

The Cuban Bin Laden

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. Otto Reich's principal task as ambassador to Venezuela was to free Orlando Bosch, that diabolical pediatrician and CIA tool, and his accomplice Posada Carriles, after they masterminded the sabotage of a Cuban airliner off Barbados. Working for the FBI, Bosch advocated, encouraged, organized and personally participated in acts of terrorism within the United States and in other countries. The State Department denied him a visa in 1987 because of his criminal past and his implication in terrorism, and Associate Attorney General Joe D. Whitley described him as a public danger. Nevertheless, he still walks the streets of Miami freely and continues to incite and organize attacks in that terrorist sanctuary, while the five Cuban patriots who risked their lives to prevent those attacks have received life terms. Is there really a war against terrorism?

BY JEAN-GUY ALLARD (Special for Granma International)

"EXILES financed explosions in Cuba," read a Nuevo Herald newspaper headline on November 16, 1997. That affirmation couldn't be clearer. However, in Miami, the United States' terrorist sanctuary, the such news didn't perturb anyone. And some years later, that metropolis is still totally beyond the reach of the law, the Senate and even the multimillion-dollar War on Terrorism.

A living example of the extent of this criminal tolerance is Orlando Bosch, the pediatrician of death, anti-Cuba arch-terrorist, protected by the Bush family, the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF) and the CIA. The brains, together with Luis Posada Carriles, behind the sabotage of a Cubana airliner in full flight, provoking the death of 73 passengers on October 6, 1976, killer Bosch is now

personally represented in the White House by his lifetime buddy Otto Reich, who sprung him from a Venezuelan jail.

Responsible for numerous acts of terrorism over the last 40 years, Bosch continues to practice his profession of terrorism, constantly advocating violence as a political method while being protected at the highest level of U.S. society.

The history of Bosch's crimes has been recounted on various occasions under various circumstances. However, one account that certainly has much credibility, bearing in mind his privileged relationship with the U.S. authorities, is that of Associate Attorney General Joe D. Whitley who, in May 1989, denied that dangerous character the asylum he was seeking.

During this period of the War on Terrorism, his ruling is extremely relevant.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT, TERRORIST ACTIVIST

In his written report, Whitley recalled how Orlando Bosch Avila, born in Cuba, had been admitted into the United States as a visitor on July 28, 1960, and authorized to remain in the country for no more than 30 days. However, Bosch remained there illegally from that time until April 12, 1974.

Despite his illegal status in the country, for eight years Bosch headed the Revolutionary Recuperation Insurrectional Movement (MIRR), which Whitley defined as an anti-Castro terrorist organization.

On September 16, 1968, Bosch was involved in firing a projectile from bazooka on the Polish vessel Polanica, which was then docked in the port of Miami. On November

15, 1968, Bosch was convicted in the District Court for the Southern District of Florida of various felony offenses arising out of the assault on the Polish vessel. At that time he was also convicted on an indictment that had charged him with using the telegraph to send letters to the president of Mexico, General Francisco Franco of Spain; and British Prime Minister Harold Wilson, threatening to damage and destroy their countries' ships and airplanes.

Bosch was paroled in 1972 and left the United States in 1974, thereby violating the terms of his parole.

More obsessed than ever with his terrorist mission, Bosch created and headed the Command of United Revolutionary Organizations (CORU) which, according to Whitley's dossier, claimed responsibility for numerous bombings in Miami, New York, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico, Argentina and elsewhere.

FROM VENEZUELAN PRISONS TO SANCTUARY SIDEWALKS

Then came the sabotage off the coast of Barbados, the most horrific of Bosch's crimes. Whitley describes it: "In October, 1976, Bosch was arrested in Venezuela in connection with the October 6, 1976 in-flight bombing of a civilian Cuban airliner, which resulted in the deaths of 73 men, women, and children. Though detained in Venezuela for eleven years on charges arising from this incident, he was finally acquitted."

The prosecutor adds: "At his trial, evidence was presented that the two men convicted of homicide in connection with the bombing were in contact with Bosch both before and after the bombing."

And there was a clear allusion to Bosch's privileged links with current Undersecretary of State Otto Reich, then U.S.

ambassador to Venezuela, as well as with the CIA and the Miami anti-Cuba mafia:

"Despite being related to a number of United States citizens or permanent resident aliens who have sought to help him obtain lawful immigration status in this country, Bosch's applications for both immigrant and non-immigrant visas were denied in 1987 by the Department of State because of his criminal history and involvement in terrorism."

We are still talking of the individual who is now freely walks the Miami streets, in the midst of the War on Terrorism.

Whitley continues: "Bosch, nevertheless, came to the United States from Venezuela on February 18, 1988, without valid entry documents. Upon arrival, Bosch was taken into custody on an outstanding warrant for his 1974 parole violation, and he served an additional three months for his violation."

After his release on May 17, 1988, Bosch was detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). At that time, the INS district director in Miami served Bosch with a notice of temporary exclusion, alleging that he was excludable from the United States because:

. "There is reason to believe he would seek to enter the United States solely, principally, or incidentally to engage in activities prejudicial to the public interest.

. "That he is or has been an alien who advocates or teaches or has been a member of an organization that advocates or teaches the duty, necessity, or propriety of assaulting or killing officers of any organized government.

. "That he is or has been an alien who advocates or teaches or has been a member of an organization that advocates or

teaches the unlawful damage, injury or destruction of property..."

In other words, the associate attorney general viewed Bosch as a public danger.

