



SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO  
FILE No. \_\_\_\_\_

December 10, 1953

NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO

The following information has been received from a source of unknown reliability:

Reports are being circulated in the Insular Penitentiary, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, indicating that 30 Nationalists are to be pardoned on December 22, 1953, by Luis Munoz Marin, Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This report, which allegedly originated from Nationalist contacts within the Governor's Office, indicates that all Nationalists serving less than life sentences will be pardoned as a "Christmas gift from the Governor."

According to the source, Jose Antonio Negrón Rodriguez expects to be released if the Governor pardons the Nationalists as indicated in the report. Negrón stated that, if he is released, he intends to kill the Insular Prosecuting Attorney, Viera Martínez, who handled a number of the prosecutions of the Nationalists following the October-November, 1950, Nationalist uprising in Puerto Rico. Negrón also indicated he intends to kill two FBI Agents who he believes persecuted him.

Negrón further indicated that, within a few days after his release, he plans to steal weapons from the National Guard Armory at Bayamon, Puerto Rico. In this connection, it is reported Negrón is in possession of a diagram containing the physical layout of the Armory, as well as a list of the weapons supposedly stored there. Negrón plans to utilize a truck owned by Antonio Moya Velez in connection with the removal of the weapons from the Armory.

With regard to Moya Velez, independent reliable sources have confirmed that he does, in fact, own a small truck in which he has been seen together with members of the Nationalist Party in the San Juan, Puerto Rico, area.



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It is reported that, with regard to the obtaining of weapons from the Armory, Negron plans to use Juan Munoz Matos, Diego Quinones Gonzalez, and Juan Sandoval Ramos, who are members of the Nationalist Party.

Munoz Matos is currently incarcerated in the Insular Penitentiary, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico; however, he is scheduled for release upon the expiration of his sentence on December 11, 1953. Quinones Gonzalez is presently at liberty and Sandoval Ramos is reported to have departed for the United States in October, 1953.

The source reported that Negron plans to obtain the weapons from the Armory quietly and without violence, if possible, by bribing an elderly watchman, who allegedly has custodial and watchman duties at the Armory during off hours, or awaiting a guard period during which National Guardsmen friendly to the Nationalists are present.

Negron advised the source that, if the reported pardons of the Nationalists are not forthcoming, Munoz Matos will direct the robbery at an as yet undecided date.

Negron is reported to have stated that the Nationalists in Puerto Rico are now in possession of 30 Luger pistols, 2 Thompson submachine guns, 12 carbines, and some .45 caliber pistols.

Negron allegedly stated that, if the permission of Pedro Albizu Campos, President of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, were requested for an assassination or terrorist tactics at this time, he, Negron, believed Albizu Campos would refuse. However, Negron believes Albizu Campos would approve of violence provided the violence were perpetrated without his prior knowledge.

According to the source, Negron contends that the proper time for violence is now because of recent statements made by United States officials relative to independence for Puerto Rico. Negron stated the Nationalists should strike "while the iron is hot" in order to continue focusing world attention and sympathy on Puerto Rico's struggle for freedom.



Negron did not expect the Nationalists to bring about a successful revolution in the sense that they could take over the Government, but wished only to utilize the incident for drawing world interest to the situation in Puerto Rico. Negron indicated that Nationalists who are captured during such a revolution would receive at most a life sentence. It is noted there is no capital punishment in Puerto Rico, the maximum sentence being life, which is usually equivalent to fifteen years' imprisonment. Negron believes that, if Nationalists were imprisoned for participating in such a revolution, they would be released as heroes once Puerto Rico gains complete independence.

The source described Negron as a fanatic who is desirous of a Nationalist uprising.

In connection with the machine guns and carbines mentioned above, a reliable source advised on December 2, 1953, that 6 machine guns, 2 carbines, and approximately 2000 rounds of ammunition were sent piece by piece and mixed with the personal effects of travelers to Puerto Rico.

This reliable source also advised that he learned from a prominent Nationalist in Chicago, Illinois, that this Nationalist expects to see Puerto Rico liberated "soon." This Nationalist stated that, when the revolution comes, the Nationalists will attack the cities in bands of 25 each, which bands will form in the mountains of Puerto Rico.

In connection with the above-mentioned pardons, the Governor of Puerto Rico advised that he has no specific plans at this time to grant a large number of pardons to incarcerated Nationalists; however, he will continue to follow the policy of granting pardons when individual facts of a specific case merit consideration. The Governor added that he was at this time considering a number of petitions for pardons regarding individuals who were convicted of violation of the Subversive Activities Law, but who had not actually participated in the Nationalist uprising in 1950.

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