do in the future.

SAN JUAN DIVISION

Will continue to follow and report the subject's activities.

Copy to OSI  
by routing slip for  
1/14/64  
B. J. [REDACTED]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE

*San Juan (Info)*  
*P.C. [REDACTED] (Basic, "B")*

APPROVED <b>TEB</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 9-Bureau (105-292)(RM) 1-ONI, 10th ND, SJ (By Hand) 1-471st INTC Det., SJ (By Hand) 1-OSI, RAFB (RM) 1-Chicago (Info)(RM) 1-New York (100-11766)(Info)(RM) 3-San Juan (100-4785)		105-292-106	REC-57
		10 SEP 3 1963	
		SUBV. CONTROL EX-116	

Copy to State, CIA, Sec. Service, ONI  
by routing slip for  
☒ info ☐ action

Classified by **6080**  
Exempt from GDS, Category  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

51 SEP 23 1963

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SJ 100-4785

ADMINISTRATIVE

SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7C  
observed the subject at the anti-Betancourt picket on February 18,  
1963.

SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7C  
on De Diego Day, April 16, 1963.

[REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] b7D  
SA [REDACTED] observed the subject participating in b7C  
placard posting on 7/21/63.

SA [REDACTED] observed the subject at his b7C  
residence and employment on July 31, 1963.

SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] observed the subject depart San Juan via Eastern Airlines,  
7/31/63. *Puerto Rico Independence Movement*



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAN JUAN</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN JUAN</b>	DATE <i>Post</i> <b>8/30/63</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>7/1-8/21/63</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JUAN MARI BRAS</b>		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY <b>vn</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - PRN</b>	

## SYNOPSIS:

### REFERENCE

San Juan report of [REDACTED] 2/7/63.

-P\*-

### LEADS

[REDACTED]

### SAN JUAN DIVISION

[REDACTED]

Copy to OSI  
by routing slip for  
1/14/64  
BT/mr

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 9-23-77

*6 cm*  
*P.C. [unclear] (Info)*  
*(Page 1 of 1)*

APPROVED <b>TEB</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
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		10 SEP 3 1963	
		SUBV. CONTROL-116	

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by routing slip for Sec. Service, ONI  
☒ info ☐ action

~~TOP SECRET~~  
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Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
3-1-77

51 SEP 23 1963  
105-292-106



Inspección en  
Aduana

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9/7/63



DECODED COPY

SECRET

☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☒ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

Collahan  
Evans  
Gale  
Rosa  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

DEFERRED 9-7-63  
TO DIRECTOR AND SAC NEW YORK  
FROM SAC SAN JUAN 072110

JUAN MARI BRAS, ESPIONAGE-CUBA. ~~BUT FILE 105-292~~. NY FILE  
105-3002.

SUBJECT ARRIVED SAN JUAN 5:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 6 LAST FROM  
LISBON VIA PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS.

ADVISED SUBJECT WAS PHYSICALLY SEARCHED BY  
CUSTOMS AGENTS ON ARRIVAL AND HIS SUITCASE AND ATTACHE CASE  
SEIZED BY THEM FOR EXAMINATION. SUBJECT MADE NO PROTEST AND  
DISPLAYED AFFABLE ATTITUDE. SUITCASE CONTAINED NOTHING BUT  
ROUTINE CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES.

RELAYED TO NEW YORK

Classified by 6060 SEP 13 1963  
Exempt from GDS Category 2.3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
LFD/RSJ M1177

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. SECRET



ttit  
unn

Legal Attache, Paris

9/11/63

Director, FBI

JUAN MARI BRAS  
IS - PRN

Reurcab 9/5/63, which advised that the subject  
had arrived in Paris by air from Algeria on 9/4/63. (u)

The San Juan Office has advised that the subject  
arrived in San Juan at 5 p.m. on 9/6/63 from Lisbon, Portugal,  
via Pan American World Airways. (u)

1 - Legat, Madrid

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through for review)

1 - 65-New (Juan Mari Bras)

JJD:akb  
(8)

~~SECRET~~

NOTE:

[REDACTED]

REC-54

105-2762-114

MAILED 10

SEP 11 1963

COMM-FBI

RE SEP 11 1963

Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

4 SEP 17 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

LED/139 8/18/77

~~SECRET~~



# D.R. Political Leader Will Speak At Lares Celebration

Manuel Tavarez Justo, president of the Dominican June 14th Movement, will be main speaker Sunday at the pro-independence annual celebration of the Grito de Lares.

P.I.M. Secretary-General Juan Mari Bras said yesterday that Tavarez had already accepted the

invitation and is expected here soon.

This will be Tavarez's second visit to Puerto Rico. He first came here at the invitation of the Commonwealth government with other Dominican political leaders after the downfall of the Trujillo dictatorship.

The only other speaker at the annual ceremonies, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. in the Lares plaza, will be Carlos Carrera Benitez, president of the Mesa de Lares under which all local pro-independence organizations are united.

Mari Bras indicated that Sunday's ceremonies will mark the start of organized world-wide activities and demonstrations in favor of Puerto Rican independence.

Carrera Benitez's speech will center around the efforts of independentista forces to have the United Nations review their accusations of colonialism in Puerto Rico.

A formal declaration intended to sum up the opinion of independence organizations about the current situation in Puerto Rico will be read and submitted for approval of those present.

As part of the ceremonies, a youth group known as "Art and Liberation" will present scenes from the play "El Grito de Lares," by Luis Llorens Torres. They will also offer choral recitations of patriotic poetry.

The Grito de Lares was an abortive revolution staged by some 500 residents of that area against the Spanish colonial regime in 1868.



JUAN MARI BRAS

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*The San Juan Star*

The Washington Post and \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Herald

The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_

The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_

New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_

New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_

New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_

New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_

New York Post \_\_\_\_\_

The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_

The Worker \_\_\_\_\_

The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_

The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_

People's World \_\_\_\_\_

Date 9/19/63

NOT RECORDED  
141 NOV 21 1963

NOV 26 1963



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE:

9/29/63

FROM :

SAC, NEW YORK (105-3002) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

JUAN MARI BRAS  
IS - PRN

(OO:SAN JUAN)

Accordingly, the subject's 105 case, which pertains to his Puerto Rican pro-independence activity, is being placed in an RUC status in the NYO. (u)

All pertinent information relating to subject's activity and contacts during his recent visit to NYC has been furnished to the SJO. (u)

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

CLASSIFICATION RETAINED BY 7455 RLS/AG  
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 3  
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE. REG-44

105-292-124

30  
SEP 30 1963

EX-116

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - San Juan (100-4785) (RM)
- 1 - New York (65-22500) (312)
- 1 - New York (105-3002)

ADL:bam  
(5)



# FEDE. BUREAU OF IN. IGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NEW YORK</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN JUAN</b>	DATE <b>10/21/63</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>9/23 - 10/2/63</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JUAN MARI BRAS</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>	TYPED BY <b>hjr</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - PRN</b>	

REFERENCE:

NY report of [REDACTED] dated 8/21/63.  
 San Juan report of [REDACTED] dated 8/30/63.  
 NY teletypes to Director 9/24, 25, 26, 27, and 10/1/63.  
 San Juan teletypes to Director dated 9/25/63, and 10/1/63.  
 San Juan airtel to Director, 10/2/63.

ENCLOSURES:

SAN JUAN DIVISION (11)

[REDACTED]

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APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> 11/14/64	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: <i>101/ma</i>		<div style="text-align: right;">REC-3</div> <div style="text-align: center;">8 OCT 23 1963</div> <div style="text-align: right;">EX-114</div>	
11 - Bureau (105-292) (RM) (2-65-68323) 4 - San Juan (100-4785) (enc. 8) (2-65-419) (RM) 3 - New York (105-3002) (1-65-22500)		<div style="text-align: center; transform: rotate(-30deg); font-weight: bold;">SUBV. CONTROL</div>	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations	
Agency	<i>SAO</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>10/22</i>
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.	<i>11/1/63</i>		
How Fwd.	<i>6-6</i>	<i>6-144</i>	<i>6-144</i>
By	<i>371</i>	<i>6-144</i>	<i>6-144</i>

*371*  
*11/1/63*  
*1008*



SJ 100-4785

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For the information of offices which have not previously received correspondence in this case, the subject is the Secretary General of the MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement)(MPIPR), the largest independence organization in Puerto Rico. The subject is a highly articulate independence leader and a violent supporter of FIDEL CASTRO and the Cuban revolution.

[REDACTED]

The investigation requested above should be conducted in a most discreet manner.



NY 105-3002

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

NY T-1  
[REDACTED]

NY T-2  
[REDACTED]

File Number Where Located

NY 65-22500-8-23  
NY 105-52517-90-91  
NY 105-57300-53

LEADS:

NEW YORK  
[REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION:

This report is classified "Confidential" since it contains information furnished by [REDACTED] whose disclosure would be detrimental to the best interests of the US.

