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BACKGROUND

In April, 1976, the Senate Select Committee to Study Government Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities (SSC) published their Final Report (Book V) which in essence faulted the CIA for its errors of omission in not informing the Warren Commission of the Agency's on-going plots against the revolutionary government in Cuba and its attempts on the life of the premier, Fidel Castro. The Committee's rationale is detailed on pages 6-7 of its Findings, but one paragraph succinctly sums up their position.

"Senior CIA officials also should have realized that their agency was not utilizing its full capability to investigate Oswald's pro-Castro and anti-Castro connections. They should have realized that CIA operations against Cuba, particularly operations involving the assassination of Castro, needed to be considered in the investigation. Yet, they directed their subordinates to conduct an investigation without telling them of these vital facts. Those officials, whom the Warren Commission relied upon for expertise, advised the Warren Commission that the CIA had no evidence of a foreign conspiracy." (p. 7, Book V)

Stung by the Senate criticism and the "rippling effect" that Book V occasioned in the media, the CIA prepared a comprehensive report in 1977 designed to answer, at least within the Agency, the critical questions posited in the SSC Final Report. However, even the CIA's 1977 Report tacitly recognizes the inadequacy of the CIA's narrow response to the Warren Commission's quest for all possible relevant information. ("Relevancy" is, of course, the "buyword" upon which both the Senate and Agency each base their position on the importance of the anti-Castro plots to the Commission's work.) On page 10 of the Agency's conclusions, the 1977 Report acknowledges that:

"While one can understand today why the Warren Commission limited its inquiry to normal avenues of investigation, it would have served to re-inforce the credibility of its effort had it taken a broader view of the matter. CIA, too, could have considered in specific terms what most saw in general terms -- the possibility of Soviet or Cuban involvement in the assassination (JFK) because of tensions of the time.The Agency should have taken broader initiatives, then, as well." (p. 10, 1977 Report)

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It is not the purpose of this analysis to detail the conflicting viewpoints of the SSC and CIA with regard to the significance to the work of the Warren Commission of the CIA's Castro assassination attempts and to resolve the parties controversy as to the operations' importance. Instead, this paper seeks to present a comprehensive review of all the facts, drawn from a variety of sources, of organized crime's involvement or potential involvement in the CIA operations against Cuba during 1960-1963. Certain influences and conclusions will then be drawn upon the nature, scope, and motivation of the syndicate participants in the operations.

INVOLVEMENT OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN CIA PLOTS
TO ASSASSINATE FIDEL CASTRO

The genesis of the utilization of the United States criminal syndicate by the CIA to attempt to assassinate Castro is placed by the 1967 Inspector General's Report as occurring during a conversation between the Deputy Director of Plans, Richard Bissell, and the Director of the Office of Security, Colonel Sheffield Edwards.** (1967 IG Report, p. ; Interim Report, p. 74) Edwards assigned the specific tasks of locating the right party to "eliminate or assassinate" Castro to James "Big Jim" O'Connell, who was the Chief of the Operational Support Division of the Office of Security. Both men agreed that Robert A. Maheu,** who had been previously utilized by the Agency in several sensitive covert operations, would be contacted to recruit the necessary personnel.

Although Maheu and O'Connell differ as to who initially brought up John Roselli's name for consideration, there was a meeting between Maheu and Roselli at the Brown Derby Restaurant in Los Angeles in early September 1960. (Interim Report, p. 75)

Comment: Maheu seems the logical person to have thought of and contacted Roselli for several reasons. In the

** Maheu's CIA history and relationship to O'Connell are detailed on pp. 74-75, Interim Report.

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Office of Security file on Ed Morgan, Maheu's attorney, there is a memo to the DCI dated 19 November 1970 which reviews the Mafia operation. Paragraph 5 states that: "Mr. Maheu advised that he had met one John Roselli on several occasions while visiting Las Vegas. He only knew him casually through other clients, but was given to understand that he was a high ranking member of the syndicate and controlled all the ice making machines on the Strip." Maheu reasoned that, if Roselli was, in fact, a member of the clan, he undoubtedly had connections leading into the Cuban gambling interests.")

(Comment: Confirmation of the earliest Maheu-Roselli contact is found in Roselli's FBI file and consists of an alleged telephone call in 1959 from Maheu to Roselli.) (See Roselli Write-up)

(Comment: Maheu and Roselli had mutual contacts in Las Vegas prior to 1960, including Hank Greenspun, editor of the Las Vegas Sun.)

Roselli, although apparently skeptical at first, agreed to a meeting in New York City with Maheu and O'Connell to discuss further details. (Interim Report, p. 76; Office of Security memo from Morgan file, dated 19 November 1970) Although the Inspector General's Report placed the meeting at the Plaza Hilton on 14 September 1960, Roselli recalled that the discussion took place during Castro's visit to the United Nations which began on September 18, 1960.

(Comment: Tony de Varona admits going to New York City at the time of Castro's visit, but it is unlikely that he was in contact with Roselli at this time or (testimony of de Varona) that his visit had an assassination motivation. According to a 19 November 1970 memo to the DCI, it was at this September meeting in New York City, that Roselli "agreed to introduce him (Maheu) to a friend, 'Sam Gold', who knew the Cuban crowd.")

0002151 (Comment: The timing of the introduction of both Giancana ('Gold') and Trafficante ('Joe') is important to the analysis of the "true" role of the mob in the Castro assassination plots. According to the 1967 IG Report, the entrance of Giancana took place "during the week of 25 September 1960"... (1967 IG Report, p. 18))

In contrast, the SSC Interim Report at p. 76, does not fix a date certain for Giancana's initial appearance but (although it was "certainly prior to October 18." (p. 76)) because of conflicting evidence between the 1967 IG September date and Maheu's Senate testimony which set the initiation in November 1960. As a compromise, the Interim Report reasoned that Giancana had been introduced to Maheu "prior to October

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18" because (1) the Las Vegas wiretap occurred on October 30, 1960; and (2) DDP Bissell had received an FBI memo, dated 18 October 1960, which revealed an FBI ELSUR quoting Giancana as discussing his involvement in an assassination plot against Castro". (FBI memo dated 18 October 1960 from Hoover to Bissell, Interim Report, p. 79)

(Comment: Each of the dual reasons listed in the Interim Report on p. 77 are subject to critical analysis which will be dealt with separately below.)

