

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Ladd

page 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
firm and uncompromising manner. He accepted the challenge and insisted that the Ambassador produce substantiation with regard to the allegations that Knoblaugh is a Falangist; this the Ambassador could not do; whereupon, Leddy together with Knoblaugh pointed out to the Ambassador information which would seem to completely explode any charges to the effect that Knoblaugh is Falangist. This caused Ambassador Braden in so far as his dealings with Leddy are concerned, to immediately backdown with regard to his request that Knoblaugh be removed from Cuba.

With regard to the wording contained in the last paragraph of the memorandum on page 8, it is believed that this is somewhat unfortunate in setting out what Mr. Leddy actually had in mind. It is known to the writer that Leddy has upon his own initiative whenever called upon to do so by the Ambassador and by Joyce, advised these two unhesitatingly that the information furnished by Hemingway and the latter's organization was completely unfounded and unsubstantiated in every single instance. Leddy, of course, accomplished this by furnishing the results of his, Leddy's, check as to the reports of Hemingway. I am quite sure that what he intended to express in the unfortunately worded paragraph is that he does not feel that information furnished by Hemingway should be ignored and disregarded as having come from unreliable sources merely because such information has in the past proved unsubstantiated. It is believed that he is also seeking to point out what is true with regard to many informants, professional in character, namely, that these individuals furnish information in such a way and in such an all-inclusive nature with regard to conjecture, probabilities, and vaguely worded allegations that it is impossible to definitely establish that no truth whatsoever is contained in the allegations and information furnished. It is believed that Mr. Leddy will agree with the Bureau if inquiry should be made by persons entitled to know the truth, he respond by furnishing the exact facts in so far as information furnished to the office of the Legal Attache by Hemingway is concerned, that is that the information has been in no way verified or substantiated by investigation. (S) u

Respectfully,

C. H. Carson

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August 13, 1943

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: ERNEST HEMINGWAY

CLASS. & EXT BY 6123/155/16  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2/3  
DATE OF REVIEW 5-27-81

Dear Sir:

SIS #357 advises that Mr. Hemingway, of whose intelligence activities under Ambassador Spruille Braden the Bureau has been previously advised, is currently engaged in writing a book based on his experiences in that work. Hemingway states that all of the people whom he has known during the last year in Cuba in connection with intelligence work will appear in his book, including Ambassador Braden. We are not yet informed as to what role the representatives of the FBI will play, but in view of Hemingway's known sentiments, will probably be portrayed as the dull, heavy-footed, unimaginative professional policeman type.

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[redacted] has advised that in recent conversations with Hemingway, he has indicated that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is only a mediocre intelligence organization. He has also made reference to the departure of SIS #783, with the statement that he succeeded in having this Bureau Agent removed from Cuba by use of his great personal influence with Ambassador Spruille Braden.

Very truly yours,

CONF. INFT. S. I. S. #326

R. G. LEDDY  
Legal Attaché

10/26/79  
CLASS. & EXT BY SP-1 GSK/ghw  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2(2)(c)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10-26-89

RGL:RM

Blue memo. for Mr. Ladd  
8/21/43 A.R.A.

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64-23312-

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10/26/79  
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5/ASX/260  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 (2)(3)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/26/89

August 13, 1943

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: GUSTAVO DURAN  
Confidential Embassy Matter

Dear Sir:

Attached is a memorandum setting forth information indicating the possibility that Gustavo Duran was an active member of the Communist Party in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. As the Bureau is previously advised, Gustavo Duran is presently assigned to this Embassy as a member of the Auxiliary Foreign Service.

The Bureau will note from the attached memorandum that no active investigation has been made into this matter, but a discreet attempt to verify whether there is any substantiation to the original allegations. These careful inquiries have indicated that the allegation of membership in the Communist Party is well substantiated as far as inquiry has been made.

Although the assignment of Gustavo Duran in the Embassy is apart from our responsibility, our interest is directly at stake, inasmuch as all of the reports from this office pass through the section where Mr. Duran is working, so that he is in a position to be aware of all of our activities as reported to the Embassy. In many cases, such as our recent report on the convention of the CTAL, it is comparatively easy for a person familiar with the delegates to identify our confidential sources of information if he has our report to read. In that particular case, Gustavo Duran was assigned to coverage of the event exclusively for the Embassy.

In his relations with members of this office, it must be stated that Mr. Duran has been cordial and helpful, and in no way whatsoever reflected the spirit of hostility towards the FBI which has characterized his mentor. His friendship has appeared genuine, and he has taken no undue interest in our work which might indicate some ulterior purpose.

Memo. for Director  
82 8/28/43 ARA  
54 NOV 8 - 1943

Letter to S15#3  
ARA 9/13/43  
Memo. Mr. Ladd  
ARA 9/11/43

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Among other duties, Mr. Duran reviews the local press for the Ambassador, and prepares speeches and letters for the Ambassador in Spanish. The Ambassador has a high regard for his abilities. This, coupled with the fact that the Ambassador brought Mr. Duran into the Embassy on his own initiative, creates a problem for handling this matter which the writer desires to refer to the Bureau. (S) u

In addition, the close relationship between Duran and Ernest Hemingway is emphasized, and the Bureau is advised that we may well expect a violent attack from Hemingway if a report concerning Communist Party membership on the part of Gustavo Duran becomes known to him. In spite of the termination of his intelligence organization on April 1, 1945, Hemingway's influence with the Ambassador appears unchanged. (S) u

No further investigation is contemplated without Bureau instructions. Your advice at an early date will be appreciated. (S) (S) u

Very truly yours,

CONF. INF. S. I. S. # 396 (S) u

Legal Attaché

Enclosure

RGL:RM

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Habana, Cuba  
August 13, 1943

MEMORANDUM:

Classified by ~~SP-1 CLK/PK~~  
Declassify on: OADR  
234257

Re: GUSTAVO DURAN  
Confidential Embassy Matter

CLASS. & EXT. BY 6383 JET/AG  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 (2/3)  
DATE OF REVIEW 5-27-91  
5-27-81

Gustavo Duran came to Cuba on November 12, 1942. He was then in the employ of the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. His trip to Cuba was requested by the American Ambassador, the Honorable Spruille Braden, in order to engage in intelligence work under the Ambassador's direction. The Ambassador was then operating an undercover intelligence organization, directed by Mr. ERNEST HEMINGWAY, for the special purpose of securing information on Spanish Falange activities. Duran was recommended to the Ambassador by Hemingway, who described him as the ideal man to conduct this work, "an intelligence and military genius that comes along once in a hundred years." Originally intending to remain here on thirty days' special leave from the Coordinating Committee, Gustavo Duran was, through the Ambassador's influence, taken into the Embassy as a member of the Auxiliary Foreign Service early in January 1943.