- C\* -  
COVER PAGE



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

Copy to:

Report of:

DONALD E. HALTER

Date:

10/21/63

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File #:

105-3002

Bureau File #: 105-292

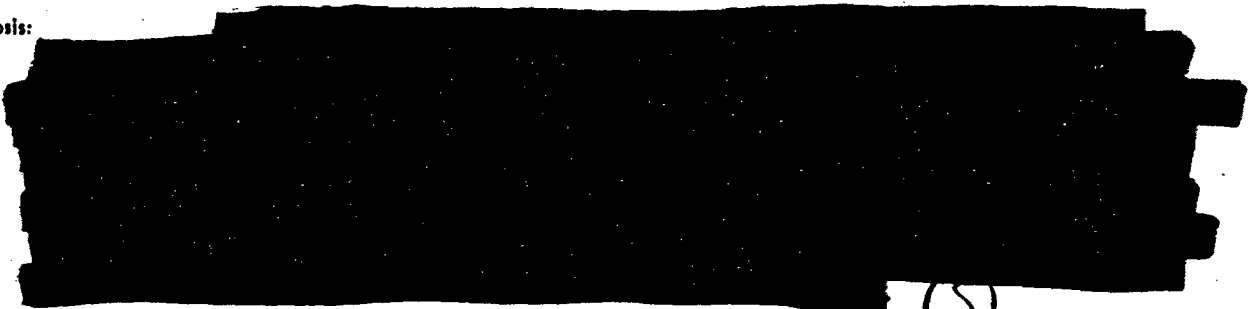
Title:

JUAN MARI BRAS

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY -  
PUERTO RICAN NATIONALISTS

Synopsis:



- P -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~Group I~~~~Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification~~



NY 105-3002

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE



APPENDIX PAGES:

Puerto Rican Independence Movement,  
and Mesa de Lares.....40-42



NY 105-3002

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

A characterization of the MPIPR appears  
in the appendix section of this report.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



APPENDIX

MESA DE LARES  
(Lares Board)

Records [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] reveal the idea for forming the Lares Board was originated by leaders of the MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) in 1960 and its first meeting was held on November 20, 1960, at Lares, Puerto Rico. This meeting was presided over by Attorney CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ and was attended by representatives of all major Puerto Rican independence organizations. This meeting established "the Presidential Board of Lares," vested with the power to call the next meeting and adopted a resolution entitled, "Declaration of Lares" proclaiming that the time had come for Puerto Rico to join the free countries of the world, urging the Puerto Rican people to resist the advance of anti-Puerto Rican forces in the fields of culture and economy, proclaiming their faith in the destiny of the Puerto Rican people and vowing to redouble their efforts to gain Puerto Rico's independence in the shortest possible time.

A confidential source advised in August, 1962, that a reorganizational meeting of the Lares Board was called by independentist attorney CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ and was held on August 22, 1962, at the Darlington Hotel in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, with the six major pro-independence organizations, including the Partido Comunista Puertorriqueno (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP) and the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico (NPPR), in attendance. At this meeting the Lares Board was actually established as a permanent body to coordinate the efforts of the independence groups, its immediate purpose to begin a program of activities opposing the plebiscite recently proposed by Puerto Rico Governor LUIS MUNOZ MARIN to establish a permanent political status for Puerto Rico.

According to the source, the Lares Board is composed of a President, a Secretary General, two delegates from each of the member groups, and seven delegates at large. Each member group is to retain its own organizational identity and the Lares Board is to function as a coordinating body in matters of mutual agreement. No headquarters was established.

The above source advised on April 8, 1963, that the Lares Board continued to hold weekly meetings at various localities in the San Juan metropolitan area.



1.

APPENDIX

MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA  
DE PUERTO RICO (PUERTO RICAN  
INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT) (MPIPR)  
(NEW YORK MISSION)

A confidential source advised on August 15, 1961, that the New York Mission of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) was organized on August 6, 1961, in New York City.

A second confidential source advised on October 24, 1961, that the New York Mission of the MPIPR supports and promotes the aims and principles of the MPIPR as set forth by the headquarters of the MPIPR in Puerto Rico. The announced purpose of the MPIPR in Puerto Rico is to work for the complete independence of Puerto Rico through propaganda and other peaceful means.

JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on June 20, 1960, that the MPIPR does not advocate violence to gain independence because it would be ineffective against the force of the United States Government. MARI BRAS believes that the Puerto Rican people have a right to use violence to gain their freedom if there was a possibility of success.

On December 14, 1961, the second source advised that the New York Mission of the MPIPR had adopted the name "Mision Central Vito Marcantonio."

The second source advised on March 7, 1963, that the headquarters for the MPIPR in New York City are located at 127 West 106th Street.



1.

APPENDIX

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

---

On June 20, 1960, JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the FBI that this organization was formed January 11, 1959, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico and officially came into being at the MPIPR Constituent Convention on November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico. It was formed by a group of former leaders of the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUENO (PIP), a formerly legally constituted political party, who were dissatisfied with PIP policies and decided to form a more active organization to indoctrinate the Puerto Rican people with the ideal of Puerto Rican independence.

Although the MPIPR does not advocate violence, it will accept anyone who believes in Puerto Rican independence regardless of his beliefs on the use of violence provided he agrees with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles. The organization contains both Nationalists and Communists within its membership, but does not assume responsibility for actions they may take not sanctioned by the group.

Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, MARI BRAS said the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a means of obtaining Puerto Rican independence only because he felt that violence would be ineffective against the power of the United States Government. MARI BRAS stated that he believed 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.

Headquarters of the MPIPR are located in Rio Piedras, a suburb of San Juan.



2.

APPENDIX

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

Issues of the MPIPR "Carta Semanal" (Weekly Letter), self-described as a weekly bulletin from MPIPR headquarters to the various branches, during 1963 have reported that MPIPR branches have been established, at least in name, in almost every town and hamlet in Puerto Rico and in Chicago, Illinois and New York City.

The Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR was held December 9, 1962, at Hato Tejas and, according to press reports, one of the resolutions passed by this body was one of complete support and solidarity with the Cuban people, the Cuban Revolutionary Government, and FIDEL CASTRO.

Attendance at this assembly was estimated [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
not to exceed 375 persons.

Total membership of the MPIPR is believed [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] to be between 1,000 and 1,300 persons.

Among the members of the 90-man National Council of the MPIPR are adherents of other independence-seeking groups, including the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico.

The NPPR has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NEW YORK</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN JUAN</b>	DATE <b>10/21/63</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>9/23 - 10/2/63</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>JUAN MARI BRAS</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b>	TYPED BY <b>hjr</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>IS - PRN</b> <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del>	

REFERENCE:

NY report of SA [REDACTED], dated 8/21/63. **b7C**  
 San Juan report of SA [REDACTED] dated 8/30/63.  
 NY teletypes to Director 9/24, 25, 26, 27, and 10/1/63.  
 San Juan teletypes to Director dated 9/25/63, and 10/1/63.  
 San Juan airtel to Director, 10/2/63.

ENCLOSURES:

- 8 -

SAN JUAN DIVISION (11)

[REDACTED]

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 DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

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 4 - San Juan (100-4785) (enc. 8)  
       (2-65-419) (RM)  
 3 - New York (105-3002)  
       (1-65-22500)

8 OCT 23 1963

REC-3

EX-114

SUBV. CONTROL

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	By
State		10/1/63	C-14F	
State			C-14F	
State			C-14F	
State			C-14F	

Notations

Classified by 6080  
 Exempt from GDS, Category 2, 3  
 Date of Declassification Indefinite  
 LED/NSJ 4/12/77

64 NOV 1 1963



NY 105-3002

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

b1

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix section of this report.

On September 25, 1963, [REDACTED] advised that JUAN MARI BRAS departed San Juan via Eastern Airlines Flight 800 at 1:15 p.m. on this date for New York City. BRAS was accompanied by GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA, Foreign Relations Secretary of the MPIPR.

b7d

On September 26, 1963, [REDACTED] America Hotel, 145 West 47th Street, New York City, advised that a JUAN MARI BRAS and a Mr. A. MAURA registered at the hotel on the evening of September 25, 1963. BRAS was staying in Room 410 on a daily basis at the rate of \$7.00 per day and had not given an indication of his length of stay. MAURA was placed in Room 418 which he was renting at the rate of \$45.00 per week, and indicated he expected to remain at least three weeks.

b7c

[REDACTED] America Hotel, was shown a photograph of JOSE ANTONIO GONZALEZ GONZALEZ, which she identified as an individual who met the subject and MAURA at the hotel lobby at approximately 10:15 a.m. September 26, 1963.

b7c

On February 25, 1963, NY T-1 advised that JOSE ANTONIO GONZALEZ GONZALEZ continues as the MPIPR Delegate before the United Nations (UN.)

JSU

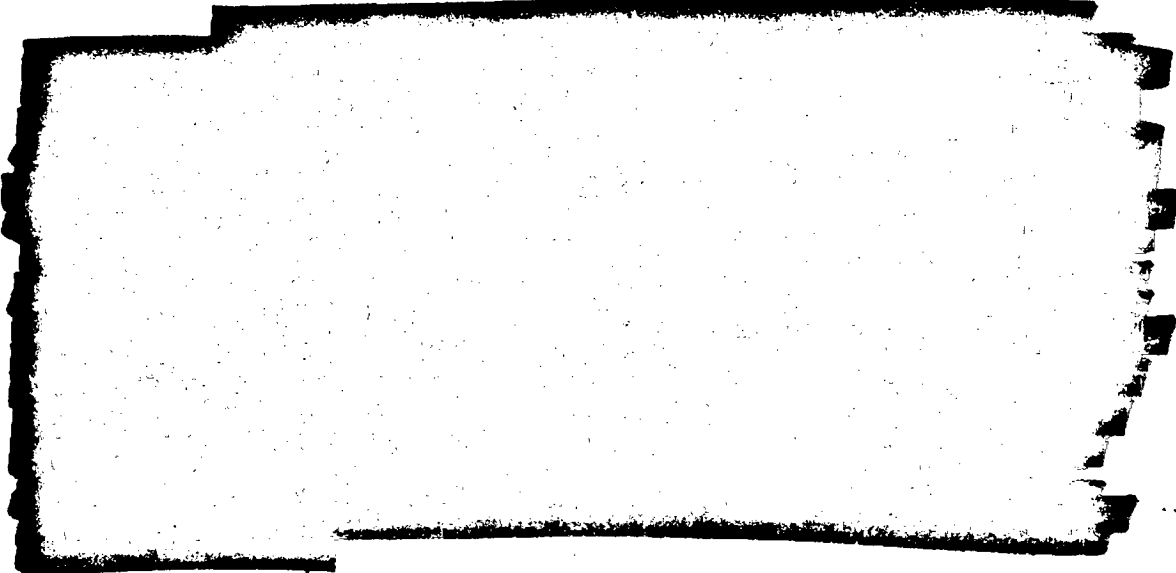


NY 105-3002

I. PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE OF JUAN MARI BRAS

Special Agents (SAs) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) observed the following activities of BRAS:

September 27, 1963



At 8:43 p.m., BRAS, GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA, and CARMEN MIRANDA were observed standing in front of the America Hotel, 145 West 47th Street. They walked to the Un Rincon Argentino Restaurant, 1626 Broadway. At 10:34 p.m., the subject, his previously mentioned companions, and GLORIA PENA were observed leaving Un Rincon Argentino Restaurant, 1626 Broadway, and proceeded to the America Hotel at 145 West 47th Street, where they entered at 10:43 p.m.