TERRORIST DOSSIER EVEN IN FBI FILES

The portrait of Bosch as drawn by Associate Attorney General Whitley is confined to the contents of the dossier presented him, but the record of the killer pediatrician is much wider, as we will see. However, when delineating his own views, Whitley came to a devastating conclusion and ended up by roundly rejecting the asylum application of the hero of the Miami mafia:

"The files of the FBI and other government agencies contain a large quantity of documentary information which reflects that, beginning in the early 1960's, Bosch held leadership positions in various anti-Castro terrorist organizations. The information contained in these files clearly and unequivocally reflects that Bosch has personally advocated, encouraged, organized and participated in acts of terrorist violence in this country as well as various other countries. While some of this information is of a non-confidential nature, greater quantity, both classified and unclassified, is of a confidential nature because of the need to protect intelligence sources and methods. The information presented for my review included all of the evidentiary materials made available to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the material submitted by Bosch to the Regional Commissioner, and additional classified information furnished by the FBI."

It should be noted that the CIA is conspicuous in its absence when it comes to documenting its disciple's activities.

Among the various documents later quoted by Whitley, apart from the material linked to the legal process, there are certain extremely interesting pieces, such as:

. "Documents reflecting that in June, 1974 Bosch publicly admitted having sent package bombs to Cuban Embassies in Lima, Madrid, Ottawa, and Buenos Aires.

. "A radio interview of Bosch during his incarceration in Venezuela in which he advocated violent action against the Venezuelan government. Letters from Bosch to CORU requesting that Venezuelan property be bombed if he were not brought to trial.

. "An interview of Bosch, tape-recorded by the author of an article entitled 'I Am Going to Declare War' which appeared in the New Times, May 13, 1977. Apparently, Bosch claimed CORU was responsible for over fifty bombings, but refused to take personal credit for terrorist actions within the United States because of 'FBI heat.'"

In his role as a U.S. government attorney, Whitley certainly cannot be suspected of pro-Cuban sympathies, and even less so in the 1980's; he was a senior official within the U.S. legal apparatus that is currently waging the War on Terrorism, at least outside of the Miami sanctuary. His report describes Bosch as a full-fledged terrorist, in no uncertain terms:

"For 30 years Bosch has been resolute and unwavering in his advocacy of terrorist violence. He has threatened and undertaken violent terrorist acts against numerous targets, including nations friendly toward the United States and their highest officials. He has repeatedly expressed and demonstrated a willingness to cause indiscriminate injury and death. His actions have been those of a terrorist, unfettered by laws or human decency, threatening and

inflicting violence without regard to the identity of his victims."

He concludes: "The United States cannot tolerate the inherent inhumanity of terrorism as a way of settling disputes. Appeasement of those who would use force will only breed more terrorists. We must look on terrorism as a universal evil, even if it is directed toward those with whom we have no political sympathy."

Whitley subsequently ordered Bosch's deportation, but more than 12 years have gone by since this finding, and Orlando Bosch has never been expelled from the United States. Quite the opposite. Combined pressure from the CIA, the anti-Cuba mafia and extremist Republican circles procured his release, after 31 countries refused the official U.S. request to accept the terrorist.

WHITE HOUSE MEETING TO ABSOLVE A TERRORIST

According to The New York Times of August 17, 1989, Cuban origin Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen personally negotiated Bosch's release with then President George Bush Sr. The meeting was organized by Jeb Bush, who thus secured the anti-Cuba mafia vote for his election as governor in 2000.

Bosch, the brain behind what is known as the Cubana airliner explosion, the author of more than 50 attacks in the United States and abroad, the apologist for terrorism, received a presidential pardon from George Bush on July 20, 1990.

Was Orlando Bosch going to stop preaching terrorism as a method of political struggle?

Since then, his name has been bandied about as a possible accomplice of Luis Posada Carriles, his old partner during years of CIA work, in connection with a series of terrorist acts in Havana in 1997.

In an interview published in The Miami Herald in September of that year, Bosch refused to confirm his participation, to then comment: "Besides, even if we had, we would deny it because it's illegal [to direct bombings] from this country."

And he concluded: "In any case, we don't criticize that form of struggle, if it's the Cuban people's choice."

During the trial of the five Cubans accused of espionage last year, an allegation came up that Bosch himself had confessed to one of the accused who had infiltrated his milieu, to having gotten explosives smuggled into Havana during that same period.

In a final demonstration of his uninterrupted activism Bosch and other accomplices made a call to violence "by all means and methods necessary," in the August 22, 2001 edition of The Miami Herald, that "objective" daily lending space in a perfectly irresponsible manner to this promotion of terror.

September 11 arrived, and then the war against Afghanistan and an unprecedented national and international campaign against terrorism. Decrees and laws, billion-dollar budgets, all to support the battle against evil.

And Orlando Bosch walks the streets of Miami. Free as a bird! Better still, his partner, his godfather, the man who engineered his exit from Venezuelan jails and then did everything he could to get him asylum in the United States, Otto Reich, the most famous agent of the terrorist CANF, is now the White House's representative in Latin America.

It couldn't be more ridiculous: killer Bosch is in Miami, free to engineer other attacks with dozens of followers willing to use the most extreme forms of violence, and protected by powerful forces - but Cubans who entered the United States precisely to watch over the terrorist circles and prevent them perpetrating from further acts of terrorism, remain in jail.

Will someone stand up, at some time, in the U.S. Senate to demand a true investigation of Miami, sanctuary of the terrorist mafia? Perhaps the number of deaths weighing on Bosch's conscience is not greater than that of Bin Laden, but in terms of the number of lethal actions and his years of serving criminal objectives, his record is unequalled.