

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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MEMORANDUM

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RE:PERSONS IDENTIFIED IN '67 IN IG REPORT RE:CASTRO ASSASS.
CUBANS

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Bx 32

436-7

COMMISSION ON CIA ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

Washington, DC 20500

May 15, 1975

SSCI BOX # 436-07

C-VII-10 10204

MEMORANDUM

To: File
From: Mason Cargill
Subject: PERSONS IDENTIFIED IN 1967 IN INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT WHO MIGHT BE INTERVIEWED ON THE SUBJECT OF CASTRO ASSASSINATION PLANS

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

675/3/94
3 pages

12:00 Sat

1. James P. O'Connell. First mentioned on page 16 of the report, O'Connell was named as Colonel Edwards' case officer for the Phase I operation involving Maheu and Roselli. At the time, O'Connell was Chief, Operational Support Division, Office of Security.

7

2. Dr. Edward Gunn. Dr. Gunn was Chief, Operations Division, Office of Medical Services. He assisted Shef Edwards with various technical aspects of the Castro plots.

Q

3. ~~Ray Treichler~~, Treichler, an employee of the Technical Services Division, prepared poisoned cigars during Phase I.

1(A)

4. Cornelius Roosevelt. He was Chief of the Technical Services Division during Phase I. The requests for assistance from Edwards to Gunn and ~~Treichler~~ were passed through Roosevelt.

5. A. B. Esterline. He was Chief of the WH/4 Division during Phase I and was listed on page 34 of the report as having been witting of the Phase I plan.

6. Sidney Gottlieb. He was Special Assistant to the DD/P during Phase I and was listed as having been witting of the Castro operation. The report states that in 1967, he denied knowing of the operation.

Out of Castro

7. Robert Bannerman. He was Deputy Director of Security during this era and was listed as having been witting of the Castro plan.

8

RMC:clb
(2)

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0196

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8. J.C. King. He was Chief of the WH Division and was listed in the IG report as being witting of the plan. In 1967 he denied knowledge of it.

*Pub
talked*

(6)

9. Justin O'Donnell. Mentioned on page 38 of the report, O'Donnell was to have been in charge of the assassination of Patrice Lamumba by agent QJWIN; however, he surveyed the scene and decided he wanted no part in an assassination attempt.

10. ~~Bruce Cheever~~. He was Harvey's deputy in 1962 and was listed on page 55 as having been witting of Phase II.

1(A)

11. Lawrence Houston. First mentioned on page 62 of the report. He was requested by Colonel Edwards to call on an Assistant Attorney General to explain the bugging incident in Las Vegas. It appears from the IG report that Houston was witting of aspects of Phase I which led up to the wiretapping incident. On May 7, 1962, Houston, along with Sheffield Edwards, briefed Attorney General Kennedy on the Phase I operation.

Testified

12. General Carter. Carter was DDCI under John McCone. In April, 1962, he was briefed by Houston on Phase I. He said he "understood" the situation and "in due time might brief the Director, Mr. McCone." However, the 1967 report states, "There is no indication that General Carter was further briefed on the full details of the assassination plot against Castro."

*Pub
talked*

13. Robert A. Maheu. Maheu, of course, was the private investigator who served as the Agency's contact with Roselli during Phase I.

14. Edward P. Morgan. He was Maheu's attorney in 1966 when the CIA intervened with the Long committee. He excused Maheu as a witness in its investigation of invasions of privacy. According to the IG report, Maheu indicated that he might brief his attorney Morgan fully about his past activities so that Morgan would be able to decide how best to represent him.

declassified?

15. Desmond Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald became head of the Cuban task force in January, 1963. Mentioned on page 75 of the report, Fitzgerald said that the skin diving suit plan began while he was head of the Cuban task force.

16. Samuel Halpern. The IG report, page 75, states that Halpern said the skin diving suit plan had begun under William Harvey and that he, Halpern, had briefed Fitzgerald on it.