Ernest Hemingway, who was in Spain during the Spanish Civil War, knew Duran at that time; he is mentioned in Hemingway's book, "For Whom the Bell Tolls", and was active with the Spanish Republican troops, finally attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and being in command of the Army Corps defending Valencia at the end of the war.

In June 1943, [redacted] Habana, Cuba, turned over information to SIS #788 to the effect that Gustavo Duran was an active member of the Spanish Communist Party during the Civil War. This information was secured by [redacted] from conversations with numerous Spaniards in Habana who knew Duran in Spain. It is set out as follows exactly as received from informant:

ENCLOSURE

Gustavo Duran is the son of a Spanish General of the same name, who in his time enjoyed a high reputation as a military man. Duran received a good education and has a military foundation, but he never obtained any academic degree because he quit school to pursue his theatrical ambitions. Although these seem to have been all-consuming, he never reached the prominence he desired. He spent some time in studying the theater, however, and went to Hollywood where he was given trials before the camera.

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10/26/79  
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REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 (2/3)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/26/89

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He was known politically in Madrid as a fervent Communist, militant in the party in which he held various high posts of authority and representation. When the Civil War broke out, he joined voluntarily the Communist militia, and was assigned to a command in the forces under Colonel MANGADA on the Madrid front. He spent the best part of the war on this front, ascending, always with the aid and support of the Communist Party, in military rank until he reached the rank of Commander, before 1938. In the latter year, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel -- highest rank granted by Republican Spain to non-professional officials -- and served as chief of an army corps on the Matallana (Valencia) front.

Close friends who served with and under him have highly praised his military conduct. He was known as a brave soldier and intelligent leader, although always seeming to work for political rather than military ends.

In the last days of the war, when Catalonia had already been occupied by the Francoites, a National Defense Junta consisting of General MIAJA, BESTEIRO, Colonel CASADO and others was formed to negotiate the surrender of Madrid with Franco. The Communist Party violently opposed this plan, arising in arms against the Junta. Orders were given to all comrades to march against Madrid and overthrow the Junta.

The military chieftain of the CNT (Anarchist Labor Union of Syndicalists), CIPRIANO MERA, allied himself with the Junta, and one of the bloodiest battles of the war resulted, with the Communists on one side and the Republicans and CNT on the other.

Duran, on this occasion, obediently followed the party call, deserting his assigned post and leading the forces under him against the Republicans and CNT in Madrid. He took a leading role in the fight, which however ended in defeat for his men.

He fled Spain via the port of Gandia, Valencia, on a British destroyer. By coincidence, on the same boat was Colonel Casado, against whom he had fought in Madrid. So well known was the enmity between these two that they were kept separated and under watch during the trip to France lest they stage an incident on board ship. From France he was able, by virtue of having a North American wife, to go to England and thence to the United States and Cuba, where he is now stationed.

The statements of persons who knew him well in Spain and who fought with him are unanimous in that Duran is a product of the Communist school, and follows the code -- "the end justifies

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the means." They say he can adapt himself to any situation which may be ultimately beneficial to the political beliefs with which he is so firmly imbued.

He has become a naturalized American citizen, and pretends to conform absolutely with the ideals of American democracy, but those who know him state that they do not believe him when he talks this way. They believe that he is merely using these tactics for his own ends, and that he cannot divorce himself from the beliefs which he has defended so many years during his life. Others state that the Communists frequently boast they have within the American Embassy now a man who is absolutely trustworthy as a source of information for them. It would not be surprising to many who knew Duran if the person referred to was this man.

In an effort to secure some independent corroboration of the above report, at the instruction of SIS #396 further interview was had by SIS #788 with Dr. JUAN CHABAS, a Spanish refugee now in Cuba. A report of this conversation is as follows:

The writer last night had dinner with Dr. Juan Chabás, 75-year old Spaniard who prior to the Spanish Civil War was Juvenile Court Judge in Madrid. Although the old gentleman was not active in politics himself, his son, JUAN CHABAS MARTIN, was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Spanish Loyalist Army, and for this reason the father fled Madrid on November 7, 1936 when it looked as though Franco were going to enter the city at any moment. The elder Chabás went to France and then came on to Santo Domingo with a group of Spanish refugees, finally reaching Cuba, where he has settled at Cienfuegos.

During the evening, events which took place in Madrid during the war days were discussed. The old man frankly stated that his son, now also a resident of Cuba, had been linked with the Communists in Madrid. Since coming to Cuba, the son has been doing various bits of work for the Casa de la Cultura in Habana, the father said.

The writer asked the old man if he had happened to meet Gustavo Duran in Madrid. Chabás said that he had, and that his son had been a very close friend of Duran. Duran and the son had fought together in Spain during the war, the father stated. The writer asked whether this meant that Duran also was a member of the Communist Party in Spain. Chabás said: "Yes, Gustavo became a Communist. But he was not actually a member of the party at the beginning of the war as far as I know. He had many friends among the Communists and had worked with them, but it was not until after the war had been going awhile that he joined the party."



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When informed that Duran now is in Habana, the old man was quite surprised. He said that his son had told him Duran had come to America, but he did not know that he was here. He then changed the subject to painting, at which he now makes his living. He is residing in Cienfuegos, but had come to Habana to see about an exposition. The above conversation took place in the presence of JESUS PERNAS, of Pernas y Cia., Habana.

Thereafter, this inquiry was referred to SIS #360, assigned at Habana in an undercover capacity and actively engaged in Communist investigations. SIS #360 turned the name of Duran over to his confidential informant [redacted] who has access to Communist Party information. The memorandum submitted by SIS #360 is as follows:

The writer referred the name of Gustavo Duran to [redacted] telling the latter only that Duran had fought in the Spanish Republican Army, and impressing upon him the need for caution and discretion. A day or two later the writer saw [redacted] for a few moments, and [redacted] said at that time that Duran worked in the American Embassy, which surprised the writer not a little. However as a matter of pure curiosity, the writer asked [redacted] to find out what he could, again stressing the need for discretion.