(Comment: Although the 1967 IG Report stated that "Maheu pointed out 'Gold' to O'Connell from a distance but O'Connell never met either 'Gold' or 'Joe'", the Interim Report disputes this observation by apparently quoting from O'Connell's Senate testimony and stating that "the Support Chief, who was using the name 'Jim Olds'," said he had met 'Sam' and 'Joe', once, and then only briefly. (O.C. 5(30)75, pp. 26-29; Interim Report, p. 77))

(Comment: Conflicts appear also on several relatively minor points surrounding the September 1960 meetings in New York City and Miami. For instance:

1. Did Roselli know from the beginning that the operation was CIA?

a. O'Connell stated that Maheu told Roselli that they were representing international business interests whereas Roselli testified that Maheu told him that O'Connell was CIA (Interim Report, p. 76). Also, footnote 1 on page 76 indicates that Roselli told O'Connell "about three weeks after the New York meeting", which is during the Miami involvement of Giancana, that "I am not kidding. I know who you work for."

The importance of Roselli's recognition of CIA initiation is that it is doubtful if Giancana and Trafficante could have been enlisted unless they could be sure of government protection. This theme will be developed more fully below.

2. Roselli told his Cuban contacts that he was an "agent of some business interests of Wall Street that had... nickel interests and properties around Cuba..." (Roselli; 6/24/75, pp. 9, 17)

Cf. Jack Anderson column of January 19, 1971, which stated that "Could the plot against Castro have backfired against President Kennedy?...None of the assassination teams, however, had direct knowledge of the CIA involvement. The CIA instigators had represented themselves as oilmen seeking revenge against Castro for his seizure of oil holdings."

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In Anderson's sources for this article were Roselli and William Harvey, who was not privy to the details of Phase I, it is another example of serious discrepancies which exist between the CIA, Senate, and Anderson versions which all purport to depend, in varying degrees, upon Roselli.

3. The alleged "surprise discovery" by Maheu and O'Connell as to the true identities of "Sam Gold" and "Joe" is really suspect. First, although it is possible that the Senate Committee staff overlooked the specific Miami newspaper Sunday supplement (Parade) which purportedly included pictures of Giancana and Trafficante, thus graphically showing Maheu and O'Connell the nature of the people with whom they were dealing, it is a relatively easy matter to research Parade magazine for the months of October and November. It would appear that O'Connell and Maheu were looking for an ex post facto reason for continuing the operation after the introduction of two of the top Mafiosi in the United States. O'Connell testified that his discovery was after "we were up to our ears in it" which is difficult to fathom since the operation was in the embryonic stage and no pills were delivered to Roselli, et. al, until approximately March 1961. Whatever, the reason, the Senate staff insists it could not find the Parade article. (Interim Report, p. 77, fn. 1)

The principals in Phase I of the operation also disagree as to the roles which were to be played by both "Gold" and "Joe" in the pre-Bay of Pigs phase of the operation.

"Although Maheu described Giancana as playing a 'key' role, (Maheu, 7.2.975, p. 34) and discussed his job as "to locate someone in Castro's entourage who could accomplish the assassination", Roselli downplayed Giancana's part to that of a "back-up" man. (Roselli, 6/24/75, p. 15) (Whether Roselli received a "message" from Giancana's murder four days before Roselli's Senate appearance is open to question.) Roselli's Senate characterization of Giancana's role as minor is in contrast to his alleged recountment of Giancana's due to his "knowledge of the Cuban crowd" which the 19 November 1970 memo recorded.

Trafficante(s) involvement in Phase I is even more jumbled by the available evidence. The 1967 IG Report and Senate Interim Report state that "'Gold' identified 'Joe' to Maheu as a man who would serve as a courier to Cuba and make arrangements there". (IG Report, p. 19; Interim Report, p. 77) To support the description of Trafficante as a courier, the Interim Report quotes p. 19 of the 1967 IG Report in stating that, "At that time, the gambling casinos were still operating in Cuba and Trafficante was making regular trips between Miami and Havana on syndicate business".

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(Comment: This factually unsupported assertion runs contrary to the evidence available through official government records of other agencies. As an example, State Department files reflect that Trafficante applied for a passport in Cuba on October 7, 1959, and received that document in Havana on February 2, 1960. (See Trafficante file, State Department) No records available to the Committee from INS, State Department, or FBI record any later 1960 travels even though the Bureau maintained decent surveillance on Trafficante during this period. In his Committee testimony, Trafficante recalled that he made two trips to Cuba after his release from prison in August 1959 and placed these sojourns within two or three months after his release from prison. (Testimony, pp. 4-53, Oct. 1, 1977) His testimony has some logical credibility in that all of the casinos in Havana were either closed or operating in the red by mid-1960, and law enforcement reports placed him in the Tampa-Miami area consistently during the pre-Bay of Pigs period.)

By the time of the Senate testimony of Roselli, however, Trafficante's role had diminished to a point even below Giancana's. He had been reduced from "courier" to a mere "translator" and was needed only to facilitate conversation between Roselli and the Cubans who had been recruited for the actual assassination. Interestingly, Trafficante and Roselli's 1975 and 1977 Congressional appearances dovetail well but remain in contradiction to the facts as they were being reported in 1963 by the principals.

(Comment: The Senate testimony of Trafficante and Roselli needs to be outlined with a view to contrasting the "courier vs. interpreter" role. My memory is that the Senate did not vigorously cross-examine either man on this discrepancy nor did the Interim Report "hint" at the problem.)

Once the actors had been assembled for the launching of the enterprise, a discussion began as to the method to be employed to accomplish the foal. The Agency took the simplistic, straight-forward approach of shooting Castro, but this plan was rejected by Giancana. In a comment to its 1967 Report, the Inspector General noted that "Giancana was flatly opposed to the use of firearms. He said that no one could be recruited to do the job because the chance of survival and escape would be negligible. Giancana stated a preference for a lethal pill that would be put into Castro's food and drink...Trafficante (Joe, the courier) was in touch with a disaffected Cuban official with access to Castro and presumably of a sort that would enable him to surreptitiously poison Castro. The gangsters named their man inside as Juan Orta, who was then office Chief and Director General of the Office of the Prime Minister, Castro. The gangsters said that Orta had once been in a position to received kickbacks from the gambling interests but had since lost that source of income and needed the money. (I.G. Report, p. 25)

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(Comment: The observations quoted above of the 1967 I.G. Report are extremely significant in several respects. First, the poison pill modus operandi originated with Giancana, not the Agency, a point which is crucial to the final conclusions presented below. Secondly, Trafficante is identified as having access to and providing for the putative assassin in Cuba which is inconsistent with his self-serving role description of "interpreter". His ability to recruit Orta apparently was directly tied to his former gambling empire associations which formed a constant pattern for all his alleged conduct both during and after his Cuban days.) (See Trafficante profile.)