01905

17. George McManus. He was a special assistant to DD/P Helms in 1963. He had been told of the skin diving suit plan by Halpern and later mentioned it to Mr. Helms.

① 18. [redacted] According to page 80 of the report, [redacted] was the case officer of Rolando Cubela during the AMLASH project. 1(A)

② 19. [redacted] He was a case officer from headquarters who on several occasions met with Cubela at European locations. He is first mentioned on page 83.

20. [redacted] According to the report, page 85, he was a Spanish-speaking case officer from [redacted] who once met with Rolando Cubela and Carlos Tepedino in Paris.

21. [redacted] According to the report, page 88, he was another CIA officer who had met with Cubela and Tepedino.

22. [redacted] He was a CIA officer of the [redacted] in 1964. He participated in meetings with Cubela. He is mentioned on page 100 of the report.

③ 23. Juan Orta. First mentioned on page 25 of the report, he was said to be the "inside" man who was going to plant pills in Castro's food. Apparently, the Agency, in 1967, felt that Orta was either in the U.S. or otherwise available. In speculating as to whether others could reconstruct the details of this report, it stated, on page 123, "Orta can confirm the pill element of Phase I."

④ 24. Tony Varona (Dr. Manuel Antonio De Verona de Loredo). Varona was used as a funnel for pills in Phase I. He was a prominent member of the Cuban exile community. Varona was also mentioned, on page 132, as a possible source of information about Phase I.

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01906

Robert L Bannerman
ret'd

Back home
Sunday mite
May 18 - 9PM

~~PO Box 32~~

Santa Rosa Beach, Fla. 32459

904- [redacted]

James P. O'Connell
ret'd

SAT MAY 17 - 10AM

Interviewed

[redacted]

McLean, Va 22101

[redacted]

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07 5 13 94

4 pages

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01907

[Redacted]

Mon, 19 May, 8:15 AM

current employee # Latin American Division

X 7451

Room 3D30 headquarters

Inter-
viewed

[Redacted]

1(A)

current employee Near East Division DDO

X 6151

Room 6D18 headquarters

Sid Gottlieb

~~retired in Lusaka, Zambia~~

~~Post Office Box 2379 India~~

Mr. Edward Hanna

retired

[Redacted]

Hilton Head, South Carolina 29928

[Redacted]

By phone

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01908

Dr. Juan Augustin De La Carida
Orta y Cordova
terminated CIA June 1967
as of 1967

[REDACTED]

Miami Beach, Fla

[REDACTED]

Dr Manuel Antonio De Varona
y Laredo
terminated CIA Jan. 1967

[REDACTED]

NYC, NY 10036

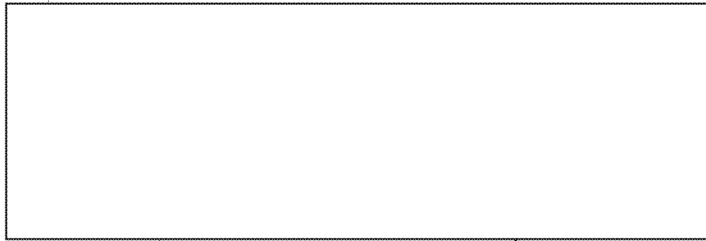
Anthony Varona

[REDACTED]

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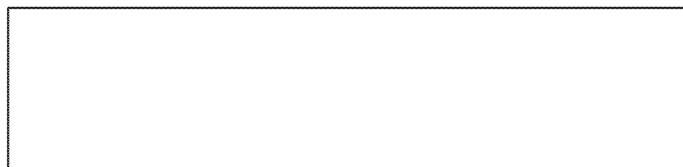
01909

Justin O'Connell
retired from Agency in 1961
they have no official record on him
they got this info from phone
book



He may or may not be the
same Justin O'Connell.

yes, he is -



Intercom

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01910