[redacted] brought the writer a report which probably does no more than generally confirm what is already known about Duran. The report follows -

Duran was a Lieutenant Colonel of the Popular Spanish Army, son of General Duran, is 33 years old, has wavy blond hair, short in stature, regular physical build, and is married. [redacted] insisted on the physical description to make sure that we were talking about the same character.)

Gustavo Duran, according to what [redacted] was able to find out by referring to [redacted] of the Spanish Army and now political refugee in Cuba, occupied the position of a [redacted]

[redacted] is a Spanish Republican and at the same time a mason. [redacted] had the opportunity to know Duran in Teruel, but had little to do with him there because Duran belonged to the Communist Party of Spain, and the masons and Communists were affirmed enemies, even more so than the Anarchists and the Communists. [redacted] repeated that this is not something that [redacted] has learned in Cuba, but that the latter was

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in Spain and had dealings with the most responsible elements of the Republic, and he knows that Duran belonged to the Spanish Communist Party.

[ ] said that he believed that Duran's position regarding politics has changed since he married the daughter of an American magnate, who is a friend of President Roosevelt's wife, and that it is believed that there was a lapse of intimacy between Mrs. Duran and the President's family, and for that reason he was given a post in the American Embassy -- in the same way that Batista might give a friend a foreign post so that the latter would not intervene in the former's affairs.

[ ] said that when Duran arrived in Cuba, he immediately hired two or three Spanish refugees to collect and bring him information on the Spanish movement in Cuba. (These individuals might be members of E.H.'s organization.) Duran paid these individuals \$80 to \$90 a month for their work, and the fact that they were working for him is well known among the Spanish refugee element. Among other things that these informants did was to determine the attitude of the Republican Spanish on a possible landing of the forces of the United Nations in Spanish Morocco.

According to [ ] the Communists of the Casa de Cultura are now attacking Duran without any consideration, and that up till the present there has been no report that Duran has relations with the Communist Party of Cuba. [ ] says in this connection that such attacks by the Casa de Cultura do not necessarily mean that he has no Communist connections, because they might be no more than a blind.)

[ ] also went to see a [ ] in Pinar del Rio, the latter being situated in the region of Valencia during the Civil War. [ ] confirmed the fact that Duran was a Lieutenant Colonel at Valencia, and that Duran belonged to the Communist Party of Spain.

It should be noted that the "E.H." referred to in the fourth paragraph from the end of the above memorandum is ERNEST HEMINGWAY, who at that time was operating an intelligence organization with Gustavo Duran as his assistant.

The name of Gustavo Duran was referred by SIS #396 to [ ] with the request that information concerning his background be discreetly secured.

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[ ] reported that Gustavo Duran was well known in Spain, or at least in Madrid, as a member of the young intelligentsia before 1936; that he was a musician, having studied music in Paris, and was widely acquainted and known in musical and artistic circles of the capital. At the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in July 1936, Duran immediately joined the Republican Forces, and although he had no previous military experience, his rise was rapid. After some service in the field around Madrid, he was transferred to the Valencia front in 1938, and soon became commander of an Army Corps with a rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was a vigorous military leader, a stern disciplinarian who tolerated no cutting up on the part of the soldiers, and was considered outstanding both in council and in the field. His corps was so well controlled and disciplined that when the soldiers had leave from the front, they did not become involved in any incidents with townspeople; and this was because Duran personally held them responsible for their conduct, both in service and on leave. He was well thought of as a leader, his soldiers respecting him greatly.

The rapid ascent of Duran in the Republican military ranks was due to the favor he enjoyed with the Communist Party. He was very close to the Communists, and is believed to have been one of them, although the informant cannot say this for a certainty. Because of his political acceptability and the reliance which the Communists placed upon him, he went ahead much more rapidly than other officers of far greater experience and equal ability. He enjoyed great influence in the Army and with the civilian officials because of his favored position with the Communists.

Since arriving in Habana, Duran has not associated with his former friends, and no one knows just what his present sentiments are. He has kept aloof from the Communists in Habana, and had only a limited association with the general class of Spanish refugees.

[ ] said that his information was gathered from several Spanish refugee intellectuals. [ ] did not wish to state who they were, but said we would have to understand that they had spoken to him entirely "off guard", as the information had been drawn out in general conversation. After some conversation, [ ] said that his principal informant was [ ]

It should be noted that this source is a rabid Spanish Republican, who, although a Cuban, has been active in opposing the

Francisco movement since 1936; [ ] is however not considered in any way pro-Communist.

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In order to check on the accuracy of the foregoing statements, informal interview was had with Gustavo Duran by SIS #498 on July 30, 1943, without of course disclosing in any way the purpose of the conversation. The complete memorandum submitted by SIS #498 is set out as follows:

When questioned regarding the strength of the Communist Party in Spain at the outset of the Spanish Civil War and why Spaniards embraced the Communist cause, he stated that the Party in 1936 is reputed to have had 30,000 members in Spain, although he doubted that more than half this number were actually registered members, the other half being Communist sympathizers. He emphasized the fact that a great many ardent Republican Spaniards who believed in Spain had embraced the Communist cause since the Russians were the only ones furnishing aid to the Republican forces. He pointed out that although the Russians did not say so in so many words, it was apparent that they wanted Communist Party members to pilot their planes and to handle the materials they furnished. Russian officers were, of course, sprinkled throughout the Republican forces to see that this policy was carried out. Therefore, many Republicans joined the Communist Party in order to best serve their country.

He observed that had the Fascists, for example, furnished planes, munitions, and other war equipment to the Republican forces, these same Spaniards in the interest of the cause for which they were fighting would have become Fascists under the same circumstances. However, as the war went on, Republican forces found that the equipment furnished by Russians was obsolete, outmoded, and almost invariably old. As an example, he mentioned field artillery equipment furnished by the Russians which he identified as having been used by the Russians during the Russo-Japanese war in 1905. As a result of this half-hearted support by the Russians, many of the so-called Communists lost interest and enthusiasm for the cause. He also pointed out that following the defeat, a great many former "Communists" dropped their membership and affiliation with the Party. To summarize, he emphasized that many Spanish Communists joined the party simply as a matter of expediency in order to best utilize the aid furnished by the Russians.