September 28, 1963

At 10:40 a.m., the subject was observed leaving the America Hotel accompanied by two unknown individuals.



NY 105-3002

Unknown individual number 1 is described as a white male of Latin extraction, 40 to 45 years of age, 5 feet 3 inches, 125 pounds, small build, black hair receding in front, medium to dark complexion with sharp features. Unknown individual number 2 is described as a white male of Latin extraction, 5 feet 8 inches, 160 pounds, medium build, dark brown curly hair, wearing a mustache, and approximately 35 years of age. They proceeded to Hector's Restaurant, 1506 Broadway, where they were observed eating breakfast.

At 11:16 a.m. they departed Hector's Restaurant and returned to Hotel America. At 2:21 p.m. they were observed departing Hotel America, and proceeded to Barbero's Bar and Grill, 111 West 47th Street, New York City.

At 4:11 p.m. they departed Barbero's Bar and Grill, walked west on 47th Street to Broadway, and turned north where they were last observed. At 5:51 p.m. they were observed entering the America Hotel, 145 West 47th Street.

At 8:05 p.m. the subject and an unknown male described as a white male of Latin extraction, 40 to 45 years old, 5 feet 3 inches, 125 pounds, small build, black hair, receding in front, medium to dark complexion, and sharp features, were observed leaving the America Hotel. The unknown individual was last observed walking west on 47th Street, towards Seventh Avenue. BRAS and an unknown individual described as a white male of Latin extraction, between 20 and 25 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches, 150 pounds, and dark hair, proceeded to Hotel Taft, 51st Street and Seventh Avenue, where they entered the cocktail lounge at 8:24 p.m. At 9:01 p.m. a group of five men were observed taking a table adjacent to that occupied by the subject and the unknown individual. There ensued a general conversation between the occupants of the two tables.



NY 105-3002

At 9:18 p.m. the subject and the unknown individual departed Hotel Taft, and proceeded to the L'Escale Restaurant, 51st Street and Ninth Avenue, where they were observed eating dinner. At 11:10 p.m. they left the L'Escale Restaurant and proceeded to 51st Street and Ninth Avenue, where they encountered an unknown individual described as a white male, 35 to 40 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches, 230 pounds, fat with jowls, and a close crew cut. They were overheard conversing in the Spanish language.

At 11:35 p.m. the fat unknown individual was last observed walking west on 51st Street. Subject and his unknown companion proceeded to Eighth Avenue and 51st Street, where they hailed a taxi bearing New York License O-14961. They were last observed going north on Eighth Avenue.

September 30, 1963

At 10:10 a.m., BRAS was observed leaving the America Hotel, walk to Lou's Shoe Shop three doors west of the hotel and get a shoeshine. He then proceeded to Whelan's Drugstore, 47th Street and Seventh Avenue, where he had breakfast. At 10:22 a.m., subject departed Whelan's Drugstore, and returned to the America Hotel.

At 10:35 a.m., subject accompanied by GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA and JOSE ANTONIO GONZALEZ GONZALEZ were observed leaving the America Hotel and enter a Checker Taxicab bearing New York License O-16396, and proceed to the UN Secretariat Building. At 10:45 a.m., they entered the UN grounds on First Avenue.

At 4:45 p.m., BRAS was observed entering the America Hotel.

At 5:10 p.m., BRAS and an unknown individual were observed leaving the America Hotel. The unknown



NY 105-3002

individual is described as a white male, 30 40 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches, 150 pounds, dark brown wavy hair, brown mustache, and wearing a blue sharkskin suit. They proceeded to the Horn and Hardart Automat, located on Broadway, between 46th Street and 47th Street. At 5:36 p.m. they departed the Horn and Hardart Automat and returned to the America Hotel.

At 6:02 p.m., the unknown individual was observed departing the America Hotel and proceeded to 48th Street, and Fifth Avenue, where he boarded a northbound bus. At 6:29 p.m. the unknown individual departed the bus at 57th Street and Seventh Avenue, and proceeded to the bus stop at 57th Street and Madison Avenue. At 6:51 p.m. the unknown individual boarded a northbound bus number 2889, and proceeded to 117th Street and Madison Avenue.

At 7:14 p.m. he departed the bus at 117th Street, and Madison Avenue, and walked to 154 East 124th Street, where he was observed yelling at someone in the second or third floor front apartment. At 7:29 p.m. the unknown individual walked from 154 East 124th Street to the corner of 118th Street and Second Avenue, where he was last observed at 7:39 p.m.

October 1, 1963

At 11:21 a.m., BRAS was observed departing the America Hotel and proceeded to Whelan's Drugstore, 47th Street, and Seventh Avenue, where he was observed eating lunch. At 11:51 a.m., BRAS left the drugstore, purchased some newspapers, and returned to the America Hotel.

At 1:50 p.m., BRAS was observed departing the America Hotel, accompanied by JOSE ANTONIO GONZALEZ GONZALEZ, GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA, and CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ. They walked to 47th Street and Sixth Avenue,



NY 105-3002

where they hailed a taxicab bearing New York License 0-1777. They proceeded to the UN Secretariat Building where they entered at 2:22 p.m.

At 4:29 p.m. GABRIEL VICENTE MAURA was observed entering the America Hotel. At 4:38 p.m., BRAS accompanied by JOSE ANTONIO GONZALEZ GONZALEZ, and CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ were observed entering the America Hotel. At 4:40 p.m., the above individuals exited the America Hotel. BRAS and CARRERA were observed carrying luggage.

At 4:46 p.m., BRAS and CARRERA entered a taxicab bearing New York license number 0-20111. GONZALEZ and MAURA were last observed waving to the subjects from in front of the America Hotel. BRAS and CARRERA proceeded to Eastern Airlines Terminal Building at New York International Airport, via the Midtown Tunnel, the Long Island Expressway, and the Van Wyck Expressway. At 6:01 p.m. they arrived at the airport where they were observed in conversation at an Eastern Airlines ticket counter. At 6:24 p.m., they placed their luggage into a taxicab bearing New York License 0-24724, entered it, and were last observed leaving at the Eastern Airlines Terminal loading area.

At 6:35 p.m., [REDACTED] Eastern Airlines Reservations Clerk, Terminal Building, New York International Airport, advised that BRAS and CARRERA missed the 6 p.m. flight to San Juan, Puerto Rico, on which they had reservations, and were attempting to transfer their reservations to the Pan American Airways Flight 295, departing at 6:45 p.m. for San Juan. b7C

At 7:20 p.m., [REDACTED] Pan American Reservations and Ticket Operations, Pan American Airways Terminal, New York International Airport, advised the following two tickets were stapled together and concerned two passengers who are aboard Pan American 6:45 p.m. flight to San Juan, Puerto Rico, which was due to arrive 10:10 p.m. San Juan time: b7C



NY 105-3002

A return trip ticket from Eastern Airlines made out to JUAN MARI BRAS, and a one way Eastern Airlines ticket made out to Dr. CARLOS CARRERA.

At 10:15 p.m., JUAN MARI BRAS and CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ, President of the Mesa de Lares, were observed departing Pan American Airways Flight Number 295 at San Juan International Airport.

[REDACTED] b7D

A characterization of the Mesa De Lares appears in the appendix section of this report.

An April 8, 1943 article appeared in the newspaper "El Imparcial" published in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which contained a statement of resolution and guiding principles of the Pro Independence Movement in Puerto Rico. One of the members of this organization was CARLOS CARRERA BENITEZ.

On April 5, 1963, NY T-1 advised that CARMEN MARIA MIRANDA QUINTERO was Secretary General of the New York Mission of the MPIPR. (S) u

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b1



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
New York, New York

October 21, 1963

In Reply, Please  
Refer to File No.  
BU-105-292  
NY-105-3002

Title            Juan Mari Bras

Character    Internal Security - Puerto Rican  
Nationalists

Reference is made to the report of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] dated and captioned as above at NY.

All sources(except any listed below) whose identities  
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished  
reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions  
of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to  
your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed  
outside your agency.



# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (65-68323)

DATE: 10/23/63

FROM : *Paul Butts*  
SAC, NEWARK (105-14723) (RUC)

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
ESPIONAGE - CUBA  
IS - PRN

Re San Juan letter to Bureau dated 9/9/63 captioned, "JUAN MARI BRAS; IS - PRN" and New York letter to Bureau dated 10/8/63 captioned, "JUAN MARI BRAS; ESPIONAGE - CUBA".

In accordance with New York suggestion in referenced New York letter, the Newark Division is discontinuing any investigation of ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ as previously requested in referenced San Juan letter to Bureau.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - 105-292  
2 - San Juan (65-419) (RM)  
1 - 100-4785  
2 - New York (65-22500) (RM)  
1 - 105-3002  
1 - Newark  
MTB/jtm  
(8)

REC-46

8 OCT 25 1963

NAT. INT. SEC.