(Comment: Speculation concerning Orta's role arose during the Agency's 1977 Report when it was forced to address a problem raised by an April 23, 1975 article, concerning Frank Sturgis, written by Paul Meskill of the New York Daily News. Sturgis was quoted as saying, "the third (assassination) scheme involved planting a bomb in Castro's office. I had access to the Prime Minister's office," Sturgis said, "I knew Fidels' private secretary, Juan Orta. I recruited him to work with the Embassy." (American Embassy in Havana).

What was disturbing to the writers of the 1977 Report was the fact that Orta's name had surfaced in connection with a Castro assassination plot, before revelation of the CIA-Mafia connection by the Senate Intelligence Committee. The Report references news stories linking Sturgis with Trafficante and with a "gambling partner" of Trafficante's, Norman Rothman. (See Rothman profile) Coupled with Sturgis' alleged mob relationships is the allegation that Sturgis had a role in inspecting the gambling casinos in Cuba on behalf of the Castro government and could have developed an interest with Orta in receiving gambling kickbacks.

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A second aspect of Meskill's news series concerned a claim of Marita Lorenz that she had acted on behalf of Sturgis in 1960 in attempting to poison Castro, which dovetailed with the 18 October 1960 FBI memorandum on Giancana's electronically surveilled conversation in which he stated that "the assassin had arranged with a girl, not further described, to drop a 'pill' in some drink or food of Castro's". (Memo, Hoover to DCI A.H., DD 10/18/60)

The tentative conclusions advanced in the 1977 Report are as follows:

(p.21) It is obvious that many lines of speculation can be developed, not the least of which is that the Agency did not know the full extent of syndicate activities...."

Additional considerations:

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1. Criminal syndicate may well have had some independent activities of its own prior to CIA involvement in late 1960. Also, could have been on-going, when CIA reactivated plan in 1962, April.

2. Syndicate operators could have had activities such as these in New York Daily News stories in 1975 and 1976.

3. Frank Sturgis seems to have had contacts with, but not a member of the syndicate. Could well have been used by the syndicate.

4. Sturgis has not been a reliable source. He probably knew Orta in Cuba but he was outside Cuba when Orta assumed role of assassin.

If there was an earlier operation with Orta, it was not CIA; could have been earlier operation of syndicate.

Sturgis could have known or been involved in syndicate operation, or picked up gossip from Miami in 1965 after Orta returned there.

Neither the 1967 I.G. Report or the SSC Interim Report can pinpoint the precise date on which the Agency processed the poison pills which O'Connell delivered to Roselli. (Interim Report, p. 80) The chain of custody, according to the 1967 I.G. Report was for the lethal pills to be delivered from Roselli to Trafficante. Although the next intervening steps remain a mystery, Roselli reported to O'Connell that the pills had been delivered to Orta in Cuba in late February-early March 1961. (Interim Report, p. 27; Interim Report, p. 80)

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(Comment: The Senate Interim Report reported the version of Joe Shimon whose memory was that the money and pills for the operation were delivered at a meeting at the Fountainbleau Hotel on March 12, 1961 attended by "Maheu, Roselli, Trafficante and the Cuban." (Interim Report, p.81) Shimon's story is filled with vivid details, which are documented on p. 82 of the Report, but his credibility is subject to serious question as his account is not shared by anyone else connected with the plan nor is his relationship with Roselli, Giancana, or Trafficante appear as "cozy" as he would lead one to believe.

It is also apparent that Shimon was a source for Jack Anderson's column of January 19, 1971, which fixed the date of the passage of the poison at the Fountainbleau by Roselli as March 13, 1961, and contained the report that Castro became ill a few weeks later.

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The real problem with Shimon's story is that the pills were returned to the CIA for a few weeks because Orta could or would not attempt the poisoning; a fact apparently unknown to Shimon before his "leak" to Anderson and his Senate testimony.) *Also, Orta was reported to have called in early 1961 (but not 1960)*

(Comment: One additional fact concerning Orta's inability to carry out the mission ties in with the final thesis of this report. Orta "lost his position in Castro's office on 26 January 1961, while planning for the operation was still going on in Miami and Washington"...It would seem though that the gangsters did know that Orta had already lost his access to Castro. (1967 I.G. Report, p. 27)

With the failure of Orta to produce the desired results, the project was at a standstill until, once again, Santo Trafficante assumed command. Roselli told O'Connell that "Trafficante believed a certain leading figure in the Cuban exile movement might be able to accomplish the assassination. (1967 I.G. Report, p. 29; Interim Report, p. 80)

(Comment: The exile leader was, of course, Tony de Varona, who was the subject of speculation in an FBI memorandum of 18 January 1961 associating him with receiving financial aid from American gangsters for anti-Castro activities which pre-dated the CIA operation.

At the time of his introduction into the CIA-mob plots, de Varona was already being funded by the Agency through the Revolutionary Front and was heavily involved in CIA planning for the Bay of Pigs invasion which was imminent.

Interest in de Varona was also being expressed in 1960-61 by Mike McLaney whose advertising agency was engaged in promoting Varona's image in collaboration with McLaney's friend "Chirri" or "Chilli" Mendoza (Mendoza is described in Trafficante's FBI files as a close Cuban associate.)

Completing the picture of support for Varona is the promotional efforts of Dino and Eddie Cellini, McLaney and Lansky business associates, who were reportedly working through a Washington, D. C. public relations firm, Edward K. Moss and Associates. Moss had previous CIA associations and was supposedly acting as a conduit for funds supplied by the Cellini benefactors with the understanding that this group would have "privileged treatment 'in the Cuba of the future.' Attempts to verify these reports were unsuccessful." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 30)

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The Lansky influence using the Cellini brothers as a "front" is particularly interesting in light of Varona's admission that Jorge Pujol arranged a mutiny in Miami in approximately 1960 wherein Meyer Lansky offered to financially "back" Varona's efforts to "educate the American people about Castro, which may be a euphemism for anti-Castro plots. (See Varona transcript.)