Duran stated that he was last in Madrid in June 1938, at which time he received his assignment to the Valencia sector, where he was in command until the end of the war, never having returned to Madrid. He mentioned that MIAJA was in charge of the

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defense of Madrid while Col. CASADO was in charge at Andalucia holding a similar position as Duran at Valencia.

Regarding the alleged difficulty between certain Republican officers and the Communists with respect to the surrender of Madrid, he stated that he only heard that there was difference of opinion on this point, but was unaware that any actual violence took place between the two factions. He emphasized that since he never returned to Madrid, facts as to what took place there are unknown to him.

Following an unsuccessful offensive at Teruel made by Duran, his forces retired to Valencia, and military operations were rather quiet from then until April 28, 1939, at which time he received orders to cease firing. On the following day, he received orders to proceed to a certain prisoners' camp with his men, but they were stopped a short distance from Valencia and ordered to return to the city. He pointed out that the Franco government had made no provisions or plans whatsoever for prison camps, and guards were therefore placed around the city of Valencia and the Republican troops were allowed to move freely within the city.

Prior to the surrender of Madrid, Duran had been contacted by STUART WARNER, American Consul, and Col. FUQUA, American Military Attaché, as well as a Mr. BALLANTYNE, British Vice Consul, and the British Military Attaché. These men had contacted him for military information, and he had become particularly friendly with Ballantyne. Following the surrender, Duran requested Warner to give him asylum in the American Embassy. Warner pointed out that the American government had not recognized the right of asylum, and therefore his request could not be granted. Duran also requested that he be permitted to live in his, Warner's, home. Warner also refused this request. In desperation, Duran finally decided to present himself to the military commander at Valencia, which he did. He found this individual to be an old friend of his family. He ordered Duran billeted in a private home awaiting decision as to what action if any would be taken against him. While there, he wrote to Warner requesting him to telephone Ballantyne at the British Embassy, which was done. Ballantyne contacted Duran clandestinely, and advised him that a British destroyer was leaving from the port of Valencia that same night, and he would endeavor to get him on it. After considerable maneuvering, Duran was taken in an Embassy car to the British Embassy, and subsequently without passport or documents, posed as a British subject and succeeded in getting on board the vessel. Ballantyne also furnished him funds. The destroyer left Valencia, and Duran was later transferred to the British hospital ship "Maine", which took him to Marseilles, France.

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From Marseilles, he took a through train to Dieppe on the channel. From Dieppe he crossed to London, and there was received by a British relief organization for Spanish refugees. u

He is very grateful for the aid given him by the British in Valencia, which he believes saved his life or at least many years in prison. u

During the course of his conversation, he mentioned that he had never been to the United States prior to his marriage to his American wife. He also mentioned that he studied literature, music, and art in Madrid and Paris, although was unable to finish these studies on account of the civil war. u

While discussing the Communists in Spain and the part they played in the war, Duran constantly referred to them as "they", and never gave any indication that he personally was a member of the Communist Party. u

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The following conclusions are noted:

- 1) According to three independent sources, which have previously been reliable, it is reported that Gustavo Duran was a member of the Communist Party in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. According to a fourth source, [redacted] Duran, if not actually a Communist, owed his advancement to Communist favor. According to Duran himself, he was not associated with the Communists. u
- 2) Gustavo Duran, [according to the Basque informants] was once in Hollywood and received a screen test. According to his own statement, he was never in the United States prior to 1940. u
- 3) Before the close of the war in Spain in April 1939, [according to the Basque informants] Gustavo Duran went to Madrid to oppose with the Communists the surrender of the city to Franco. According to his own statement, he never returned to Madrid after June 1938. The statement of Duran that he was unaware of any violence between the two factions at Madrid appears inconsistent with widespread information, printed in the press of the world at that time concerning disorders in Madrid over the Communist refusal to join with other Spanish Republican elements in the final surrender of the city. u

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- 4) [The Basque informants] mention that Gustavo Duran was able to go to England from France, having an American wife. It is known definitely from conversations, clippings, photos, etc. which Duran has shown, that he met his wife, who is American, in England after arrival there from France in 1939. In this detail, the original information appears inaccurate.
- 5) According to several independent sources, the best possible check on the alleged activities of Gustavo Duran as a member of the Communist Party can be made as follows:
- a) By interview of Col. CASADO, Spanish Republican leader charged with the defense of the Andalusian front, who was the man assigned to expel Communists from positions of power in the Republican Army prior to the surrender in March 1939. Col. Casado, whose first name is not available, is very well known in Spanish Republican circles, and is reported to be presently in London, England.
  - b) Through contact with Leftist Republicans and Communists of the Spanish Republic presently in Mexico as refugees. The greater number of radical Spanish Republicans who succeeded in fleeing from Spain are presently in and about Mexico City, D.F. Gustavo Duran is well known among this group, and from confidential sources it should be possible to ascertain whether he was actually a member of the Communist Party, and if so what part he took in Party affairs.
  - c) Through a check of newspapers, periodicals, and other publications in Loyalist territory between July 1936 and April 1939. In the event that Gustavo Duran was as active in Communist Party affairs as is reported, it is almost certain that there will be a documentary record of his activities in the files of such publications. It is not known here where such files may exist; it is possible that such institutions as the Library of Congress, the library of the Workers' University at Mexico City, the archives of the New York "Daily Worker", or the offices of such Spanish Republican organizations as the JARE (Junta de Auxilio a los Refugiados Espanoles) in Mexico City, may have files of such publications.
  - d) Check could be made of the records of MID, War Department, for any information on Duran reported by Col. Stephen A. Fuqua, then Military Attaché at Madrid.

RGL:RM

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OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ATTACHE

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EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
HABANA, CUBA

August 13, 1943

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

CLASS. & EXT. BY 5-22-81  
REASON FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 5-22-81

Re: ERNEST HEMINGWAY

Dear Sir:

*John Kelly*

SIS #357 advises that Mr. Hemingway, of whose intelligence activities under Ambassador Spruille Braden the Bureau has been previously advised, is currently engaged in writing a book based on his experiences in that work. Hemingway states that all of the people whom he has known during the last year in Cuba in connection with intelligence work will appear in his book, including Ambassador Braden. We are not yet informed as to what role the representatives of the FBI will play, but in view of Hemingway's known sentiments, will probably be portrayed as the dull, heavy-footed, unimaginative professional policeman type. (S)u

[redacted] has advised that in recent conversations with Hemingway, he has indicated that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is only a mediocre intelligence organization. He has also made reference to the departure of SIS #788, with the statement that he succeeded in having this Bureau Agent removed from Cuba by use of his great personal influence with Ambassador Spruille Braden. (S)u

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Very truly yours,

64-23312-7X1  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 17 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

R. G. LEDDY  
Legal Attaché

10/26/79  
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 DSK/gdw  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 (3)(3)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/26/89

RGL:RM

Classified by SP1 DSK/gdw  
Declassify on: OADR  
239261

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77 AUG 27 1943

Blue memo for Mr. Ladd  
8-21-43 ARA.