64 NOV 11 1963

*Sub 100*

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN



FBI

Date: 10/25/63

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (65-68323)  
 FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (65-419)  
 SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
 ESPIONAGE-CUBA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- ② Bureau (RM)  
 1-Miami (65- ) (Info) (RM)  
 1-New York (65-22500) (Info) (RM)  
 3-San Juan (65-419)  
 (1-100-4785) (JUAN MARI BRAS)

Classified by 6080  
 Exempt from GDS Category 3  
 Date of Declassification Indefinite  
 10/25/63 8/18/72

(8)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED

Per: [Signature] SEC

CLASSIFICATION RETAINED BY 65-68323/46  
 EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2, 3, 4, 5  
 DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

ORIGINAL FILED IN



SJ 65-419

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

Contact with Air France, San Juan, revealed that no previous reservation had been made by MARI BRAS for departure on Flight 991 and that MARI BRAS had not been in contact with Air France. It was determined that a reservation had been made in the name of MARI BRAS on Flight 991

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

San Juan Office sources have reported no indications that MARI BRAS was planning this trip and the San Juan Office is unaware of the circumstances surrounding this proposed trip. This office will continue to be alert for any travel by MARI BRAS and immediately advise Bureau and interested offices. (u)

- otra vez  
me confundí  
con Don Juan



FBI

Date: 10/31/63

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)  
 FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)  
 SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
 IS - PRN

Re San Juan airtel to Bureau 10/25/63.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination setting forth information in referenced airtel.

One copy of this letterhead memorandum is being designated for Miami for information and two copies to New York for information.

The letterhead memorandum is being disseminated locally to ONI, 471st INTC Detachment and OSI.

San Juan Office will continue to be alert for any travel plans by MARI BRAS and will immediately advise Bureau and interested offices.

4-Bureau (RM) (Enc. 9) **ENCLOSURE**  
 (1-65-68323)  
 1-Miami (RM) (Enc. 1) (Info) (65- )  
 2-New York (RM) (Enc. 2) (105-3002) (Info)  
 (1-65-22500)  
 2-San Juan  
 (1-100-4785)  
 (1-65-419)  
 JCB:zhc  
 (9)

*incl - State, CIA, ONI, OSI,  
 ACST, Interior, AAG, Hagley*

*11/4/63*

*WHE*

*8*

EX-115  
REC-16

5 NOV 1 1963

STBY CONTROL

66 NOV 7 1963

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



FBI

Date: 10/31/63

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)  
FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (100-4785)  
SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
IS - PRN

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**ENCLOSURE**  
EX-115  
REC-16  
105-292-135  
4-Bureau (RM) (Enc. 9) (1-65-68323)  
1-Miami (RM) (Enc. 1) (Info) (65-  
2-New York (RM) (Enc. 2) (105-3002) (Info)  
(1-65-22500)  
2-San Juan  
(1-100-4785) (Info) (105-3002) (Info)  
(1-65-419)  
JCB:zhc  
(9)  
incl - State, CIA, ONI, OSI,  
ACSF, Interservice, AAG, Yeagley  
11/4/63  
WHE/mnd  
U. E. Wick  
SUBV. CONTROL

66 NOV 7 1963

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



RE JUAN MARI BRAS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

JUAN MARI BRAS is the self-admitted Secretary General of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR). (S)

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix (S)

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. (S)

[REDACTED]



APPENDIX

RE JUAN MARI BRAS

1

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

On June 20, 1960, JUAN MARI BRAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, advised Special Agents of the FBI that this organization was formed January 11, 1959, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico and officially came into being at the MPIPR Constituent Convention on November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico. It was formed by a group of former leaders of the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUENO (PIP), a formerly legally constituted political party, who were dissatisfied with PIP policies and decided to form a more active organization to indoctrinate the Puerto Rican people with the ideal of Puerto Rican independence.

Although the MPIPR does not advocate violence, it will accept anyone who believes in Puerto Rican independence regardless of his beliefs on the use of violence provided he agrees with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles. The organization contains both Nationalists and Communists within its membership, but does not assume responsibility for actions they may take not sanctioned by the group. Speaking on behalf of himself and his organization, MARI BRAS said the MPIPR does not currently advocate violence as a means of obtaining Puerto Rican independence only because he felt that violence would be ineffective against the power of the U. S. Government. MARI BRAS stated that he believed 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.

Headquarters of the MPIPR are located at Rio Piedras, a suburb of San Juan.

Issues of the MPIPR "Carta Semanal" (Weekly Letter), self-described as a weekly bulletin from MPIPR headquarters to the various branches, during 1963 have reported that MPIPR branches have been established, at least in name, in almost every town and hamlet in Puerto Rico and in Chicago, Illinois and New York City.



The Fourth Annual General Assembly of the MPIPR was held December 9, 1962, at Hato Tejas and, according to press reports, one of the resolutions passed by this body was one of complete support and solidarity with the Cuban people, the Cuban Revolutionary Government, and FIDEL CASTRO.

Attendance at this assembly was estimated [REDACTED] not to exceed 375 persons.

Total membership of the MPIPR is believed by [REDACTED] to be between 1,000 and 1,300 persons.

Among the members of the 90-man National Council of the MPIPR are adherants of other independence-seeking groups, including the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico.

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





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Post Office Box 4312  
San Juan 21, Puerto Rico

October 31, 1963

JUAN MARI BRAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - PUERTO RICAN NATIONALIST

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

XEROX

NOV 5 1963



RE JUAN MARI BRAS

[REDACTED] b7C  
b7D

Contact with Air France, San Juan, revealed that no previous reservation had been made by MARI BRAS for departure on Flight 991 and that MARI BRAS had not been in contact with Air France. It was determined that a reservation had been made in the name of MARI BRAS on Flight 991 [REDACTED] b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

JUAN MARI BRAS is the self-admitted Secretary General of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR). (S)

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the appendix (S)

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. (S)

[REDACTED]



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (105-3002) (P)

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
IS-PRN  
ESPIONAGE-CUBA

DATE: 11/7/63

Re NY reports of SA [REDACTED] 8/21/63 and  
10/21/63. (u)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There is no such address as 540 West 15th Street, NYC

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 3-Bureau (105-292) (RM)
- (1 - 65-68323)
- 2-San Juan (RM)
- (1 - 65-419)
- 1-NY 105-3002
- 1-NY 65-22500
- 1-NY [REDACTED]

REC-45

105-292-136

3 NOV 12 1963

DEH:EG  
(8)

CLASS. & EXT. BY 3908DPK/AG  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 (6)  
DATE OF REVIEW 11.7.93

58 NOV 2 1963

SECRET 5-63-79

SUBV CONTROL

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NY 105-3002

~~SECRET~~

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[REDACTED]

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~~SECRET~~



NY 105-3002

[REDACTED]

b7d

[REDACTED]

b7d

NYO indices contain no references identical with

[REDACTED]

b7c

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, N.Y.

[REDACTED]

(u)

b7d



# Mari Bras Says Youth Will Build A Socialist Puerto Rico

By Carl Jerome

(Editor's Note: Carl Jerome attended the MPI youth conference as a delegate of the Progressive Labor Movement. Below, we print his report on that meeting.)

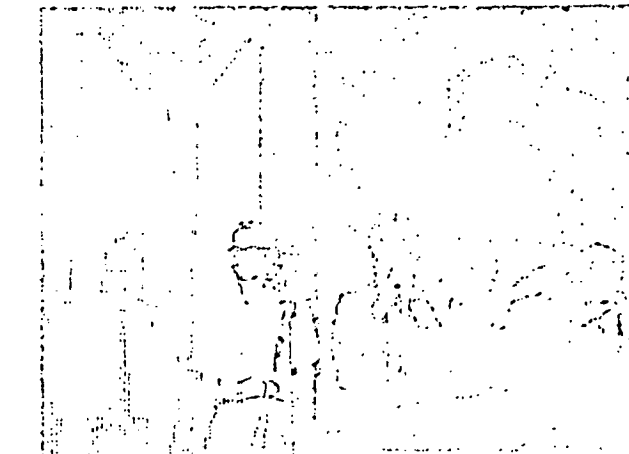
Some 500 young people packed the Paz Theater in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico on September 9, for the Third National Conference of the youth of the Pro-Independence Movement (MPI). Amid bursts of tumultuous applause, the conference adopted a declaration condemning the domination of Puerto Rico by the U. S. and setting as the principal task of the youth and all Puerto Rican people, the establishment of a free republic.

Highlighting the conference were inspiring addresses by Dr. Juan Mari Bras, secretary-general of the MPI, and Mario Baiges, MPI youth leader. Dr. Mari Bras was greeted with a tremendous ovation when he declared that the youth would win independence and socialism for Puerto Rico. Just back from a trip to Europe and Algeria, he denounced the so-called peace proposal to establish Latin America as a nuclear-free zone with the exception of Puerto Rico.

The main declaration adopted by the conference named the working people of Puerto Rico as the main source of strength for the independence struggle.

The early part of the conference was taken up with speeches of solidarity by foreign delegates. About 15 guests from the Dominican Republic were present, representing the Dominican People's Movement (Movimiento Popular Dominicano), the 14th of June Movement (Movimiento Catorce de Junio), Art & Liberation (Arte y Liberación), and various student organizations. Many of the Dominicans had been searched, and their belongings taken, by U. S. officials at the airport.

Two guests from the U. S. were Pete Camejo from the Young Socialist Alliance, and myself. The remarks I made to the conference first expressed PLM's complete support for the Puerto Rican independence struggle, and emphasized that "The North American millionaires, headed by John F. Kennedy, that exploit Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, are not only enemies of the Puerto Rican and Dominican peoples, but enemies also of the people of the United States." These remarks also out-



A STANDING OVATION from 500 delegates at the MPI Youth Conference in Puerto Rico, for Prof. Jose Maria Lima (left) who took part in the U.S. student trip to Cuba last summer. MPI youth leader Ramon Arbona is standing next to Lima.

lined PLM's work to establish a government of the working people in the U. S. and warned against disguises and tactics that people on top may use against a revolutionary struggle.

Camejo told of the persecution of left-wingers in the U. S., citing the case of the three YSA officers in Ithaca who face possible jail sentences for their socialist activities. He also told of the Negro people's struggle for freedom.

The conference was officially dedicated to the hero of Puerto Rico, Don Pedro Albizu Campos. In a moving address of the imprisoned 72-year old national leader, he thanked the podium.

The delegates cheered when Professor Jose Maria Lima was introduced. Mr. Lima, a mathematics professor at the University of Puerto Rico, was one of the 50 people who went to Cuba this summer "to see for themselves." He has been under attack by a small, anti-socialist group in Puerto Rico, composed mainly of counter-revolutionary Cubans. To the great pleasure of the conference participants, Prof. Lima reaffirmed his Marxist-Leninist beliefs.

