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BY HAND

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE
ADDRESSED: -THE COMMISSIONER, P.
R.C.M. POLICE,
OTTAWA

HEADQUARTERS

OTTAWA,

CANADA

May 18, 1962.

SECRET

Dear Mr. Innes:

On May 3, 1962 your office was telephonically advised by Sgt. STEWART of this Directorate that Cuban nationals Didier de Jesús DARIAS LOPEZ and his wife, Ofelia Cabrera Rodriguez, passengers on Czech Airlines Flight 524/02 from Havana, Cuba to Prague, Czechoslovakia, sought political asylum when the above mentioned flight touched down for re-fueling on May 2, 1962 at Halifax, N.S. International Airport. Attached please find copies of additional detail which has now become available and is supplied for your information.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
J. R. W. Bordeleau
Assistant Commissioner
Director,
Security & Intelligence.

THE FOREGOING IS PASSED FOR THE INFORMATION OF YOUR AGENCY. IT MAY BE DISSEMINATED FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES IF NECESSARY BUT THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE IS NOT TO BE NAMED AS THE SOURCE.

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DATE 4-20-85 BY 6668 SLN/ude
(JFK)

Mr. Moss Lee Innes,
c/o U.S. Embassy,
O T T A W A, Ontario.

105-89660-173

ENCLOSURE

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When Flight 524/02 landed at Halifax International Airport at approximately 8:00 P.M. on May 2, 1962, the passengers and crew of this aircraft entered the Airport building. DARIAS and his wife immediately approached the first person they saw wearing a Canadian uniform and requested political asylum in Canada.

2. DARIAS and his wife both can read and speak English fluently, and after their intentions to request political asylum were made clear, it was decided by the Canadian officials present that the Captain of the Czech Airlines plane should be advised that DARIAS and his wife would be remaining in Canada. When they left the aircraft, they took two small overnight bags with them, however, a large suitcase, containing mostly clothes, was stored in the luggage compartment of the aircraft. When Captain Vaclav BRAUM was advised that DARIAS and his wife would be remaining in Canada, he ordered that the luggage be unloaded from the aircraft and that the suitcase belonging to them be searched for explosives. The plane was unloaded by the Czech crew and was also searched by them. After this was completed, the suitcase belonging to DARIAS was taken into the cockpit of the aircraft and Captain BRAUM refused to turn it over to the Canadian Immigration Officer. Captain BRAUM requested that an official document, signed by the Canadian police, be given to him stating that DARIAS and his wife were remaining in Canada. This request was ignored by the Immigration Officer. The aircraft, after the luggage belonging to the other passengers had been reloaded, took off from Halifax International Airport at approximately 1:00 A.M. on May 3, 1962. DARIAS and his wife were placed in the custody of Canadian Immigration authorities at Halifax. From interviews with them on the 2nd and 9th of May, 1962, the following identifying details were obtained:

Czech Express Canada NY
Former address 606 Serrano St Havana, Cuba
 Didier de Jesus DARIAS Lopez - was not in possession of a passport, however, he was in possession of the following described identification cards:

- (1) Radio Habana Cuba
- (2) Asociacion Nacional de Profesionales Publicitarios.
- (3) Republica de Cuba - Colegio Nacional de Profesionales, Publicitarios.
- (4) Republica de Cuba, Ministerio de Gobernacion.
- (5) Licencia de Conduccion (Drivers License)

Born - October 15, 1936 - Havana, Cuba.

Married - August 9, 1958, Havana, Cuba, at Melagrosa Church, Santos Suarez - Both civil and church marriages performed on same date.

He was married to Ofelia Cabrera Rodriguez.
 (No documents to verify this marriage)

They have no children.

Parents - Both living, however, they are now separated.

Darias
 Mother - Francisca LOPEZ Prieto,
 162 St. Nicolas Street, Apt. 11,
 Havana, Cuba.

Father - Carlos DARIAS Leon,
 1913 64th Street, Marianao,
 Havana, Cuba.

DARIAS has no brothers or sisters.

Addresses - Since his marriage in 1958, he has resided at 606 Serrano Street, Havana, Cuba.