The logical inference to be drawn is that both the Agency organized crime, and other persons interested in removing the Castro regime, had settled upon de Varona, probably independently, as an individual who had the potential of uniting the multitude of exile groups who were in a continual internecine turmoil. De Varona was understandably pleased to permit both the U.S. Government and criminal syndicate to offer him support and asked no questions as to the source of the funds or the motives of his benefactors. (See Varona testimony).

Although de Varona has no specific memory of meeting Trafficante, the Tampa crime boss admits that he acted as an "interpreter" in several meetings attended by de Varona, Roselli, Giancana and other exiles. These meetings were arranged by Rafael "Macho" Gener, a Trafficante gambling partner from Havana who continued to serve Trafficante in Miami during the 1960's. Trafficante claimed that Roselli had previously recruited Gener, but this appears unlikely in view of Trafficante's long-standing friendship with Gener in Cuba, and Roselli's admission to O'Connell that Trafficante would provide the replacement for the ill-fated Juan Orta, who had escaped to the Venezuelan Embassy in April 1961.

(Comment: Paralleling the situation at the Senate hearings during 1975 when Roselli's description of Trafficante's role changed from his "courier" characterization in 1960-61 as reported by the Agency to Trafficante's "interpreter" statement, is the recent interview with Gener who agrees with Trafficante's Committee testimony that he was an intermediary with de Varona only for Roselli. The net result in both instances is to minimize Trafficante's exposure. (Cf. Fonzi interview with Gener, May , 1978 and Trafficante testimony, October 7, 1977.))

If ambiguity exists as to the specifics of the introduction of de Varona into Phase One of the Castro assassination plots, more confusion surrounds de Varona's actual participation prior to the Bay of Pigs invasion. The I.G. Report indicates that de Varona attempted a second poisoning before the Cuban invasion but Roselli was positive that only one attempt (Orta's) was made. He was also positive that he delivered

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both pills, money and supplies to de Varona which is corroborated by O'Connell during 1961. The conflict is resolved by the Senate in speculating "that only one pre-Bay of Pigs attempt was made, and that... (de Varona) was the contact in the United States who arranged for... (Orta)... to administer the poison.

(Comment: There appears to be no factual way to resolve de Varona's initial contribution to the poison attempts, especially since Varona denies ever having received poison pills from Rosselli or being involved in any attempt on Castro's life at any time. (See Varona transcript).)

(Comment: The Agency was aware of the possible dangers inherent in having de Varona participate in the mob's plots while continuing his post on the Revolutionary Council. However, "steps were taken to end his participation in the syndicate plan but (they) were apparently ineffective." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 32))

PHASE TWO

The debacle which marked the mid-April 1961 Bay of Pigs effort curtailed CIA efforts with the mob to assassinate Castro, and it was not until April 1962, when Bill Harvey assumed Agency responsibility for the task, were efforts made to re-establish contact with Rosselli.

However, the fact that the Agency was squeamish during the Bay of Pigs aftermath to continue to try to kill Castro does not mean that the mob shared their shyness. Indeed, both Harvey and O'Connell swore that Harvey "took over a going operation." (I.G. Report, p. 33) The exact details of what that operation might have been has not been uncovered, but Rosselli's ability to regenerate his forces in response to Harvey's contact in April 1962 was immediate. Once again the ubiquitous de Varona was to provide the individuals who would carry the lethal poison into Cuba.

However, there were some significant differences between Phase One and Phase Two of the operation which bear upon the ultimate question of the mob's motivation and seriousness in carrying out their part of the bargain struck in 1960 with the Agency.

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First: In Phase One, Rosselli, et. al., demonstrated their ability to execute the contract on Castro by naming their source, who was, in fact, in a position close to Castro to succeed. In contrast, the details of the modus operandi and the ability of the putative assassins was deliberately vague. After Harvey initially met Rosselli in Miami in April 1962, Harvey reported that "the manner in which the lethal material was to be introduced into Castro's food (which involved) an asset of Varona's who had access to someone in a restaurant frequented by Castro." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 47) By June, 1962, after Varona had received money and munitions from the JMWAVE station and had presumably sent the pills into Cuba, "Rosselli reported to Harvey on 21 June that Varona had dispatched a team of three men to Cuba. Just what they were supposed to do is pretty vague. Harvey said that they appeared to have no specific plan for killing Castro. They were to recruit others who might be used in such a scheme. If an opportunity to kill Castro presented itself, they or the persons they recruited were to make the attempt -- perhaps using the pills. Harvey never learned their names or anything about them." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 51)

(Comment: As the 1967 I.G. authors correctly observed, Harvey's tale of the "favorite restaurant" poisoning opportunity was familiar in that Edwards had described precisely the same plan." The fact that Varona related the exact modus operandi to Harvey as he had discussed with Edwards in Phase One (circa 1960-mid 1961) leads to the possibilities that:

1. Harvey was correct in assuming that he was taking over an on-going operation in April 1962; or
2. The mob had been using de Varona before, during and after the Bay of Pigs and permitted the CIA to provide logistical support and future protection against the Justice Department; or
3. De Varona was simply making up a story for the Agency to gain their financial backing or in response to directions from organized crime.)

Second: The cast of underworld characters changed. Harvey had insisted that Maheu and Giancana be dropped from the operation which Rosselli readily acceded to. Trafficante's "interpreter" role was assumed by "Maceo", a mysterious "Cuban who spoke Italian" and who sometimes used the names Garcia-Gomez and Godoy.

(Comment: "Maceo's" introduction into one of the most sensitive CIA covert actions in history, without any attempt made by the Agency to check his background or to ascertain his identity is extraordinary. Yet, the Agency apparently went blithely "to bed" with the top hoodlums in the United States without doing any basic background security investigation.

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Although the 1967 I.G. Report characterizes "Maceo" as "Rosselli's man", it is probable that this individual was drafted by Trafficante who had provided all the Cuban personnel previously used in the attempts and who still possessed, in 1962, the most complete network of Cuban allies in Miami and Cuba.