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DECLASSIFIED BY SP9CAH

11-10-98  
APP# 96-1371

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ARA:FJS

Memo to Ladd fr. Carson dated 8/21/43

Memo for Director dated 9/20/43

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED

BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) October 14, 1943

DATE: 3-18-99

In reply, please refer to  
File No. 64-23312-7X2

RECORDED

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
VIA DIPLOMATIC AIR COURIER POUCH

64-23312-7X2  
[SIS #396] H. G. Fidelity  
10/26/79

CLASS. & EXT. BY SA/BSK/1940  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-4.2 (2)(3)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/26/89

CLASS. & EXT. BY 10/26/89  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-4.2 (2)(3)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/26/89

Re: Ernest Hemingway  
Latin American Letters

Dear Sir:

Classified by SP-10/26/89  
Declassify on OADR

Reference is made to your radiogram dated September 18, 1943,  
concerning a book which had been previously reported to be under con-  
sideration by Ernest Hemingway, the subject matter to be based on his  
intelligence experiences in Cuba. (S)u

It is desired that you take steps to insure that Bureau per-  
sonnel assigned to the Embassy [and operating under cover] be on the alert  
to report any information received that would indicate Ernest Hemingway's  
plans to include mention of the Bureau in any publication which he may  
be preparing or about to prepare. (S)u

It is further requested that the Bureau be kept advised as to  
the whereabouts of Ernest Hemingway and as to the date of his departure  
from Cuba for the United States. (S)u

It is suggested that this letter should be destroyed when it  
has served your purpose.

Classified by SP-10/26/89  
Declassify on OADR  
Very truly yours,

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 7  
★ OCT 14 1943 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

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John Edgar Hoover  
Director  
OCT 14 1943  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F B I  
OCT 14 7 57 PM '43  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

**CONFIDENTIAL**ARA:HH  
64-4461-247

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE August 21, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: Ernest Hemingway - Cuba

CLASS. & EXT. BY 6383 VET/AL  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 5-27-91**BACKGROUND**

The following information is of interest in connection with the activities of Ernest Hemingway in Cuba and his attitude toward the Bureau representatives in that country. Information concerning the complete extent of Hemingway's intelligence activities under the personal direction of the American Ambassador in Cuba, has been previously brought to your attention.

**DETAILS**

Recently, Ernest Hemingway advised a Bureau undercover representative in Cuba concerning a book which Hemingway is currently writing, based on his experiences in intelligence activities under the American Ambassador. Hemingway stated that all of the people whom he has dealt with during the past year in Cuba in intelligence matters will be mentioned in the book, including Ambassador Braden. In this connection the Bureau legal attache at Havana states that no information has been received as to what extent FBI representatives will be mentioned in the book. (S) u

However, Hemingway's attitude toward the FBI is already known, as indicated by Hemingway's action in signing a petition castigating the Bureau in connection with the Detroit Spanish Enlistment Case in 1940, and more recently indicated in Hemingway's remark that the FBI is "the American Gestapo".

A confidential informant of the Bureau legal attache in Havana reports that in a recent conversation with Hemingway, the latter indicated that the FBI is but a mediocre intelligence organization. Hemingway also commented on the recent departure of Special Agent [redacted] from Cuba.

Classified by SP-1 CJK/ERK  
Declassify on: OADR  
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SIS 396 has been instructed to do so & is keeping us posted on this.

Letter to SIS #396  
ARA-10  
RECORDED & INDEXED  
64-23312-7X2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

D - OCT 19 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**CONFIDENTIAL**

(INFORMATIVE MEMORANDUM - NOT TO BE SENT TO FILES SECTION)

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Acers ✓  
Mr. Carson ✓  
Mr. Harbo ✓  
Mr. Hendon ✓  
Mr. Mumford ✓  
Mr. Starke ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Miss Beahm ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

b6  
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10-26-79  
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 CJK/ERK  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10-26-91

OCT 26 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Ladd  
Page 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ACTION

No action is recommended in this matter at the present time, and the above information is being set out to supplement information previously called to your attention concerning Ernest Hemingway (P) u

Respectfully,

  
C. H. Carson  
JRM/ld

*We ought to try  
& keep close to this  
development.*

*H.*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

100-287

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Gurnea ✓  
Mr. Harbo ✓  
Mr. Hendon ✓  
Mr. Mumford ✓  
Mr. Starke ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Miss Beahm ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**United States Department of Justice**

**Washington, D. C.**

**August 28, 1943**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

Re: GUSTAVO DURAN  
Possible Communist Party In-  
filtration into American Embassy  
Havana, Cuba

DATE: 06-01-2007  
CLASSIFIED BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld  
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1)  
06-01-2032

There follows a summary of information received concerning

Gustavo Duran, a naturalized United States citizen of Spanish origin, who is presently employed at the American Embassy in Havana, Cuba, as a member of the Auxiliary Foreign Service. Confidential informants of SIS representatives in Cuba have furnished unconfirmed reports that Duran is a member of the Communist Party. It is believed that Duran's position in the Embassy, and his status as close friend and confidant of the Ambassador, give Duran an excellent opportunity to learn the contents of FBI reports which are submitted to the Embassy. He is, thus, in a position to observe the Bureau's extensive investigations with reference to the Communist Party, which is growing increasingly powerful in Cuba. Rumor in Cuba says that the Communists boast that they have a man located in the American Embassy who is an absolutely trustworthy source of information for them, and the possibility exists that Duran is that man.

File in  
64-23312  
with  
copy in  
64-4461.