For several days the anti-Castro group picketed the University demanding Lima's dismissal from the faculty, but their pickets were greatly outnumbered by pro-independence counter-pickets, many of whom came from the MPI conference.

65-68-3-3  
\* \* \* NOT RECORDED

On September 23, declared a day of international solidarity with Puerto Rico, several PLM members held a rally for independence in New York, sponsored by Mesa de Larés -- a coordinating committee of Puerto Rican independentist groups, including AP (Patriotic Action), MPI, and the Nationalist Party. The meeting took place at the Huntspoint Palace.

## THE NEXT ISSUE:

- HOFFA AND ROCKEFELLER
- THE INDUSTRIAL SOIL BANK
- THE ROLE OF WOMEN
- PL'S ELECTION CAMPAIGN
- RAIL WORKERS: A ROCKY ROAD
- NEW U.S. PLAN TO INVADE CUBA



## Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (65-68323)

SECRET

DATE: 11/12/63

SAC, NEW YORK (65-22500)

JUNE

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS

Re San Juan letter to Bureau, 10/29/63. (u)

A review of the subject's file discloses that he stayed at the America Hotel, 145 West 47th Street, NYC the last time he was in NYC, and the previous times during 1963 at the Bristol Hotel, 129 West 48th Street. It is expected that the subject will continue his usual habit and register at one of these places. (u)

[REDACTED] has been contacted many times by SAs of the NYO for over ten years. [REDACTED] prior to 1960 was [REDACTED] where he was frequently contacted by SAs of the NYO. (u)

2-Bureau (65-68323) RM  
1-San Juan (65-419) RM  
1-New York (65-22500)

DEH:EG  
(4)

NOT RECORDED  
102 NOV 17 1963

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
LED/39 SECRET 5/24/77

14 NOV 1963

NAT. INT. SEC.

DONOHUE

SPEC. MAIL-RM.



FBI

Date: 11/13/63

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)  
 FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 Sub I)  
 SUBJECT: GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
 COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM  
 SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION  
 (OO: SJ)

In connection with the counterintelligence program of the San Juan Office we submit for your consideration the following material which we propose to mail anonymously to members of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) and a few other selected individuals in the Puerto Rican subversive field. This material would be mimeographed in the Spanish language in the office on stock that could not be identified with the Bureau and would be mailed in inexpensive envelopes purchased locally and bearing a \$.05, first class stamp.

The envelopes containing the mimeographed materials would be mailed from a locale other than Metropolitan San Juan and the city of Arecibo would probably be the site used since it is sufficiently large that attention would not be attracted by a relatively large mailing. We propose to use the partial mailing list of the MPIPR which consists of about 275 names with an additional dozen or so individuals added.

Following is the text we propose:

3-Bureau (RM)  
 1-San Juan (105-3353 Sub I)  
 RLW:zhc  
 (4)

REC-50

EX-111

C. C. Wick

SUEV. CONTROL

Approved: TSB  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



" A 'COLONIAL' VOTE IS BETTER THAN NO VOTE AT ALL.

"In 1959 we looked to the newborn MPI as the fresh forward looking progressive group that would lead us out of the darkness of colonialism into the sunshine of independence. We threw in our lot with youthful, Licenciado JUAN MARI BRAS and the prospects for our national liberation looked bright indeed, but soon disillusionment reared its head for our progressive forward looking leaders, after achieving commendable organizational results, seized on the tired old electoral abstention dodge and committed the MPI to that sterile gambit.

"Electoral abstention has failed to bring us a step nearer to independence; in fact, it has actually aided Populares and Statehooders to retain control of our government. Today, we are even farther than ever from ever achieving our rightful place in the family of Antillean nations.

"Now we hear of controversy in the San Juan Central Mission of the MPI as a few demand the right to vote and to show at the polls that the spirit of independence is not dead. We hear that our young MPI leader has threatened those persons who advocate voting with expulsion from the MPI. We say--- let us all flock to the polls and make the vote of the independentists heard throughout Puerto Rico. It is better to vote in the colonial election than not to vote at all.

"PRO VOTING GROUP OF THE MPIPR  
"(Grupo Pro Voto del MPI)"

You should note that in the past few days [redacted] President of the Partido Comunista Puertorriqueno (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP), and also a member of the MPIPR ninety-member National Council, has indicated he advocates voting and has locked horns with JUAN MARI BRAS over the MPIPR policy of electoral abstinence. This is an issue which is important within the group and we feel that the dissemination of the proposed material above will create a good measure of dissension.



SJ-105-3353 Sub I

at the upcoming Fifth Annual General Assembly of the  
MPIPR to be held November 30-December 1, 1963.

It is our intention to mail this material  
on November 25 so that it will be in the hands of its  
recipients immediately prior to the General Assembly .

It would be of assistance if the Bureau  
will consult the Laboratory and advise if the mimeographed  
stock used in the field is in any way identifiable  
with either the Bureau or the Federal Government.

We request Bureau authorization to put the  
aforementioned plan into effect immediately.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 11/18/63

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 SUB I)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.

Re SJlets, 9/27/63 and 9/11/63.

For the information of the Bureau, the following instances demonstrate additional reaction to the anti FUPI pamphlet and illustrations of the pamphlet's affect on the FUPI:

On 10/1/63, [REDACTED] advised that the FUPI composed and distributed a handbill attacking the newspaper "El Mundo" for publishing information contained in the anti FUPI pamphlet.

[REDACTED]

The informant reported that the reaction of senior FUPI members to the [REDACTED] handbill was overwhelmingly against [REDACTED]. The informant related that the general consensus of older and more mature FUPI members was that [REDACTED] was "acting like a child" in his ridiculous threat to bring a libel action against "El Mundo." The informant specifically

- (3) - Bureau (105-93124) (RM)
- 1 - New York (105-32872) (RM)
- 4 - San Juan (105-3353 Sub I)
  - (1 - 105-3079) (FUPI)
  - (1 - [REDACTED])

RWS:mar  
(8)

REC-48. NOV 20 1963

59 DEC 2 1963

EX-114  
Classified by 6078  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

The SJO holds as extremely significant the fact that [REDACTED] was not selected as President (presiding officer) of the 8th Annual FUPI Congress held on 10/16-17/63.

[REDACTED] advised that several key FUPI members felt that [REDACTED] was under heavy strain, which was clearly manifested in [REDACTED] threat against "El Mundo" as outlined above. The informant reported that [REDACTED] was elected President of the Congress instead of [REDACTED]. It is well known that [REDACTED] is more conservative and moderate in his views than [REDACTED]. It is the general consensus that [REDACTED] does not have the organizational ability which [REDACTED] possesses. The SJO is of the opinion that this is one reason for the dismal turn out and performance at the FUPI Annual Congress. This, of course, can be traced indirectly to [REDACTED] fanatical attack on "El Mundo" for publishing portions of the anti FUPI pamphlet.

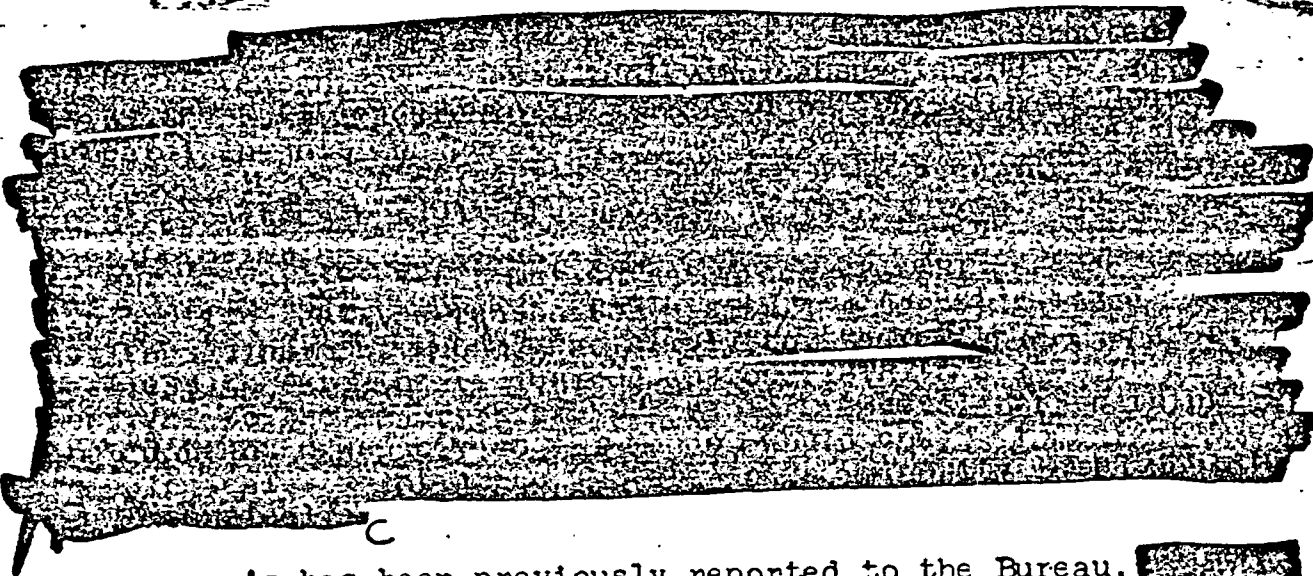
at [REDACTED] advised that the 10/23/63 FUPI meeting newly elected FUPI President [REDACTED] informed that he had recently been in contact with JUAN MARI ERAS, Secretary General of the MPIPR, with regard to [REDACTED] proposal to sue the newspaper "El Mundo" for libel for publishing a portion of the anti FUPI pamphlet. [REDACTED] advised that MARI strongly advised the FUPI not to undertake any such action against "El Mundo." [REDACTED] reported that MARI's reasons against legal action were as follows:

1. "The struggle would be carried to the imperialist court, where an attempt would be made to destroy the FUPI."
2. "'Falsified' material could be used and the FUPI could be placed in a weak position."