The termination of the CIA-Mafia plots was slow and undramatic. Rosselli, in May 1962, reported to Harvey that the pills and guns which had been delivered to Varona in Miami in April had arrived in Cuba, and an unidentified three-man team had been dispatched in June to execute the plan. (Interim Report, p. 84)

During September 1962, Rosselli related to Harvey that de Varona was readying a second three-man team who were "supposedly militia men whose assignment was to penetrate Castro's body guard. During this period, the 'medicine' was reported as still in place and the three men of the first team safe." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 51) However, the second team never made Cuba and a series of alibis were constructed during December and January, 1963. Nevertheless, de Varona supposedly collected \$2,700 for the maintenance of these individuals from Rosselli who had received the payment from Harvey. (1967 I.G. Report, p. 52)

In mid-January, 1963 both Harvey and Rosselli agreed that "nothing was happening and that there was not much chance that anything would happen in the future." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 52) Rosselli was instructed to ease his way out of touch with Varona which he presumably did. The last meeting between Harvey and Rosselli occurred in Washington, D. C. in June 1963, when he was Harvey's overnight guest. However, their meeting ostensibly was not directly related to any assassination plots.

*Committee
Harvey and Rosselli continued their relationship in 1967-71*

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CONCLUSION

The available evidence suggests the thesis which, in part, is tacitly assumed by the Agency in its 1977 internal Inspector General's Report wherein it states that, "It is possible that CIA simply found itself involved in providing additional resources for independent operations that the syndicate already had under way...In a sense, CIA might have been piggy-backing on the syndicate, and, in addition to its material contributions, was also supplying an aura of official sanction." (1977 I.G. Report, p. 20)

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The relevant evidence is as follows:

1. FBI memo 18 October 1960 re: Giancana ELSUR:

...Giancana reportedly assured those present that Castro's assassination would occur in November. Moreover, he allegedly indicated that he had already met with the assassin-to-be on three occasions...Giancana claimed that everything has been perfected for the killing of Castro, and that the assassin had arranged with a girl, not further described, to drop a 'pill' in some drink or food of Castro. (1977 I.G. Report, p. 19)

Comment: Although the dates of initial meetings between Maheu, Rosselli, and Giancana are subject to different interpretation, it is clear that no plans were finalized between the parties until sometime after October 18, 1960, the date of the FBI's intercepted conversation of Giancana.

The poison pills, prepared by the CIA at Giancana's request, were not ready for delivery until late February-early March 1961, so that it is difficult to see how Giancana's November 1960 assassination plot could be a part of the CIA operation. Rather, it appears that the mob had its poison plan in progress, using a mistress of Castro, to accomplish the deed, when the CIA fortuitously happened along to offer its support. The mob was then in a perfect position. If their private plot actually worked, and Castro died, then the syndicate had enormous blackmail potential against the CIA which it could exercise at the opportune moment. However, if their intrigue back-fired, then their position would be that they were only attempting to execute the wishes of their government.

Additional Comment: The actions of Giancana's "hired hand", Richard Cain, raise some interesting possibilities. Given Cain's admission to the FBI that he had joined the Chicago Police Department and Sheriff's office while on Giancana's payroll, Cain's approach to the CIA Chicago Office in the fall of 1960 to volunteer information on the Cuban community appears a little more than coincidental. Then when FBI files disclose that he is planning to go to Cuba for Life Magazine (one story), and to "bug" influential Cubans in Havana ostensibly for ex-President Prio (second story), the coincidence becomes more suspect. The suspicion is that Cain was being sent by Giancana to supervise the poisoning attempt on Fidel Castro. Cain could be the "assassin-to-be" whom Giancana referred to in the FBI memo of October 18, 1960 or he could be the contact man for the operation.

(Tie in memo on Cain with Salerno's view which is strongly supported by the evidence, that Cain was the "missing

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second man" in the Las Vegas wiretap of October 30, 1960. Maheu needs to be questioned on this point.)

Cain continued to "volunteer" information and assistance to the CIA during 1961-1963. In August, 1963, he offered information on the DRE Student Directory in Chicago to that office of the Agency. Interestingly, Cubela was the former head of the Director's in Cuba when he was a major power in deposing Batista.

In September, 1963, Cain reported to the Chicago office of the CIA that DRE was in a deal to purchase a large arms shipment. He was told by the Agency to "get out of the picture", a directive which is subject to several interpretations, including the fact that the CIA was a willing participant in the deal.

Again, on November 27, 1963, Cain, now the Chief Investigator for Cook County Sheriff's office, gave the Agency some information that Oswald was in Chicago in April 1963 with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and had purchased the assassination rifle in March 1963.

2. Recruitment of the Potential Assassin(s)

In describing the putative poisoner, Giancana spoke in October 1960 of a "girl" who was close to Castro while the individual recruited for the CIA pills was Juan Orta, a secretary in Castro's Prime Ministry.

The identity of the "girl" referred to by Giancana can never be ascertained but Trafficante was clearly in the best position to recruit one of Castro's Cuban mistresses due to his multitude of contacts in the Cuban gambling and prostitution circles.

It was common for American gamblers to have Cuban mistresses and Trafficante, Rothman and Tourine were typical examples. Also, one witness told the Committee that Castro was accustomed to arriving at the Nacional Hotel (owned by Mike McLaney) unescorted on a regular basis to visit one of his paramours. Thus, it would have been relatively easy for Trafficante to have arranged for a young woman to service Castro and to attempt to poison him.

(Marita Lorenz is a confusing witness, to say the least, and her potential as a assassin recruited by Frank Sturgis has been previously discussed. However, she was also Charles Tourine's mistress and, thus, could have been solicited to activate the poison plot. Unfortunately, Tourine is totally uncooperative and Lorenz was not asked about her relationship

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with Tourine in Cuba so that we do not know the dates match.

Comment: Juan Orta, the man identified to the Agency as the gangsters' contact in Castro's inner circle, was presumably enlisted by Trafficante, due to Orta's former receipt of gambling "kickbacks".

One fact is extremely bothersome, however, in attempting to gauge the depth of the mob's sincerity in using Orta to execute the assassination plan. According to the 1967 I.G. Report (p. 28), Orta "lost his position in the Prime Minister's Office on 26 January 1961, while planning for the operation was still going on in Miami and in Washington." According to the official version Orta receipted for the pills in late February-early March 1961 and "kept the pills for a couple of weeks before returning them". (1967 I.G. Report, p. 27) If the mob was close enough to Orta to have pills smuggled in and out of Cuba, then they had to know that Orta had lost his position of accessibility. The other possibility exists, i.e., that the pills never left the United States and thus were available to give to de Varona when he was brought into the plot.

The question arises, then, as to whether the mob was pursuing their own assassination plot and the CIA operation or, what appears more likely, simply using the Agency for the ulterior motives previously outlined.