DETAILS

Declassify on: OADR

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 BSK/bk  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 (2)(C)  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/26/89

**PERSONAL HISTORY INFORMATION CONCERNING GUSTAVO DURAN**

**Background Information**

RECORDED

& INDEXED

It is reported that (An employee investigation conducted by the Bureau for the Office for Emergency Management disclosed that) Gustavo Duran was born on November 24, 1906, in Barcelona, Spain. Duran was brought up and educated in Madrid, Spain, and the Canary Islands. He studied piano at the Conservatory of Madrid, and composed a ballet for orchestra to be performed by the dancer Madam Argentina, which was performed throughout Europe in 1927. From 1929 to 1934, Duran lived in Paris where he furthered his musical studies and devoted himself to composition of musical works. In 1934, Duran began employment with Fono Espana Studios, Incorporated, as an adviser for the Latin American productions of that company. From 1936 to 1937, Duran has stated he supported the Constitutional Government of Spain, and after enlisting as a private in the Republican Army was eventually promoted to command of the Twentieth Army Corps, where he served in the Spanish Civil War. Duran escaped from Spain following a victory of the Franco forces, and resided in England from April 1939 to May 1940, during which time he resumed his musical studies.



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On December 4, 1939, at Totnes, England, Duran married Bonte Romilly Crompton, an American citizen.

Gustavo Duran departed from Liverpool, England, and entered the United States at New York City on May 28, 1940. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States on November 3, 1942. (77-26928)

#### Employment Record

From August, 1939, to May, 1940, Duran was employed in London, England, by the Film Center, where he supervised Spanish and Portuguese versions of technical films distributed by the Film Center in the Western Hemisphere.

From March until October, 1941, Duran was employed by the Museum of Modern Art in New York City arranging musical scores for technical and educational films selected by the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for distribution to other American Republics.

From November, 1941, to September, 1942, Duran was employed by the Music Division of the Pan American Union in Washington, D. C., where he was engaged in research and organization of musical projects at a final salary of \$4,600.00 per annum. In this capacity, Duran served as Liaison Officer between the Pan American Union, the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and the State Department. In November, 1942, Duran went to Havana, Cuba, where he was given a position in the American Embassy after Ernest Hemingway had prevailed upon the American Ambassador to utilize the services of Duran in connection with Intelligence Activities in Cuba for a temporary period. At the present time, Duran is assigned to the American Embassy in Havana as a member of the Auxiliary Foreign Service. (Among his other duties, Duran reviews local newspaper articles for the Ambassador, and prepares speeches and letters in the Spanish language for the Ambassador, who has a high regard for Duran's abilities.) (64-4461-225)

#### Military Career

*is reported to have*  
Gustavo Duran enlisted in the Spanish Loyalist Army as a private on July 17, 1936, after which he distinguished himself in action, and reportedly rose to the rank of Acting General in command of an army corps.

*omit* Ernest Hemingway, who knew Duran in Spain and who mentioned him by name in his book "For Whom the Bell Tolls," has described Duran as a military genius, that "comes along once in a hundred years."

*It is reported that*  
Duran was assigned to a command in the forces under Colonel Mangada on the Madrid Front, and by 1938, he had reached the rank of commander in the

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- 3 -

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*is said to have been*  
Loyalist forces. Duran ~~was~~ transferred to the Valencia Front in 1938, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, the highest <sup>military</sup> rank granted by Republican Spain to non-professional <sup>officers</sup> officials, and he served as Chief of an army corps with considerable success.

*reliable source*  
[A Basque informant in Cuba] <sup>4</sup> has stated that in the last days of the Civil War in 1939, when Catalonia had been occupied by Franco Forces, a National Defense Junta was formed under General Miaja to negotiate the surrender of Madrid with General Franco. It is reported that the Communist Party violently opposed this plan, and orders were given to all comrades to march against Madrid and overthrow the Junta. This source states that Cipriano Mera, military leader of the CNT (Anarchist Labor Union of Syndicalists) allied himself with the Junta, and one of the bloodiest battles of the war followed, with the Communists on one side and the Republicans and the CNT opposing the Communists. It is reported that Duran, on this occasion, deserted his assigned post, <sup>joined the Communists to</sup> and lead his forces against the Republicans and the CNT in Madrid, Duran's forces being defeated in this action. <sup>4</sup>

*is reported to have stated that he*  
~~According to his own statement,~~ Duran never returned to Madrid after June, 1938, thus directly contradicting the above-mentioned report that he joined the Communists in fighting the Republican forces in Madrid. Regarding the alleged difficulty between certain Republican officers and the Communists with respect to the surrender of Madrid, Duran has <sup>allegedly</sup> stated that he heard of a difference of opinion on this point, but declared that he knows of no actual violence which took place between the two factions. Duran has maintained <sup>omit</sup> that since he did not return to Madrid after June, 1938, he is not in a position to know what actually occurred there between the Communists and Republicans at the close of the war. <sup>4</sup>

*is reported to have said*  
Duran ~~has stated~~ that prior to the surrender of Madrid, he had contacted Stewart Warner, American Consul, and Colonel Fuqua, American Military Attache, as well as Mr. Ballantyne, the British Vice Consul, all of whom had been given military information by Duran. After the surrender of Madrid, Duran <sup>is said to have</sup> unsuccessfully sought asylum in the American Embassy. However, through the assistance of the British Vice-Consul Ballantyne, Duran was placed aboard a British destroyer at the port of Valencia, and was later transferred to the British hospital ship "Maine," which took Duran to Marseilles, France. From Marseilles, Duran made his way through Dieppe to London, where he was received by a British Relief organization for Spanish refugees. Duran has said that he did not enter the United States until 1940. <sup>4</sup>

INDICATIONS OF POLITICAL SYMPATHIES AND ACTIVITIES  
OF GUSTAVO DURAN

<sup>omit</sup> ~~Reports Received in the United States~~

*A source of information in the United States*  
~~Luis Bunuel, a Director of the Museum of Modern Art of New York City,~~

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has stated he has known Duran as a close personal friend since 1920, and lived with Duran in Spain. <sup>This source</sup> ~~Bumel~~ advised that Duran's father committed suicide during the Civil War in Spain, and that Duran and a brother have been at odds inasmuch as the brother was on the side of Franco and a confirmed Fascist, whereas Duran adhered to the Spanish Constitutional Government and enlisted in the Loyalist Army on July 17, 1936, <sup>this source has</sup> ~~on the same date on which Bumel en-~~ listed. ~~Bumel~~ stated that Duran is very anti-Franco and anti-Fascist in his feelings. u