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Education - Bachillerato (High School) - 5 years, 1948 to 1953.
Trelles College and Public Institute.
Did not complete his university education, however,
he was studying part-time until 1956.

Employment - 1952 - 1955 Cuban National Library
1955 - 1957 Public Works Ministry, Stenographer
1957 - 1959 The Merchandising Surveyors and Advertising
Agency - Copy writer.
1959 - Sept. 1960 - Colgate-Palmolive Co. in the
Advertising Department, as Advertising
Executive, and later as the Director's
Assistant in the Research Department.
Sept. 1960 - May 1962 - Radio Havana Cuba - Script writer.

.....
The following particulars obtained pertaining to his wife.

2582 Exact Copy NY
Ofelia Cabrera Rodriguez *Darias*

Born - November 29, 1928, Havana, Cuba.
Documents - Passport for the Republic of Cuba, No. 38975.
Last address since 1958 - Serrano 606, Apt. 2, Santos Suarez, Havana,
Cuba.
Parents - Mother and father separated. *Cabrera*
Mother - Maria Asuncion RODRIGUEZ-Rodriguez. Living with
DARIAS and his wife at Serrano 606, Apt. 2,
Santos Suarez, Havana, Cuba.
Father - Juan Jose CABRERA Gonzalez,
Address - 10 October St. 908, Vibora, Havana, Cuba.

Other members of family and addresses:

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Address for file
Sisters - Sarah CABRERA Rodriguez - Age 35 *5 APR 1927*
11 Street 355, Casino,
Deportivo, Havana, Cuba.
Celia CABRERA Rodriguez - Age 25 *1 APR 1931*
St. Julio 258, Santos Suarez,
Havana, Cuba.
Brothers - Rolando CABRERA Rodriguez - Age 36 *2 APR 1926*
Gonzalo CABRERA Rodriguez - Age 18 *2 APR 1944*
Both living with father at 10 October Street, 908, Vibora, Havana, Cuba.
Employment - 1950 - 1961 - Ministry of Public Works - Stenographer.
1961 - May 1962 - Housewife.

DARIAS and his wife were in possession of \$24.00 in American
money. They have been making plans for seeking political asylum for
the past year, and a half, and made arrangements for this tourist
trip about six months ago. The trip was arranged through the
Tourist Department of the Cuban Government, and the itinerary was to
cover fifteen days in Czechoslovakia and fifteen days in Russia. The
trip, although sponsored by the Cuban Government, was a tourist trip,
and the individual paid for his own fare. It cost DARIAS 2250 pesos
for himself and his wife.

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DARIAS stated that they have no relatives in the United States, nor have they corresponded with anyone in the U.S.A. DARIAS stated that when they requested political asylum upon arrival in Canada, it was their intention to apply for admission to the United States. DARIAS stated that they have no friends or relatives in the U.S.A. who would sponsor their admission to that country. DARIAS advised that if they were admitted to the U.S.A. they would like to go to New York and seek employment.

DARIAS stated that he was a supporter of Fidel CASTRO at the time of the revolution, however, he now feels that CASTRO has lost control of the Government, and that the Communists are now running the country. DARIAS stated that he never studied Communism, nor was he ever sympathetic towards Communism. He further stated that within the past six months, the officials of Radio Havana Cuba have had compulsory weekly lectures on Communism given to them by the Director of Radio Havana Cuba, and his name is Marcos BEHARRAS, who is considered to be a Communist. DARIAS, who appeared to be honest and trustworthy, was extremely co-operative, and after he had been questioned along numerous, different lines, he was asked if he could prepare a summary or brief of the executive structure of Radio Havana Cuba, and set out the names of the heads of the various departments, and also designate whether or not they are Communists, or Communist sympathizers. DARIAS was more than willing to co-operate and spent two days working constantly in preparing this brief. He wrote it originally in Spanish, and then with the assistance of his wife, translated it into English. This brief, which is ten pages long, deals not only with the Radio Havana Cuba structural organization, but also contains brief remarks by DARIAS under the Headings of - "The political apparatus in Cuba"; "CP's 'Active Revolutionary Nucleouses'; "Revolution's Defense Committees"; "Labour Unions", etc., and "How the Revolution's Defense Committees work in towns and cities", and "How the G-2 or State's Security Department Works".