Turning to Phase Two of the operation which began in April 1962, the same possibilities exist. If Harvey and O'Connell are correct in assuming that Harvey had walked into an "on-going operation", then it can be assumed that the mob's relationship with de Varona, which pre-dated CIA participation according to FBI memos of 21 December 1960 and 18 January 1961 had continued uninterrupted after the Bay of Pigs. With the resumption of the CIA's participation, funding and material support could, once again, be returned to the Agency although de Varona would continue to deal through his mob contacts, Rosselli and "Maceo".

Due to the loose structure of Phase Two in terms of the ambiguous nature of the operational means of attack, the lack of identity of the potential assassins, the complete reliance of Harvey upon Rosselli's word that activities were actually being carried out, the Agency's lack of interest or ability to corroborate Rosselli's information, the speculation arises that the syndicate was not seriously trying to assassinate Castro after the Bay of Pigs fiasco and the solidification of Soviet influence on Castro's Cuba. Being solid businessmen, Trafficante, Lansky and other Cuba casino owners must have realized that the "golden goose" of Havana had laid its last egg, and that fortunes were to be made elsewhere. Certainly,

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the evidence shows growing Lansky influence in the Bahamas, Las Vegas, and Trafficante projects in the Dominican Republic, and a new opportunity for ~~belong~~ operations in Florida with the tremendous influx of Cuban exiles. It was also abundantly clear that the new Justice Department program on organized crime would never permit the "wide open" Cuba of the pre-Kennedy era even if Castro and all his Communist associates could be eliminated.

Despite the relatively useless business sense in continuing the assassination attempts against Castro in a substantive way, there still was a percentage in "stringing the Agency along". First, there was no expense to the syndicate because the Agency was providing full logistical support for Varona. Secondly, there was the mounting pressure from the FBI and Justice Department which had to be blunted, if possible. No better weapon to accomplish this goal could be found than to use one agency (CIA) against another (FBI). A brief look at the record shows the employment of this strategy at moments of crisis for those who participated in the plots.

1. Robert Maheu

- Quashing of Long Committee subpoena in 1966. (Interim Report, p. 79, note 3; Interview Edward P. Morgan)
- Solidification of position with CIA and with Hughes Organization. (Hughes was definitely told of the project by Maheu in November 1960 and was himself in an alliance with the CIA which, in fact, occurred later when Maheu was Hughes' principal agent.) (Interim Report, p. 75, note 2; Maheu Senate Testimony ?)
- Dispute with Hughes. See memo 20 May 1971 in Office of Security file on Edward P. Morgan.

2. John Rosselli

- Avoiding criminal prosecution. (Interim Report, p. 85, note 4)
- Use in legal memo in March 1971 to attempt to reduce sentence.
- Attempt to delay deportation hearings with INS which included Jack Anderson's personal intervention with IRS. (See Anderson Interview; CIA Rosselli file; CIA Office of Security file re: Edward P. Morgan)

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3. Sam Giancana

- October 1960 wiretap in Las Vegas where Giancana got Maheu to "take the heat" for him by claiming the tap was a result of the CIA plots.
- Early 1962, intervention with FNU Farrell of INS re: possible deportation. (See Tab C Rosselli CIA file, stating that only Edwards, Osborn, Angleton, Rocca and Houston know.)
- Attempts to ward off FBI surveillance in 1963. (1967 I.G. Report, p. 129)
- Conversation with Sam Papich on 3 May 1967, Sam commented that Giancana and Rosselli have CIA "over a barrel" because of "that operation". He said that he doubted that the FBI would be able to do anything about either Rosselli or Giancana because of "their previous activities with your people." (1967 I.G. Report, p. 131)

NOTES RE: JACK ANDERSON
"CASTRO RETALIATION" THEORY

March 3, 1967) Drew Pearson article
March 7, 1967)

Source:

1. 1967 I.G. Report:

- It is quite likely that Rosselli is the source, Morgan the channel, and Anderson and Pearson the recipients. (p. 126)
- We may now assume that Pearson's story is not patched together from nits and pieces picked up here and there. His ultimate source, Rosselli, knows more about certain details than we do, and he evidently has talked. (p. 126)

Impact

The Rosselli- contact in Las Vegas in March is particularly disturbing. It lends substance to reports that Castro had something to do with the Kennedy assassination

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in retaliation for U. S. attempts on Castro's life. We do not know that Castro actually tried to retaliate, but we do (CIA emphasis) know that there were such plots against Castro. Unhappily, it now appears that Garrison may also know this. (p. 127)

Maheu

Does have good reason for not wanting the story aired further. Unfavorable publicity might cause him to lose his lucrative client, Hughes. There might be some value to be gained from endorsing his suggestion that he approach Morgan and perhaps Rosselli and urge discretion.

-- The Pearson story, which is now causing us so much distress, includes one detail that is only found in Phase Two: the three-man team.

Comment: Not necessarily since Varona was involved in Phase One also, he may have begun the three-man team initially and only briefed Rosselli on the concept in Phase Two or Rosselli just didn't mention the three-man team to Maheu or O'Connell during Phase One.

Comment: In figuring out "ulterior motives" for a leak to Pearson, Agency makes the following point:

-- If protection was what the source was seeking, he could be better assured of getting it by a direct approach to CIA for help. (p. 125)

Since Agency cannot figure an ulterior motive, they decide that Rosselli is drinking too much and talking to Morgan, who is also drinking and talking to Greenspun (and Pearson).

Comment: Drew Pearson has not yet, as far as we know, used two of his best goodies: the story of the pills and the fact of the State Department meeting. (p. 127)

Comment: See p. 112 wherein "Drew Pearson claims to have a report that there was a high-level meeting at the Department of State at which plans for the assassination were discussed."

I.G. speculates that Pearson is talking about the 10 August 1962 meeting of the Special Group (Augmented) which was attended by Harvey. (p. 112)

(RFK was not present.)

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2. Other Sources

a. Memo re: 15 February 1972

DCI aware that Rosselli was going to expose plots. He "decided to ignore his threats and take a calculated risk as to the consequences that may occur with the disclosure of his story. This was subsequently done by Rosselli or someone in his behalf furnishing Jack Anderson details of the incident." (Momo in Office of Security file re: Morgan)

3. Memo: 20 May 1971
Subject: Intertel

Mr. Al Pease [(former CIA)] now with Intertel, said Maheu and Anderson together on some oil mix deals...Recent exposure of Anderson re: Maheu's role in the Cuban Revolution was a deliberate exposure instigated by Robert Maheu using his son Peter, as an intermediary. Pease's theory is that Maheu probably would "scare them off" (i.e., Intertel would not want CIA stuff to embarrass Hughes).