A confidential informant stated that when the Spanish Civil War began Duran was a member of the Youth Socialist League, at which time that organization was affiliated with the Socialist Party of Spain under the Second International. The informant stated that in December, 1936, the Youth Socialist League affiliated with the Communist Party of Spain, at which time Duran became a Communist and was an important figure in the Communist Party during the war. <sup>omit</sup> This informant stated that Duran claims close personal friendship with Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of the President. u

Another confidential informant advised in July, 1942, that the Spanish Republican movement in Washington, D. C. had been reinforced by the moral support of Gustavo Duran, who at that time was said to be engaged in no activity. <sup>omit</sup> This source stated that the background of Duran is well known to the Spanish Colony in Washington, and that ten per cent of the Spanish Republicans are reported to be Communists. u

A confidential informant advised that Duran and his wife have entertained in their home in this country Mrs. Esmond Romilly, nee Jessica Mitford. It was reported that Jessica Mitford is a sister of Unity Mitford, who was reputed to be an intimate of Hitler prior to the war, and who is said to be presently interned in England with her husband, Sir Oswald Mosley. u

<sup>omit</sup> Gustavo Duran has received correspondence from Mrs. William E. Beitz, subject of an investigation in Washington, D. C. looking toward denaturalization proceedings. Mrs. Beitz is reported to be a naturalized United States citizen of German origin, who possesses pro-German sympathies, and was intimate with officials of the German Embassy in Washington, D. C. On December 5, 1942, Mrs. Beitz, using the return address "Room 7705, Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, Washington, D. C." directed a letter to Duran at the American Embassy in Havana, Cuba, Mrs. Beitz stating that she had ascertained that "the FBI report on Gomez-Carrillo had been turned over, finally, to the personnel office." Bureau files reflect that Maria Inez Gomez-Carrillo is an Argentine pianist who was hired by the United States Government at the suggestion of Mrs. Roosevelt, and who named Gustavo Duran as a reference. u (62-22611-49)

Reports Received

On February 23, 1943

advised that information received from

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~~London indicated that~~ Gustavo Duran was a member of the pro-Allied Spanish CNT group (previously identified as the Anarchist Labor Union of Syndicalists). and that no information was available from that source which would indicate that Duran was not suitable for employment by the United States Government.

(100-769-14542) (S)

(Information Received in Cuba)

Another

A confidential Basque informant in Havana, Cuba, reports that in Madrid, Spain, Gustavo Duran was a fervent and militant member of the Communist Party, in which he held various high positions of authority. When the Spanish Civil War began, Duran volunteered in the Communist Militia, and his various promotions in military rank in the Republican Army were obtained with the aid and support of the Communist Party. Duran is reported to have received high praise for his military conduct, and he was known as a brave soldier and an intelligent leader, although he always seemed to work toward political ends rather than military ends. As evidence of the Communist Party activities of Gustavo Duran, this source pointed to the difficulties which arose during the closing days of the Spanish Civil War in Madrid. It is reported that when General Miaja and others formed a National Defense Junta in order to negotiate the surrender of Madrid to Franco, the Communist Party violently opposed this plan. It is reported that when the Party gave orders to the comrades to march against the Junta in Madrid, Duran obediently deserted his post of assignment and lead his forces to fight against the combination of Republicans and the CNT (Anarchist Labor Union of Syndicalists) in Madrid. This source states that persons who knew Duran in Spain are unanimous in the opinion that Duran is a product of the Communist school, who follows the code "the end justifies the means," and these persons believe that Duran can adapt himself to any situation which may be ultimately beneficial to the political beliefs which he holds. This source further states that despite Duran's pretense of conforming with the ideals of American Democracy, he is merely using these tactics for his own ends. It was further reported that the Communists frequently boasted that they have within the American Embassy a man who is absolutely trustworthy as a source of information for them, and conjecture has been advanced that Duran may be the man to whom the Communists refer.

Information concerning Duran has been reported by a

Dr. Juan Chabas, a seventy-five year old Spaniard who was a Juvenile Court Judge in Madrid prior to the Spanish Civil War, fled from Madrid on November 7, 1936, and finally reached Cuba. A son of Dr. Chabas was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Spanish Loyalist Army who also fled from Spain to Cuba. Dr. Chabas has stated that <sup>a member of his family</sup> was a very close friend of Gustavo Duran in Spain, where they fought together during the war. Dr. Chabas has stated that Gustavo Duran was not a member of the Communist Party in the beginning of the Spanish Civil War, although he had many friends in the Party, and it was not until after the war had begun that Gustavo Duran joined the Communist Party.

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*omit*  
From another source who knew Duran in Spain, information has been received through a confidential informant in Havana, information concerning Duran was obtained from [redacted] who is now a political refugee in Cuba. [redacted] had an opportunity to know Duran in Teruel, Spain, but had little to do with Duran because Duran belonged to the Communist Party of Spain. [redacted] himself is a Mason. On that account, he held animosity toward any member of the Communist Party of Spain of which Duran was a member, according to [redacted] stated that he believed Duran's political sympathies have changed since he married the daughter of an American magnate who is a friend of Eleanor Roosevelt. [redacted] believes that this friendship has cooled, and therefore, Duran was given a post in the American Embassy in Havana, so that there would be no interference in the affairs of the President's family. According to [redacted] the Communists of the Casa de Cultura are now openly attacking Gustavo Duran, and so far as [redacted] knows, there has been no report that Duran has relations with the Communist Party of Cuba. (The confidential informant in this matter has suggested that the attacks by the Casa de Cultura may be a "blind" to cover the real connection between Duran and the Communist Party in Cuba. It is to be noted that recently Ernest Hemingway has also been openly attacked by the Communist Party in Cuba through the medium of the Communist newspaper "Hoy" in Havana.) (S) U

*omit*  
Another confidential informant has stated that Gustavo Duran was well known in Madrid as a member of the young intelligentsia prior to the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War. This source attributes the rapid ascent of Duran in the military ranks to the favor which Duran enjoyed with the Communist Party in Spain. This source declared that Duran was very close to the Communists in Spain, if not an actual member of the Party, and because of Duran's acceptability to the Communists, he went ahead much more rapidly than other officers of greater experience and equal ability. (The informant stated that since arriving in Havana, Duran has not associated with his former friends, and he has kept aloof from the Communist Party in Cuba.) (S) U