3. This brief, of course, consists of DARIAS' own opinions and thoughts concerning individuals mentioned, and the reasons for his opinions were not dealt with in detail. Undoubtedly, DARIAS could provide further background information concerning Radio Havana Cuba, and if any particular point or name referred to in this brief needs to be explained in fuller detail, DARIAS stated that he would be willing to co-operate at any time. DARIAS requested that the dissemination of this brief be treated as Secret, due to the fact that members of his family and his wife's family are still residing in Cuba.

4. DARIAS and his wife were interviewed by the United States Consul in Halifax on May 8, 1962 and completed admission application forms for the U.S.A. at that time. It is expected that they will be granted admission to the U.S.A. in the near future.

5. You will find, attached, single photostatic copy of the above mentioned brief.

OTAWA
18, 1962.

SECRET

D 981-5-2-17-1

(Halifax SIS r/ 15-5-62)

Antecedents

In October 1960, because nationalization of all American enterprises in Cuba and also the most important Cuban ones, I lost my job as Assistant Director at Colgate-Palmolive of Cuba's Research Department. I had started with Colgate a year before, successfully, as an advertising Junior Executive or Brand-man.

Though the nationalization was the shock that vanished my last sympathies for the new Cuban government, in that very moment I was not prepared to leave my country. I had never come out of Cuba and it looked hard to me to live abroad. I was wrong when thought that my country was crossing under a black cloud, and that everything would soon turn to be like it was before.

Hence the government had announced that nobody would be thrown away as a consequence of nationalization although their functions would have disappeared, quoting all the people whose before jobs had to do with advertising, radio or TV, could go to the Ministry of Communications' Telecommunications Department, which would continue paying their salaries until send them to new jobs according with their qualifications.

After two months considering whether leaving or not Cuba, finally I decided to stay, and in December 1960 went to Telecommunications Department. In effect, they paid me my salary and informed me in that opportunity that all advertising men who had lose their jobs, would be soon called to work in a new radio station, directed by advertising men too; among them were mentioned Marcos Behmaras, Pedro Costa and Jose A. Caines, all them people that i knew before. Behmaras was perhaps the most brilliant radio and TV writer, famous by his high incomes; Pedro Costa, a well known marketing researcher; and Caines, an excellent radio and TV director and producer in the most important private network of Cuba: CMQ. I had worked a few years before with Behmaras and Costa in an ad-

*Cuba
C.P. Mendez*

vertising agency (Mercados, Surveys y Publicidad, S.A.), and I thought I knew them well. Nevertheless, I did not know the most important thing about this people: the three ones -I learned it later- were affiliated to Communist Party.

I went on receiving my salary from Telecommunications Department and in March 1961 I was called to Radio Progreso Building's 6th floor (105 Infanta St., Havana), where I saw Pedro Costa who told me there would be the studios and offices of the new radio station, which name would be Radio Havana Cuba and would broadcast for abroad; that he would be the Administrator and Behmaras the Director and Cainas the Vice-Director, but as those ones had so many duties outside by the moment, they could not occupy their positions right away. I was appointed to write three scripts for each of the 30 minutes programmes named "Popular Cuban Composers", "Cuba in the country" and "Our listeners make questions to us". I wrote only for the former two and a month later presented them. Behmaras and Cainas were there already. They met with me, read the scripts and told me those had no "political content", and asked me why I had not written anything for "Our listeners make questions to us". I told them that it was certainly difficult to write about imaginary letters and questions. We discussed about the matter for a while and finally they told me to be in stand-by until they give me a new task.

Days later I was called up again, this time for a sort of staff meeting in which surprisingly appeared Cesar Escalante, a top old-communist chief. This man has in his hands all the radio and TV stations in Cuba. During the meeting he referred to Behmaras, Cainas and Costa as "comrades"; he told the personnel that new Radio Havana Cuba had a remarkable importance to the Revolution, and so that, all personnel had to be at such "high level", so, among other things, nobody there could resign or be absent of such "responsibility". Afterwards, this kind of meeting was hold frequently.