Morgan making noises to certain Hughes officials that they had better take it easy on Maheu because of his past involvement with CIA (Memo in Security file re: Morgan).

4. Memo - 19 November 1970

-- Harvey had contacts with Rosselli in November-December 1967 and January 1968 following Rosselli Conviction.

-- 17 November 1970

Morgan had received a call from Tom Waddin who represented Rosselli that Rosselli faced deportation and would blow story. DCI decided to ignore threat and Maheu agreed.

"Maheu further advised that he was not concerned about any publicity as it affected him personally."

5. 19 December 1967

-- Series of conversations instigated by Harvey on Rosselli's behalf to get CIA intervention

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directly or at least discover how good Government case against Rosselli was.

- Calls from Rosselli began in October to Harvey. Rosselli knew what Agency had done for Maheu with Senator Long because Ed Morgan told Rosselli.
- Also, the Director (Helms) had sent Harvey a news clipping re: Agency use of Giancana (presumably the August 1963 Chicago story by Sandy Smith).

Rosselli said that the leak came from Senator Kennedy's office when Kennedy was still Attorney General.

6. Memo 28 April 1967

- O'Connell sent to Las Vegas to find out source of Pearson story.
- Maheu admitted telling Morgan some of the Phase One operation due to Agency delaying on Long Committee subpoena.
- Maheu visibly upset over Morgan going to Pearson and asked if he (Maheu) had been identified as the "client" by Morgan because he was afraid of the publicity affecting his relationship with Hughes.
- Maheu denied discussing with Rosselli latter phase of ~~operation~~ and said he had no knowledge of operation after April 1962.
- Rosselli met Morgan through Hank Greenspun in the 1950's.
- Maheu recalled that Morgan and Rosselli met with Garrison in Las Vegas during March 1967. Under the impression that Rosselli seeking legal advice from Morgan but did not know the circumstances.
- Rosselli under pressure from FBI, drinking heavily and had a 19-year-old girl.
- Believed Morgan had done some work for Pearson and did know that Anderson had more than a passing acquaintance with Morgan.

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-- Morgan also tight with Pat Cayne of NSC.

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(SSC)

In April 1935, the Senate Select Committee to Study Government Operations with respect to Intelligence Activities published their Final Report (Part II) which in essence faulted the CIA and to some extent for its errors of omission in not informing the Warren Commission of the Agency's ongoing plots against the revolutionary government in Cuba and ~~its~~ ^{its} attempts on the life of ~~the~~ ^{the} premier, Fidel Castro. The Committee's report is ~~discussed~~ ^{discussed} on pages 6-7 of its ~~findings~~ ^{findings} but one paragraph succinctly sums up their position.

"Senior CIA officials also should have realized that their agency was not utilizing its full capability to investigate Oswald's pro-Castro and anti-Castro connections. They should ^{have} realized that CIA operations against Cuba, particularly operations involving the assassination of Castro, needed to be considered in the investigation. Yet, they directed their subordinates to conduct an ~~extensive~~ ^{extensive} fact-gathering effort of these vital facts. These officials, whom the Warren Commission relied upon for expertise, advised the Warren Commission that the CIA had no

P 7
Book II

have

0002479 evidence of a foreign conspiracy?

SSC

Strung by the Senate criticism and the "leaking effect" that Book V ~~has~~ occasioned in the media, the CIA prepared a comprehensive report in 1977 designed to answer at least within the Agency, the critical questions posed in the Final Report. However, even the 1977 Report tacitly recognizes the inadequacy of the CIA's ^{under} response to the Warren Commission's quest for all relevant information. ["Relevancy" is of course the "buzzword" upon which the Senate and Agency each base their position of the ^{in this instance} anti-Castro plots to the Communis' work.] On page 10 of the Agency's Conclusions, the 1977 Report acknowledges that:

"While one can understand today why the Warren Commission limited its inquiry to normal avenues of investigation, it would have served to reinforce the credibility of its effort had it taken a broader view of the matter. CIA, too could have considered in specific terms what most saw in general terms - the possibility of Soviet or Cuban involvement ~~in~~ the assassination of the President because of ^{SECRET} tensions of the time.

The Agency should have

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P 10
1977 ~~Final~~
Report

taken broader initiatives, then,
as well."

Conflicting

to the work of
the ~~Working~~
Committee

It is not the purpose of
this analysis to detail ~~and~~ the
viewpoints of the SSC and CFA
with regard to the significance
of the CFA's Castro ~~unsuccessful~~
attempts and to resolve ~~the~~ ^{the parties'}
controversy as to ~~the~~ ^{the operations} importance.
~~Rather~~ Instead this paper seeks
to present a comprehensive
review of all the facts, drawn from
a variety of sources, of organized
Cubans' involvement or potential
involvement in CFA operations
against Cuba during 1960-63.
Certain influences and enthusiasm
~~it~~ will then be drawn upon
the nature, scope, and motivations
of ~~the operations~~ of the syndicate
participants in the operations.

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Involvement of Organized Crime in
CIA Plots to Assassinate Fidel Castro

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The genesis of the ^{utilization} ~~use~~ of the United States criminal syndicate of the CIA attempt to assassinate Castro is of the 1967 Inspector General's Report as occurring during a conversation between the Deputy Director of Plans, ~~was~~ Richard Bissell, and the Director of the Office of Security, Colonel Sheppard Edwards.⁺
[1967 IG Rpt. p. 74; Interim Rpt. p. 74; Section 1] Edwards assigned the specific task of locating the right party to "eliminate" or "assassinate" Castro, to James "Big Jim" O'Connell, who was the Chief of the Special Support Division of the Office of Security. Both men agreed that Robert A. Mahon⁺ who ~~has~~ had been previously utilized by the Agency in several sensitive cover operations, would be employed to recruit the necessary personnel.

⁺ [Mahon's CIA history and relationship to O'Connell are detailed on pp 74-75, Interim Report]

0002181 Although Mahon and O'Connell differ as to who initially brought up John Rosselli's name for consideration there was a meeting between Mahon and Rosselli at the former's duty station in Los Angeles in early September 1960
[Interim Report, p. 75]

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[Comment: Mahon seems the

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logical person to have thought of and contacted Roselli for several reasons. In an office of Security file on SA Morgan, Mahan's attorney, there is a memo to the DCP dated 19 November 1970 which reviews the mafia operation. Paragraph 5 states that "Mr. Mahan advised that he had met one John Roselli on several occasions while visiting Las Vegas. He only knew him casually through other clients, but was given to understand that he was a high ranking member of the syndicate and controlled all the ice-making machines on the Strip. Mahan advised that, if Roselli was in fact a member of the Club, he undoubtedly had extensive dealings with the Cuban gambling interests."

quotes?