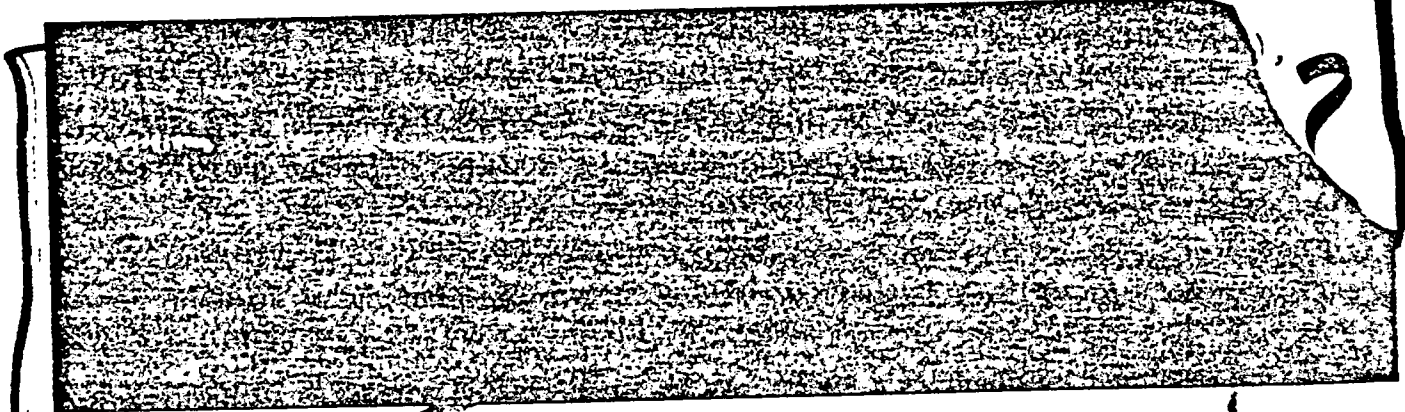
CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL



As has been previously reported to the Bureau, [redacted] was a major policy maker and behind the scenes leader of the FUPI. His recent ill advised threat against "El Mundo" has considerably weakened his position in the FUPI, and very probably in the MPIPR. This was brought about indirectly by [redacted] radical reaction to the anti FUPI pamphlet. It will be noted that the FUPI had made no attempt to deny or explain away the text of the pamphlet nor the photographs of [redacted] and [redacted] which appeared therein. The FUPI's silence in this regard has given even greater credence to the anti FUPI pamphlet.





UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-292)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

11/19/63

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (105-3002) (P)

SUBJECT: JUAN MARI BRAS  
IS-PRN  
ESPIONAGE-CUBA

CLASSIFIED BY 2955 PDS JPC  
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2  
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE  
10-26-78

ReNYlets to Director, 10/8/63 and 11/7/63.

[REDACTED] b7d

[REDACTED] b7d

[REDACTED] b7C  
b7d

[REDACTED] b7C  
b7d

[REDACTED] b7C  
b7d

- 3-Bureau (105-292) RM  
(1 - 65-68323)
- 2-San Juan (100-4785) RM  
(1 - 65-419)
- 1-NY 105-3002
- 1-NY 65-22500

REC-13

105-292-137

4 NOV 21 1963

DEH:EG  
(7)

74 DEC 3 1963

EX-116

NAT. INT. SEC.



NY 105-3002

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

b1

NVO indices contain no reference identifiable to

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7D

LEAD

NEW YORK

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



SAC, San Juan (105-3353 Sub 1)

November 20, 1963

REC-50

Director, FBI (105-93124) 112

GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE  
FOR PUERTO RICO  
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION

Reurairtel 11/13/63.

Bureau authority is granted to mimeograph a letter in the Spanish language and mail copies to selected individuals in the Puerto Rican subversive field and to members of Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico as set out in reairtel.

You should purchase the mimeograph paper and envelopes locally being sure that the material can in no way be traced to the Bureau. You should use regular five cent postage stamps and the letters should be mailed in such a manner that the mailing cannot be traced to the Bureau or to any Bureau employee.

Keep the Bureau informed of results obtained from this counterintelligence procedure.

NOTE:

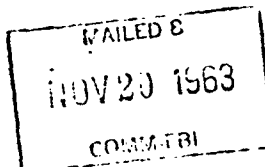
Reairtel requested Bureau authority to mail letter in the Spanish language to MPIPR members and other selected individuals to exploit controversy within MPIPR over the advisability of a policy of abstaining from voting in the forthcoming elections in Puerto Rico. A part of the membership led by [REDACTED] who is also President of the CP of Puerto Rico as well as a member of the MPIPR National Council, advocates voting and the other faction headed by Juan Mari Bras, Secretary General of MPIPR, favors abstinence from voting. The letter will be signed "Pro Voting Group of the MPIPR" and will point out the advantages of voting in the elections.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BGLP:cad

(5)

NOV 20 1963



MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐



FBI

Date: 12/3/63

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_ (Type in plain text or code)

Via Airtel REGISTERED MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (105-New) RUC.

JUAN MARI BLAZ  
(Possibly Juan Mari y Blaz)  
IS - C

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum setting forth information concerning captioned individual as Bureau may desire to disseminate this information to CIA or other interested agencies. (u)

Two copies of the letterhead memorandum are being enclosed for San Juan in view of their interest in this matter and one for Philadelphia for information.

- 3 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (RM)
- 2 - San Juan (Encl. 2) (RM)
- 1 - Philadelphia (Encl. 1) (Info) (RM)
- 1 - Richmond

REB/el1  
(7)

DEC 5 1953



RH 105-New

[REDACTED]

The letterhead memorandum is being classified  
"Confidential" in view of the fact that information contained  
therein may concern the security of this country.

cl



ST 65-419

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

To date no other source has reported information concerning the contemplated move set out above; however, we are alert to such a possibility and will follow this closely. (u)

The 1/13/64 issue of the "San Juan Star, a daily English language newspaper published in San Juan, reported the subject speaking to the MPIP 90 Member National Council on 1/10/64 at which time the subject expressed strong sympathy and solidarity with the people of Panama in the current Panama-US dispute. (u)

The Bureau and interested offices will be kept advised of pertinent developments. (u)



# Plebiscite Proposal for Puerto Rico Assailed

By JOHN SCHUYLER

THERE CAN BE no free choice of their future by the people of Puerto Rico while the island remains under U.S. domination, Juan Mari Bras told an audience of 150 at Adelphi Hall Friday.

Mari Bras, secretary-general of the Puerto Rico Pro-Independence Movement, thus stated the attitude of the independence forces to the proposal of a "plebiscite" in Puerto Rico on independence, statehood or continuing the present "commonwealth" status.

He pointed out that no territory ever admitted to the Union as a state had developed its own national identity as Puerto Rico has done for more than four centuries. Such a development had begun in Hawaii in the 19th century, but was quickly overwhelmed by U.S. settlers and business influence, he pointed out, but Puerto Rico was ready to become an independent nation 65 years ago when the invasion of U.S. forces put a stop to its nation ambition.

Only when all power has been handed over to the Puerto Rican people can they make a valid decision on their future status, he declared. Under those conditions, he continued, a constituent assembly of Puerto Ricans might draw up a plan for a "commonwealth" government, continuing the present association with the U.S. But the U.S. Congress, he predicted, would reject such a plan, there being no precedent in history for the U.S. to associate itself with any nation on the latter nation's

terms. Therefore, he concluded, independence is the only viable solution.

The much-advertised economic development of Puerto Rico, he said, is actually transferring the island's commerce, industry and agriculture to U.S. corporations. Tax concessions to the mainland firms are subsidies paid out of the pockets of Puerto Ricans, he said, and in a few years if this continues, the economic life of Puerto Rico will be entirely in the hands of mainland business. This makes the question of independence an urgent one, he declared.

The commonwealth government, he pointed out, promises 30 percent returns to U.S. investors, and this, he asserted, is done at the cost of tax income and workers' wages. The latter are now one third of those in mainland plants in the same industries, he declared.

Added to these problems, he said, the U.S. armed forces now occupy 13 percent of Puerto Rico's arable land.

On the offshore island of Vieques, the Navy holds 26,000 of 33,000 acres. During the periodic Caribbean maneuvers, the fishing industry is brought to a standstill.

Also, nuclear bases are a danger to the densely populated island.

Juan Mari Bras will speak in Spanish on Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. at the Estonian Hall, 125th St. and Lexington Ave. and on Dec. 15 at 8 p.m. at Parkway Plaza, 1110 Eastern Parkway, room 8, in Brooklyn.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOT RECORDED  
141 DEC 19 1963

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker (Midweek) \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 12-16-63

74 DEC 28 1963



**CONFIDENTIAL**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**  
**BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH**

TO: RPA - Mr. Topping

DATE: December 17, 1963

FROM: INR/DCO - John E. MacFarland, Director  
Intelligence Staff

SUBJECT: MARI BRAS, JUAN

REF: Telephonic conversation of 12/17/63.

In compliance with the reference, information concerning the Subject from INR Records is forwarded.

This file should be given control and limited distribution in your office. Persons who review the file should sign the inside File Control Sheet. UNDER NO CONDITIONS SHOULD ANY MATERIAL BE REMOVED FROM THIS FILE.

PLEASE HAVE THIS MATERIAL RETURNED WITHIN TWENTY-FIVE DAYS FROM DATE OF RECEIPT TO THE UNDERSTATED. ROOM 5223-A.

If you wish to retain it for a longer period, please advise: call 5221 or 5252.

