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*note - Hunt
is here now,
after you
have read (the
undecided case
portion) of
Walt Raymond.
I talked to Hunt
before.*

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Remarks: Johns			
<p>Here, at long last, is [Winterrowd's] report on his talks with Ray et al. also a letter from Lince. As I mentioned earlier, he will be in town next week (13-16 Aug) and I will question him as to the status of all this sort of thing. Do you have any specifics (other than the Draper circulation plan)?</p>			
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Walt R. Johns, J D 0117 x 7698			10 AUG
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VISIT WITH MANJEL RAY AND CARLOS DIAZO IN PUERTO RICO

DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE, 1962

The purpose of this visit was to discuss the possibility of a Cuban information bulletin in line with the suggestion made some weeks earlier by Javier Pazos. This was also an opportunity to discuss other activities upon which we might possibly collaborate. I spoke with Ray for two or three hours following a day long discussion with Diago. When I described for Ray the project of the Cuban information bulletin as Diago and I conceived of it, he was enthusiastic. It should be recalled that I had moved away from Pazos's earlier conception of the bulletin and had come to the conclusion that such a bulletin would be most useful and unique if it were based on material coming from inside Cuba. In other words, we would not wish merely to duplicate bulletins such as "Truth about Cuba" which are prepared in exile and written by exiles with their own particular slant. We have a model for the kind of bulletin I am discussing in our own Boletín Informativo which is based on materials prepared entirely inside Spain. Both Diago and Ray accepted enthusiastically this conception of the bulletin and both assured me that a regular flow of information from inside Cuba could be maintained. Diago apparently has a few sources of information who can send him material through diplomats traveling out of Cuba. Ray has a much more extensive network through which he procures a regular flow of information. Thus we agreed on the nature of the bulletin.

The next question was that of sponsorship, since I do not feel that the Congress should be directly involved in such an effort. The two possibilities we discussed were the group around the magazine POLITICA in Venezuela and the school in Costa Rica which trains

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democratic political cadres. Ray was very positive about the school and thought that it would be a very good sponsor. He spoke enthusiastically about the work being done there and felt that this would be the most suitable place for the preparation of the bulletin. I told him that we would move ahead along these lines and see if we could interest the school in this proposition. He, in turn, promised his full support for the project and agreed to make available the information at his disposal on a regular basis. The project for the bulletin is now in the hands of Father Nunes at the Costa Rican school. I have sent him a detailed outline of how we conceive of the bulletin, and have asked him to discuss it with Baesa Flores during Baesa Flores's stay at the school in July. Ideally, I would think that someone from the school would want to meet with Carlos Diago and Faste Maso who is presently in Venezuela. These two young men would be the most likely people to produce the kind of bulletin described above. It might furthermore be useful to meet with Ray since he would be producing most of the information used in the bulletin, at least in the beginning. The question of where the bulletin should be located was left open. But ~~Mexico City~~ locating it in Mexico City under the direction of Victor Alba might be a useful way of proceeding. I continue to feel that it would best be located at the school itself where the production of such a bulletin could be fitted in to the regular curriculum of the school. Baesa Flores will be discussing the project in Costa Rica and will then pass by Puerto Rico in order to discuss the matter further with Ray. By early September, we should know where we are on this project.

With regard to a more general discussion with Ray, I would like to point out a number of the things which he mentioned to me.

In the first place, he was very warm in his praise of

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our Servicio de Prensa which he finds very useful. Furthermore, he offered his help in the distribution of the Draper book and of CUADERNOS in Cuba. For this purpose, he suggested that we send copies of CUADERNOS, a hundred per month, regularly to Ezequiel Cisneros who lives at 347 North East 36th Street, Miami, Florida. Cisneros would act under the instructions of Ray as the distributor in Cuba for CUADERNOS and other materials which we would produce.

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Ray also urged that we do whatever possible in the Dominican Republic. He spoke of the many needs of the intellectuals there, and of the role which the Congress could play. He has agreed to send forward a list of names and addresses of people who should be receiving our materials and with whom we should be in contact.

With regard to his own plans, he spoke of his intention to start a 16-page newspaper in the near future. Furthermore, he is making active efforts to start up a radio station. He bases his activities on the belief that an uprising in Cuba is possible if an alternative is offered to Fidel on the one hand, and the Miami exile group on the other. My general impression of Ray was a good one. He struck me as a moderate, intelligent man, little given to hysteria and slogan-mongering. His best quality seems to be his skill as an organizer. He did not strike me as someone with great leadership potential, at least in terms of mass appeal. He did seem to be a practical and personally well-organized fellow with whom one can work on a systematic basis. He spent most of his time with me elaborating his conviction that an uprising in Cuba is possible provided a (third) alternative is found. The other point which he stressed was his sadness at the lack of comprehension in the United States for his cause and the lack of support for his movement. I am not in a position to assess how much of what he said is accurate, but on the basis of these few hours of conversation with him, I would tend to believe most of what he told me.

(see Ray) >

In closing, I should say that most of our talk was of a limited and practical nature dealing primarily with the bulletin project and with the various activities which he can undertake

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with respect to the distribution of our materials. I did discuss with him briefly the idea of running a symposium in CUADERNOS assessing the present state of the Cuban revolution, its probable development, and the steps which must be taken for the preparation of a new program for Cuba's development. He personally believed that this would be a useful thing for CUADERNOS to undertake, and at no time seemed anxious to limit the contributors to such a symposium to those people who were members of his own particular group. Throughout our talks, I found him free of those tendencies toward exclusiveness which one encounters so often in exile groups, and on every question whether it concerns the bulletin or the symposium in CUADERNOS, or our possible work in the Dominican Republic, he agreed that objectivity was the only basis upon which we can work and that the open ^{from} ~~idea~~ approach was best. I found that he was an easy man to get along with and one who makes an impression of sincerity, forthrightness, determination, and something much more intangible which I would call personal cleanness. I intend to look in ways of working further with him in the future.

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