After that I was called up again and received orders to direct the programme named "Cuba in the country", a musical-descriptive one,

CP Member Cuba

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with songs interpreted by folkloric groups of peasants and speeches about the Cuba's natural beauties, the agrarian reform and present "better way of life" of Cuban peasants. I was directing this one and other musical or descriptive ones until November 1961.

*Czech
Cuba*
In October 1961 came to RHC a Czech who was introduced as Jiri Nedela, a top red chief from Radio Prague, who came to give RHC an "advanced" structure. This Czech was about a month and a half in RHC. He spent the first month studying very carefully, in a humiliating way, the personal file of each one, and the way of functioning of every department. He spoke in English. Afterwards I knew he spoke Spanish too, but hid it.

The Czech supported the thesis -and of course it was accepted- that political untrusty people -me for instance- might be used in works of some responsibility, and, instead of isolate those people, on the contrary they had to be joined to the reds and "work on them", in order to indoctrinate them and "join them to the revolutionary process".

I supposed this because coincidently the last time the Czech was there, I myself and other people that I knew felt as me, were joined in a Department named something like News Summary Department, whose functions, under the vigilance of a communist Head, were to summarize news, speeches and informations from the news-papers and those coming through the government's New Agency "Prensa Latina". The Czech "suggested" too a sort of courses of political indoctrination called "Study Circles", which were held at least once a week. These courses were obligatory for all the writing, speaking and producing personnel and "optional" for the rest. The courses were conducted by Behmaras and by the Spanish communist theoretic Jose Gonzalez-Gonzalez. There were read and explained communist texts. Finally the conductors asked questions to the people about the matter.

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C. P. MEMO

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STRUCTURAL ORGANIZATION

The Radio Station is divided into Sections. Each Section prepares all the programmes, news and speeches broadcasted to each part of the world. Sections are English (USA, Canada & Europe); Latin American (all America's Spanish speaking countries); French (Europe & may be Canada); Portuguese (Brazil); and Spain (Europe).

In addition, RHC "borrows its microphones" for half an hour two or three times a week to Guatemala's, Dominican Republic's, Peru's and Guatemala communists now settled in Cuba. These programmes are prepared by that people out of RHC. (Guatemala: Former President Jacobo Arbenz and others I do not know. - Dominican Republic: Juan Doucoudray, Felix Dubrocq and others I do not know. - Peru and Nicaragua I do not know the people.)

Direction

Cesar Escalante, Political "Commissar". He is the maximum responsible before the Government and the Communist Party not only for RHC but for all Cuban radio and TV stations. Has no office in RHC. Goes there two or three times a week.

Marcos Behmaras, Director. Member of the Cuban Communist Party.

José A. Caines, Vicedirector. Cuban CP.

Pedro Costa, Administrator and Personnel Chief. Cuban CP.

Sections

English

Joseph North, Chief. American CP.

Lucia Corona, Chief. Cuban CP.

Barbara Collins, writer and speaker. I do not know if American CP.

Francisca Mendez, speaker. Cuban CP.

Angel Hernandez, speaker. Cuban. I do not know his political opinion.

Matalia Revueltas, translator and writer. Cuban. I do not know her political opinion.

Victor Kloster, speaker and writer. Canadian CP. (He is the husband of Cuban CP's woman, Trinidad Redonett, who works for red TV Channel 6.)

Canadian married couple, about 55, recently arrived, whose names I do not know. They speak Spanish like if would have lived in a Spanish speaking country.

CP Member

of Guatemala

Cuba

member

Cuba

Cuba

C.P. Member

U.S.

C.P. member

C.P. Member

Canada

C.P. member

Kloster

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The political apparatus in Cuba. CP's "Active Revolutionary Nucleouses", Revolution's Defense Committees, Labor Unions, etc.

These considerations are applicable not only for RHC but for all offices and industries actually in the Government's hands - a 90%. On the contrary much people supposed to, the political apparatus is formed by very few members, although it does not mean that it is not a very powerful one. Not everybody who wants it can become an affiliate to CP. The affiliates must be very "chosen" people. The main condition is to have no scrupulous in denouncing anyone whether or not be a relative or a friend.