Enclosure(c):

SY File re SUBJ - (Volume II) (#39-60148)

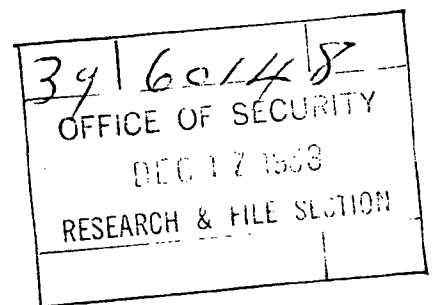
SY File Copy

**CONFIDENTIAL**

GROUP 5  
Declassified following

detachment

INR, LEO: JCrowley:jcm





## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-75715)

DATE: 12/11/62

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (66-229)

JUNE

SUBJECT: MPTPR  
IS - N  
(San Juan 105-3401)

Within the past month captioned organization moved its headquarters to new offices at Avenida Ponce de Leon #1122 (2nd floor) Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. A few days after this move, JUAN MARI BRAS (Bufile 105-292), Secretary General of captioned organization, moved his law offices to the same address on the second floor in adjoining space. (u)

The MPIPR and MARI BRAS have consistently displayed a thoroughly pro-Cuban and pro-CASTRO attitude, which even during the recent Cuban crisis continued and was strengthened. The members of the Board of Directors of the MPIPR also displayed a thoroughly pro-Cuban attitude. (u)

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-15-2000 BY 60322

4 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - San Juan (66-229)  
RLW:mjh  
(5)

REC-28

11 DEC 18 1962

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2,3  
Declassification Indefinite

LEO/cjg 8/29/77


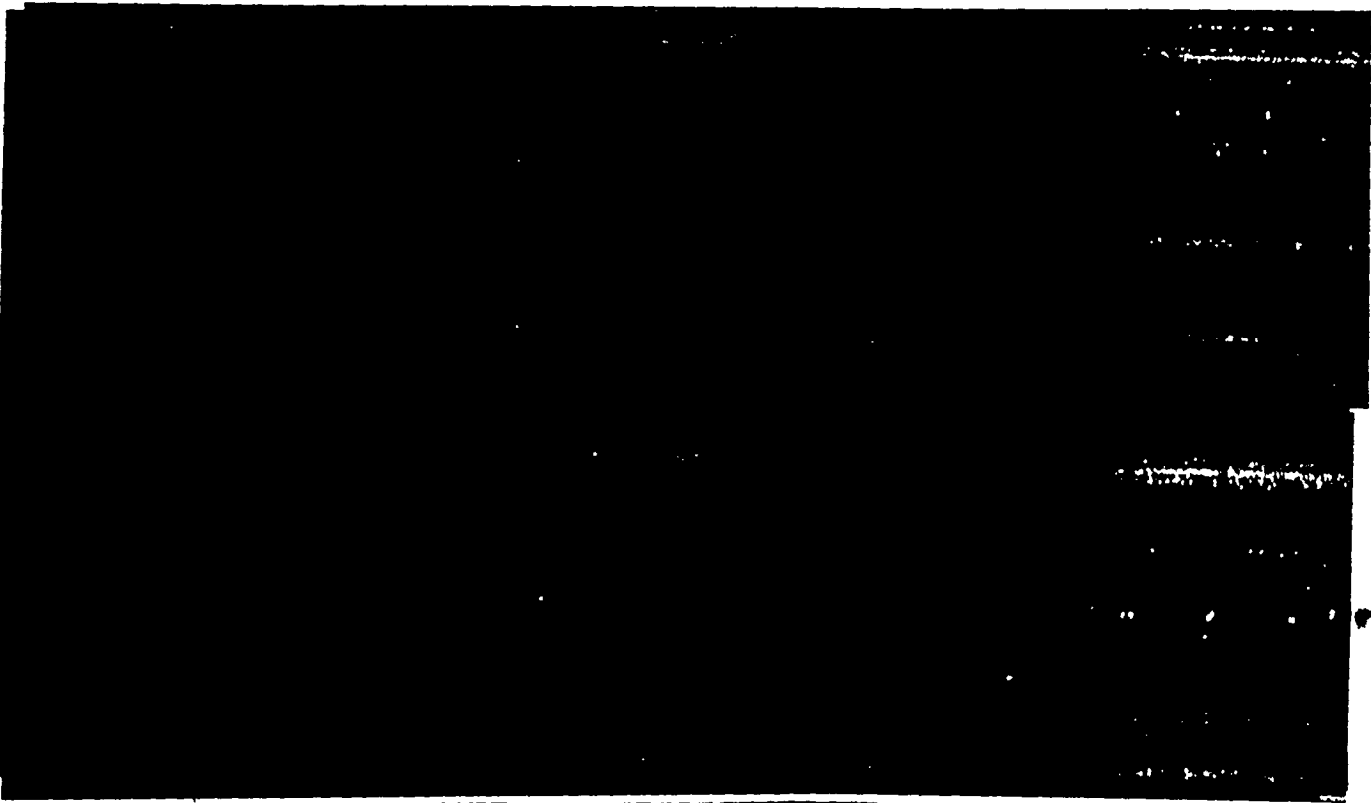
SUBV. CONTR.

SPEC.

AUG 15 1966



9. (CONTINUED FROM PAGE #2)



(S)  
On 3/18/65, source advised on another picket to be held in front of the Governor's palace in protest over the selling of mining property to U.S. interests, as well as a "sit-in" scheduled for the following day at the University in favor of University Reform. This information was also made available to the local police. (u)

On 3/19/65, the source advised that a telegram of solidarity had been sent to the subject on that date from the Committee of Soviet Women expressing solidarity with the women (u)



SJ 65-419

9. (CONTINUED FROM PAGE #2)


of Puerto Rico in their fight for Puerto Rico's independence. (u)

On 3/24/65, the source advised of an MPIPR plan to conduct a Mother's Day picket at the Women's Penitentiary in Vega Alta, Puerto Rico, which information was immediately supplied to the Police of Puerto Rico. (u)

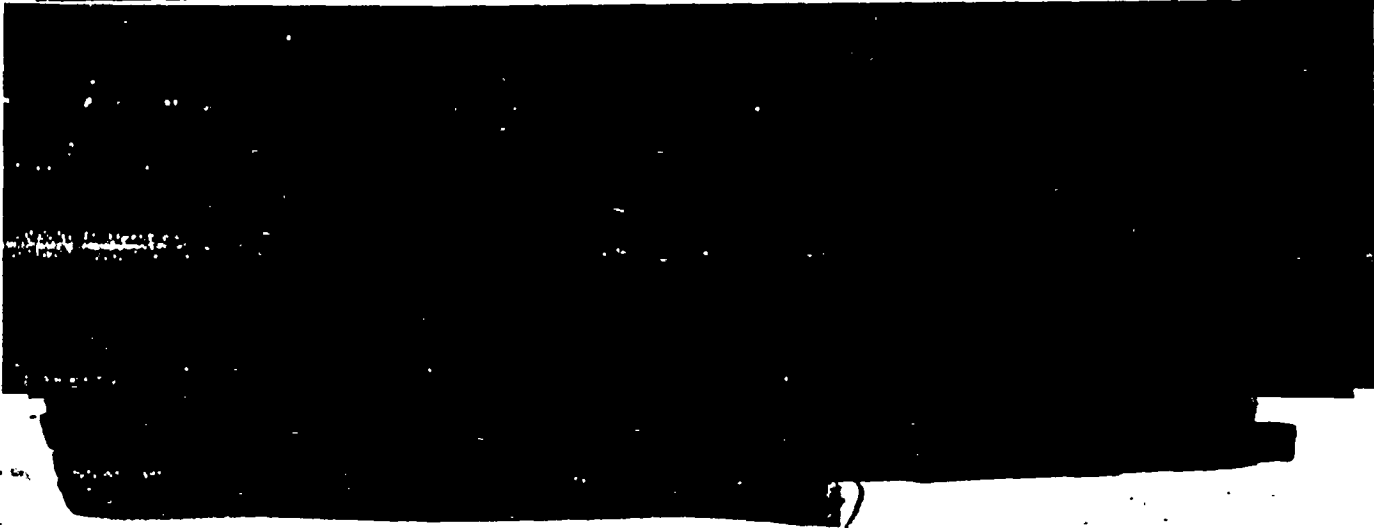
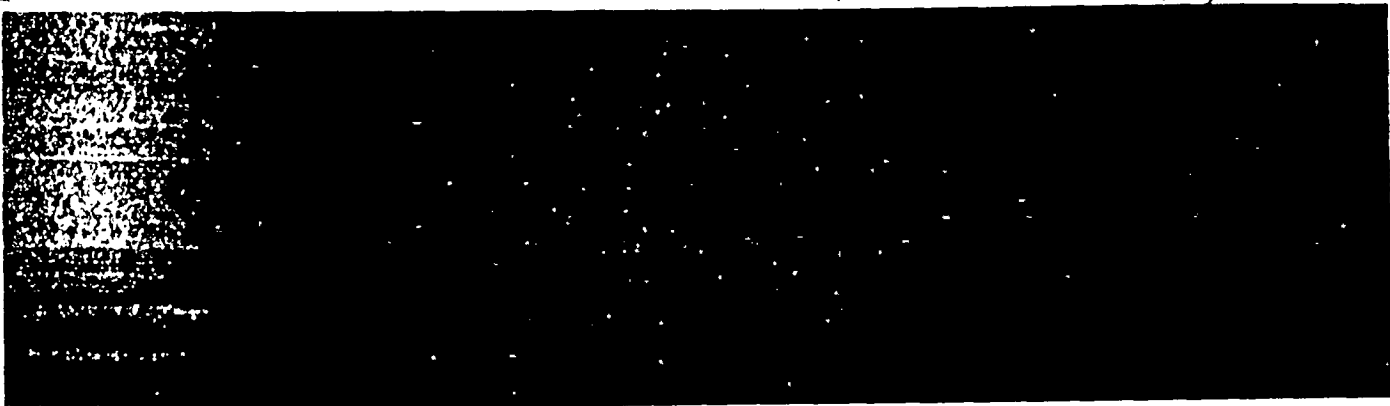
On 4/1/65, the source made available information concerning a planned picket at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) on that date by the FUPI in support of University Reform. This information was also provided to the POPR. (u)