*omit*  
Gustavo Duran has made statements concerning the Communist Party in Spain and the part they played in the Spanish Civil War. These statements were made to a representative of the Bureau attached to the American Embassy in Havana, and in the course of his remarks concerning the Communists, Duran consistently referred to them as "they" and never gave any indication that he personally was a member of the Communist Party. As noted above, Duran stated that he was not in Madrid after 1938, and declared that he was in no position to know whether the Communists fought against the Republicans and the CNT in Madrid. U

OF POSSIBLE INTEREST  
INFORMATION CONCERNING ASSOCIATES AND SPONSORS OF GUSTAVO DURAN

Bonte Romilly Crompton

As previously mentioned, Gustavo Duran married Bonte Romilly Crompton in England on December 4, 1939. Duran's wife is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

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David Henry Crompton of Rye, New York, and Wilton, New Hampshire. ~~David Henry Crompton entered the United States in 1909, and became Vice President of the Beeth Shipping Company. Another daughter married Michael Straight of New York and England, who is presently reported to be employed by the United States Government and is said to be a Socialist.~~

no HP  
reported notation  
It is ~~to be noted~~ that the name "Bonte Crompton, Wilton, New Hampshire" was found among the papers of ~~subject~~ Leon W. Davis of Detroit, Michigan, at the time of his ~~apprehension~~ <sup>and</sup> by Bureau Agents in the ~~Detroit Spanish Enlistment Case~~ on February 6, 1940. ~~Upon interview,~~ Davis stated that Bonte Crompton was a tourist whom he had met during his travels in France. u

(77-26928; 54-603-107p73) {in connection with charges of violation of United States laws, based on enlistments in the Spanish Loyalist Army, Spain.

George Kenneth Holland

is reported to have been interviewed by one  
When applying for employment by the United States Government, Gustavo Duran, ~~named~~ Kenneth Holland of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, as a reference. It developed that this reference had known Gustavo Duran for approximately one year, and stated that he knew of no derogatory information concerning Duran. ~~It is to be noted that George Kenneth Holland, an employee~~ a Director of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, Office for Emergency Management, ~~has been reported as being~~ was investigated by the Bureau in a Hatch Act Case based on information that Holland was listed in the indices of the Communist Front Organizations "American Peace Mobilization" and the "Washington Committee for Democratic Action." (No administrative action was taken by the Office for Emergency Management upon receipt of the Bureau's report in the matter.) u

Luis Bunuel

connected with  
This individual, a ~~Director~~ of the Museum of Modern Art of New York City, has been previously mentioned as a close personal friend of Gustavo Duran, since 1920. ~~Luis Bunuel was also named as a reference by Duran in seeking a United States Government position, and Bunuel gave a favorable recommendation. The Bureau files reflect that Luis Bunuel, a native of Spain, originally entered the United States on September 25, 1938, under a Diplomatic Visa, admittedly representing the Government of Spain for the purpose of engaging in propaganda work for the Spanish Republican Government. It is reported that Bunuel left Spain with the assistance of two Spanish officials who are described as definitely linked with the Communist Party, one of whom is said to be an International Agent of the Party. Bunuel was originally denied a United States Immigration Visa in view of his connections with the Spanish Republican Government and the suggestion that Bunuel was either a Communist or a fellow traveler. However, a Visa Board of Appeals then was finally granted an Immigration Visa to Bunuel upon his assertion that he was not a member of the Communist Party. As previously mentioned, Bunuel enlisted in the Spanish Loyalist Army with Gustavo Duran on July 17, 1936.~~ u

(77-26928-; 40-9528-5; 100-17826-3,7)

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Charles Seeger

This individual <sup>is reported to have understood</sup> ~~was also named by~~ Gustavo Duran <sup>when the latter applied</sup> ~~as a reference in~~ applying for a position with the United States Government, and a favorable recommendation was given for Duran by Charles Seeger. ~~The Bureau files~~ <sup>It is also reported</sup> ~~reveal that the name of Charles Seeger appeared on the active indices of the Communist Front organization "American Peace Mobilization," no investigation~~ <sup>prior to the</sup> ~~being conducted inasmuch as~~ Seeger was removed from the Government pay rolls, and became employed by the Pan American Union. <sup>U</sup>

END OF BUREAU

(100-1473-1)

Ernest Hemingway

The activities of Ernest Hemingway in connection with anti-Fascist and Communist Front organizations in the United States are well known. In August, 1942, Hemingway volunteered his services to the American Ambassador in Havana, offering to assist in intelligence work in Cuba. The Ambassador asked the opinion of the Bureau Legal Attache in the matter, and was advised that Hemingway had signed a petition denouncing the FBI in regard to the Detroit Spanish Enlistment Case in 1940, and had more recently referred to the FBI as "The American Gestapo." Nevertheless, the Ambassador engaged the services of Hemingway, who set up an intelligence organization consisting of paid informants, the entire activity being under the personal direction of the American Ambassador. In August, 1942, Hemingway suggested that Gustavo Duran be transferred from his Government position in the United States to assist Hemingway in his intelligence activities in Cuba. The arrangement was to be a temporary one for a period of thirty days, during which time Duran was to take charge of Hemingway's intelligence organization <sup>while Hemingway</sup> ~~was absent on a mission for the Naval Attache in connection with anti-sub-~~ <sup>marine activities.</sup> ~~Hemingway assured the Ambassador that Duran is a military~~ <sup>and intelligence genius, who is a "pure Republican and not a Communist," who</sup> ~~would be able to obtain complete information concerning the Spanish Falange~~ <sup>in Cuba.</sup>

Although the American Ambassador was advised by the Bureau Legal Attache that Gustavo Duran was at that time actually an employee of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the Ambassador took the position that if Duran were transferred to the Embassy, he would be working directly under the Ambassador. Duran arrived in Cuba in November, 1942, and began working with Hemingway. The "intelligence coverage" of Hemingway consisted of vague and unfounded reports of a sensational character. Duran's work in Cuba has not been of the same sensational character as Hemingway's, but the reports which have been submitted through Duran are, nevertheless, unspecific and unverified. Duran attempted to accomplish a coverage of public opinion in Cuba, which he submitted in reports entitled "The Voice of the Street." These reports have contained statements made by persons in cafes, bars, and poolrooms, and, thus, do not represent a fair cross section of general public

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