Each industry or office has three main forms of political organization: the top one: CP's so-called "Active Revolutionary Nucleouses" (CP's cellules); Revolution's Defense Committees and Labor Unions. The chiefs of these organizations, and their members, as a rule are always the same people.

Nucleouses rule the activities in every industry or office. For example: it is of going to a meeting, an assembly or a masses "demonstration", or it is of doing the so-called "voluntary" work, or some other activity, the Nucleous' members or the Union's ones talk personally to each one of the workers in order to obtain their assistance or "cooperation". The same way, workers are forced to integrate the so-called "Militia", which almost everyone have to belong to, so that they became under military laws. Thus anyone cannot resign nor even leave the office or industry when they wish.

The Revolution's Defense Committees, work in all the industries and offices, under the direction of the G-2 or State's Security Department. The Committees' members meet periodically, in secret, and study carefully the life, attitude and feelings of each worker

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Speakers Leila ~~Praga~~ ^{Cuba} and Alfredo ~~Gonzalez~~ ^{Cuba} (a Cuban repatriate from US);
and tape-recorder Armando ~~Oliva~~ ^{Cuba} are openly considered as non sympathizers.
And a great number of other tape-recorders, radio-operators and technicians whose name I dont know. Most of them are openly considered as non sympathizers.

Public Relations Department

This one answers all the outer correspondance and designs all the pamphlets, booklets and red propaganda sent abroad. Accommodates in Havana the newcomers to RNC from other countries.

Carlos Benitez, Chief. Venezuela's CP. ^{Member Cuba Venezuela}
Fidel ~~Gonzalez~~, Vice-Chief. Cuban. ^{CP} ~~Sympathizer.~~ ^{Cuba}
And others whose names and political opinions I donot know.

The clerk personnel of all the Sections and Departments (typewriters, stenographers, phonists, etc.), as a general rule, is openly considered as non sympathizer. Most of them came from extinguished advertising agencies or expropriated radio stations. An exception is chauffeur Juan N. ^{Vargas} (a Cuban repatriate), affiliated at Cuban CP. He handles the RNC's labor union. ^{Member Cuba}

RNC's studios and offices are at 105 Infanta Street (Radio Progreso Building), Havana. The main transmission equipments are not in this place but in one of Havana province which I do not know. Transmissions originated at Infanta go there through phone lines.

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Latin AmericanJacinto Castellanos, Chief. El Salvador CP. Cuba C.P. MemberMelita Martin, Chief. Cuban CP. Member CubaEduardo Dalton, writer. El Salvador CP. Member CubaJose Gonzalez-Jerez, writer. Spain CP. A communist theoretician. C.P. MemberAlfredo Vinas, writer. Cuban. Sympathizer. CubaFrenchGraciella Blondel, Chief. French. CP Sympathizer. Cuba

Lucien Grenier, writer. French. Openly considered as non sympathizer.

Antoine Petit, writer. Haitien. I do not know if CP. CubaPortuguesePedro Porfirio Sampaio, chief until two months ago. Returned to Brazil. Brazilian Trabalhista (Labor) Party's communist sympathizer. CubaElsa Botelho, speaker. Brazilian. Openly considered as non sympathizer. Escalona Brazil CubaShe is the wife of a former Cuban ambassador, Mariano Escalona, communist sympathizer himself. Cuba Brazil

Now the Section's Chief is another Brazilian recently arrived. I do not know if CP but suppose so. Whose only name I know is first, Carlos.

SpanishSalomero Alvarez-Rios, chief. Cuban. CP Sympathizer. CubaAnselmo Lopez-Blanco, writer. Cuban. Openly considered as non sympathizer. CubaOther DepartmentsNews Summary Department

This one summarizes the news, speeches and informations daily appeared in the papers and coming through the Government's News Agency "Prensa Latina". People here have instructions of writing no comments on informations, only the "facts". The informations are passed around to Sections.

Orlando Fundora, Chief. Cuban CP.