SJ 65-419



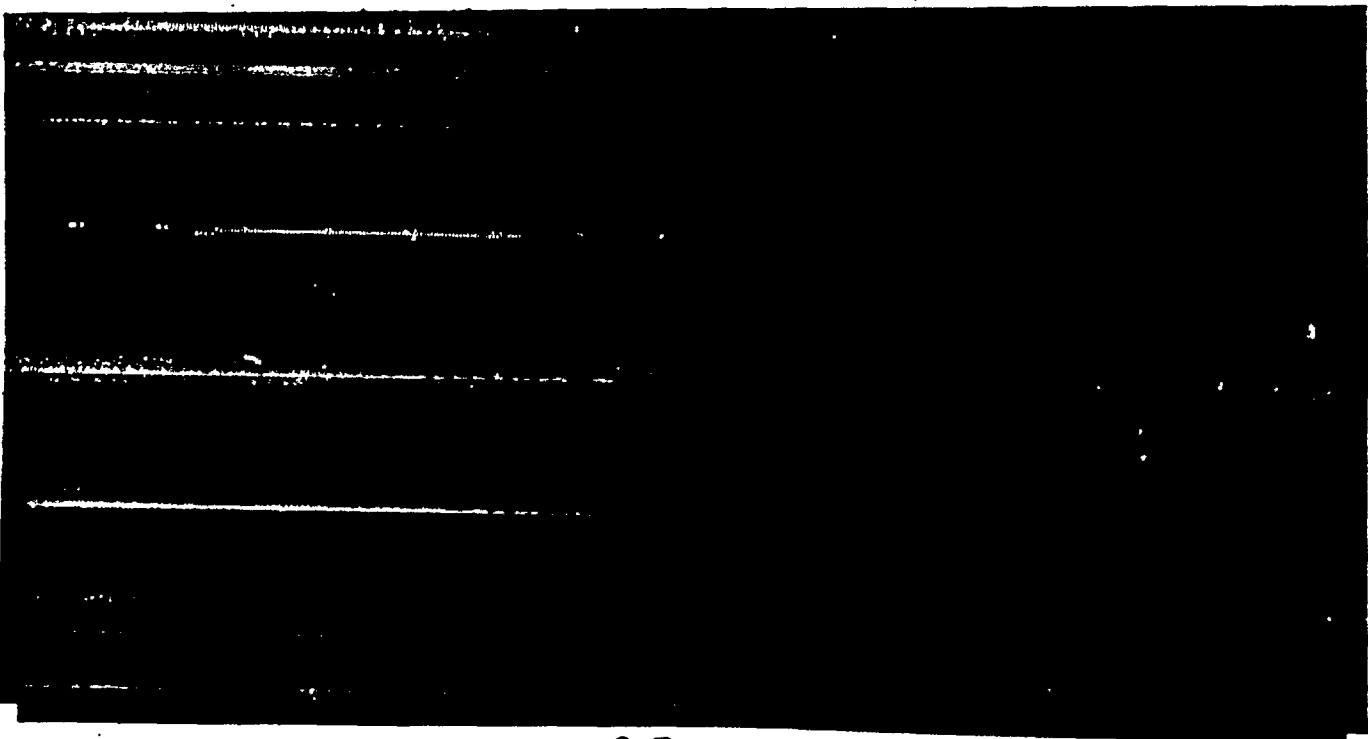
On 3/24/65, the source advised of a proposed picket to be held by the PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT (MPIPR) at the Governor's palace on the following day. This information was immediately furnished to the Police of Puerto Rico. (u)







On the same date the source provided information concerning MPIPR plans for a reception committee in honor of the arrival in Puerto Rico of ALEX QUAISON-SACKEY, then president of the UN General Assembly. Subsequently throughout April, 1965, the source made available information concerning various receptions and parties sponsored by the MPIPR in honor of QUAISON-SACKEY. This information was provided to local police and local intelligence agencies. (u)





SJ 65-419

(S)  
On 2/14/65, source advised that subject was in Ponce during the recent election of the MPIPR Directorate and that [REDACTED] was elected [REDACTED] the Ponce group. (u)

(S)  
On 3/17/65, source made available information concerning (

2-B



Anotación  
Ataque cardíaco  
seguido de  
Borroneo



1990

an apparent relapse  
previously suffered a mild heart attack

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] as the receipt on that

On 4/5/65, source advised of the receipt on that date by subject of a telegram from [redacted] in which [redacted] stated that [redacted] as observers had been obtained. This is an apparent reference to an MPIPR delegation to the INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS (IUS) conference scheduled to be held in Algiers in 6/65. (u)



SJ 65-419

[REDACTED]

(S)

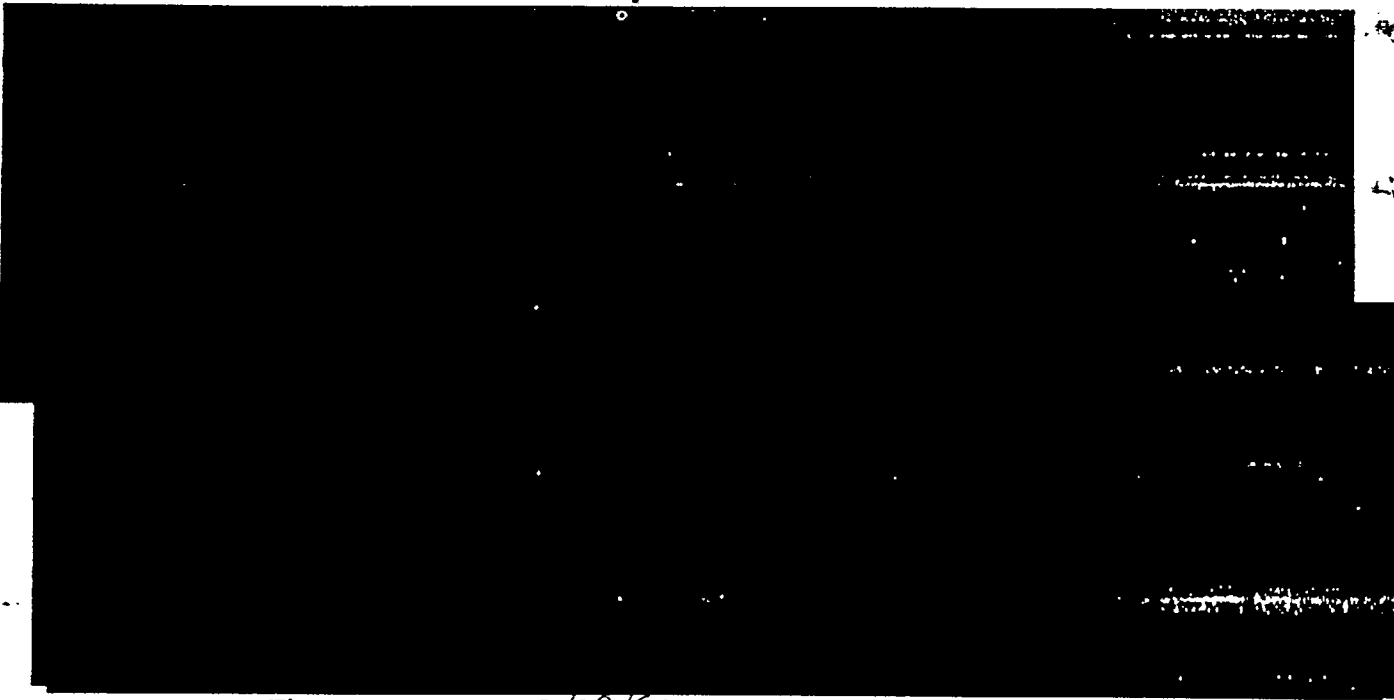
On 4/24/65, source made available information concerning the arrival of José Gerardo Proenza who has previously supported the MFPR, to participate in the activities following the death of PEDRO AIBIZU CAMPOS, NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO (NPPR) President. (U)

[REDACTED]


[REDACTED]

(S)





The source on 1/18/65 provided the exact date of the subject's departure for Mexico and his projected return. (U)





## Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-93124)

DATE: 12/27/63

FROM

SAC, SAN JUAN (105-3353 Sub 1) (P)

SUBJECT

GROUPS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO  
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM  
SUBVERSIVE CONTROL SECTION  
(OO: SAN JUAN)

Re San Juan airtel, 11/13/63 and Bulet, 11/20/63.

The mailing of an anonymous Spanish language letter as set forth in re SJO airtel, was carried out at Arecibo, Puerto Rico on 11/26/63.

[REDACTED] has advised that a number of persons commented on receiving the letter and it was the consensus as he saw it that the letter had been sent out by the PARTIDO INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO (Independence Party of Puerto Rico) (PIP) as an attack on MOVIMIENTO PRO-INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO (Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR) Secretary General JUAN MARI BRAS. [REDACTED] said that in his observations the controversy between MARI BRAS and the PIP which was being carried on in the local press seemed to intensify following the mailing of the letter and he felt that it had brought some confusion in rank and file MPIPR members. He noted particularly a number of MPIPR top leaders at the MPIPR General Assembly conferring quietly in the corner with copies of the letter in their hands.

[REDACTED] has reported that the letter has disturbed the MPIPR leaders and the top leadership seemed to be divided between blaming the letter on the PIP, while others feel that [REDACTED] President of the PARTIDO COMUNISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO (Communist Party of Puerto Rico) (PCP), is behind the letter. They noted that [REDACTED] and MARI BRAS have met head-on in this electoral strike question and feel that [REDACTED] was striking back in his typical cowardly fashion.

2 - Bureau (RM)

1 - San Juan

RLW:gjk

(3)

REC-4

351  
66 JAN 6 1964

25 DEC 31 1963

SUBV. CONTROL



56  
SJ 105-3353 Sub 1

[REDACTED] said reaction to the letter in general blamed it on the PIP and it was felt that the letter was causing considerable controversy between PIP and MPIPR adherents.

[REDACTED] had reported that MPIPR leaders were concerned about its effect on the rank and file.

We feel that this program has been a success and any further information coming to our attention concerning it will be provided the Bureau.