Cuba and redactors Raul Quintana, Jesus Rego, Carmen Villar and myself until defection. All of them, except Chief, are openly considered as non sympathizers.

Production Department

Here are the speakers, producers, tape-recorders, radio-operators, etc.

12 Nucleus or of the Committee, except themselves. Another different case is the Labor Union's members. Everybody knows who they are, but do not know if they are also members of the Nucleus or

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the Committee. To elect the Labor Union chiefs, the Nucleous assembly the personnel in which in a simple way obtain the approval to agreements taken beforehand.

The Revolution's Defense Committees, are formed by the affiliates to the Communist Party or to the Communist Youth or the Communist Women Federation, and also by some weak or coward people or just ingenuitous sympathizers of the Revolution.

The members of the Nucleous form properly the Communist Party, named in Cuba "Unite Revolutionary Organizations" (ORI). Almost all of them are the members of the old Partido Socialista Popular de Cuba (CP), although ORI is supposed to be formed also by the members of the two most remarkable organizations that fought against Batista -- "26th of July Movement" (Castro and his men) and "13th of March Directory" (students).

The ORI has a Central Committee of 25 members, preceded by Castro. Every of these men is in charge of an important branch of the national life and the industrial or agricultural production. Below the Central Committee are the Provincial Directions of the ORI, one for each Province; the Sectional Directions, one for each city district; and the Active Revolutionary Nucleouses, one for each industry or office. I guess this is the similar organization functioning in Russia and other communist countries, with same ideology, purposes and procedures.

Finally, there are also the Communist Youth and the Federation of Communist Women. But these two organizations, at least in this moment, concerning to power, have relatively little importance in Cuba.

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How the Revolution's Defense Committees work in towns and cities

Hence Committees in every industry or office, there is a Committee in every block at every town and city all over the country. They are directed by sinister G-2 or State's Security Department. They meet at least once a week and analyze the feeling concerning the Revolution of every neighbor or family, house by house, apartment, by apartment in each block. Their members watch the neighborhood 24 hours a day. They check every package coming out the homes, so that nobody, among those who want to leave the country --and almost everyone, specially in middle-class zones, is considering to leave it--, can take out his properties to sell them or to present them to relatives.

When any family is being visited by strangers or simply by many members of their own family, Committees call G-2. Sometimes they report at political authorities at industries or offices the workers that are not absolutely adicted to Revolution or did not like to adorn their home's front with communist propaganda that Committees pass around, for example the hatred red banner. They also call G-2 when a family receives correspondance from abroad. When somebody apply for his passport before the Ministry of Foreign Relations, this Department report to the Committee of the block in which the person is living and to the office or industry in which works.

How the G-2 or State's Security Department works

G-2 is perhaps the only Government's Department that makes its job good today. It uses the same method and organization as Russia's Secret Police or NKVD. Whispers in Cuba say that G-2 is properly directed by the Russia's Embassy at Havana. Its apparent Chief is Major Ramiro Valdes, Ministry of Interior and member of the Communist Party's Central Committee. This man, about a year ago, spent several months in Russia, learning advanced repression methods.

G-2 has military and civil members. Military members are the men of action that perform detentions. Civil members are divided into

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two classes: official and non official members. The official ones render visible functions, almost every time as escort or detectives.

The non official members are the very dangerous ones. They never visit G-2's offices neither have identification cards nor carry weapons as a rule. They usually receive instructions by telephone in their own homes after countersigns, and give their information in the same way. They generally do an apparently normal life, working in any industry or office and even their bosses do not know their other lives.

When G-2 knows or supposed to that any kind of conspiracy against the Government has started in any place, or simply they believe that a possibility of conspiring does exist, send the non-official members to infiltrate in such activities. Sometimes whispers say, G-2 creates by itself a sort of artificial conspiracy in some place, in order to know, jail or eliminate the people able to conspire or be actively unhappy with the Government. Thus they easily fall in the trap.

Another G-2's method is the following: as there are always unhappy people with the Government or non adict to it in anyplace, they are constantly moving from an office or industry to another this kind of people, in order to they cannot create a conspiracy focus there.