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[Comment

Confirmation of ^{see} Mahan - Roselli contact is found in Roselli's FBI file and consists of an alleged telephone call in 1959. [See Roselli write-up]
from Mahan to Roselli

[Comment

date

Mahan and Roselli had mutual contacts in Las Vegas prior to 1950. Mahan sent newspaper, editor of the Las Vegas Sun.]

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Rosselli, although apparently skeptical at first, agreed to a meeting in New York City with Mahan and Council to discuss further details.

[Fitzgerald Report p. 76; Office of Security memo from Morgan file, dated 19 Nov. 1970]

Although the Fitzgerald memo places the meeting at the Playa Station on 14 September 1960, Rosselli recalled that the ~~event~~ discussion took place during Castro's visit to the United Nations which began on September 18, 1960.

Comment

Tony de Valona admits going to NY at the time of Castro's visit, but it is unlikely that he was in contact with Rosselli at this time or [Fitzgerald] of de Valona, that his visit had an assassination motivation.

According to a 19 Nov. 1970 memo to the D.C.I., it was at this September meeting in New York City, that Rosselli "agreed to introduce him (Mahan) to a friend, 'Sam Bold', who knew the Cuban crowd."

Comment:

The timing of the introduction of both ~~Sam~~ ^{Sam} (Bold) and Traffim ("Joe") is ~~an~~ important to the analysis of the "true" role of the mob in the Castro assassination plot. Accordingly

?? to the 1967 I. G. Report, the ~~entry~~ ^{entry} of biancana took place ^(a) during the week of 25 September 1960:

[1967 I. G. Report, p 18]

In contrast, the SSC Interim Report at p. 76, does not ~~state~~ ^{state} biancana's initial appearance ~~was~~ ^{it was} "cutting" prior to October 18." (p 76) because of conflicting ~~testimony~~ evidence between the 1967 I. G. September date and Mahan's Senate testimony which set the introduction in ~~at~~ November 1960. As a compromise, the Interim Report reasoned that biancana had been introduced to the Mahan "prior to October 18" because: (1) the Las Vegas wiretap record on October 30, 1960, and (2) ~~the~~ DDP Bissell had received an FBI memo dated 18 October 1960 which revealed an FBI FLS cover quoting biancana as discussing his involvement in an assassination plot against Castro. (FBI memo, dated 18 Oct 1960 from Horrocks Bissell, Interim Report, p 79)

1-8-7?

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[Comment: Each ~~of~~ dual reasons listed on the Interim Report on p 77 are subject to critical analysis which will be dealt with separately ~~in the~~ below.]

[Comment: ~~SECRET~~ Although the 1967 I. G. Report stated

That "Mahon pointed out "bold" to O'Connell from a distance but O'Connell never met either "bold" or Joe", the Intern Report divulges this observation by apparently quoting from O'Connell's Senate testimony and stating that "The Support Chief, who was using the name "Tom J. Hs," said he had met "Sam" and Joe, once, and then only briefly. S.O.C. 5/30/75, pp 26-29; Intern Report 75

COP

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Comment
~~Comment~~

Conflicts appear also on ~~a variety~~ several related minor points surrounding the September 1965 meeting in N.Y.C. and Miami. For instance:

1) Did Roselli know from the beginning that ~~Mahon~~ the operation was CFA?

a) O'Connell stated that Mahon told Roselli that they were representing international business interests where Roselli testified that Mahon told him that O'Connell was CFA [Intern Report 75

Also, footnote 1 on p. 26 indicates that Roselli told O'Connell "about 3 weeks after the New York meeting", which is during the Miami involvement of Bourne, that "I am not kidding, I mean what you work for".

The ingenuity of Roselli's recognition of CFA ~~is~~ ^{SECRET} ~~is~~ ^{is} that it is doubtful if Bourne and Tappan

could have been enlisted unless they could be sure of government protection. This theme will be developed more fully below.

2) Roselli told his Cuban contacts that he was an "agent of some summer interests of Wall Street that had... nicht interests and properties around Cuba..." (Roselli, 6/24/75 pp 9, 17)

CF. Jack Anderson column of Jan. 19, 1971, which stated that (4) could the plot against Castro have backfired against President Kennedy? ... None of the assassination teams, however, had direct knowledge of the CIA involvement. The CIA instigators had represented themselves as oilmen seeking revenge against Castro for his seizure of oil holdings.

Jack Anderson's source for this article were Roselli and ~~William~~ William Henry, who was not party to the details of Phase F, it is another ~~example~~ ^{example} of serious discrepancies between the CIA, Senate, and Anderson versions which all purport to depend, in varying degrees, upon Roselli.

3) The alleged ~~discovery~~ "seriously discrepancy" by Mahon and Cromwell as to the ~~identity~~ identification of "Sambo" and "Joe" is really suspect. First, ~~at~~ although it is

possible that the Senate Committee Staff overlooked the ^{specific} Miami newspaper

Sunday supplement (Panda) which purportedly included pictures of persons and I suppose their ~~activities~~ ^{showing} Mahon and O'Connell ~~etc~~ ^{the} nature of the people with whom they were dealing, it is a relatively easy matter to research Panda magazine for the months of October and November. It would appear that ~~they~~ O'Connell and Mahon were working for an ~~explicit~~ ^{explicit} facto reason for continuing the operation after the introduction of two of the top Mafia in the United States. O'Connell testified that his discovery was after "we were up to our ears in it" which is difficult to fathom since the operation was in the ~~initial~~ ^{initial} stage and no file was delivered to ~~him~~ ^{him} until approximately March 1961, ^{whatever the} reason, the Senate staff insists it could not find the Panda ^{file}.

File 100-440000-1000
R.T.T. FH 1

The principle in Phase 4 of the operation ~~was~~ ^{was} also disagree as to the roles which were to be played by both "Gold" and "Joe" in ~~Phase~~ the pre - Bay of Pigs phase of the operation.

"Although Mahon described Bonnona as playing a "key" role,

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(Makou, 7/29/75, p.34) and discussed his job as "to locate someone in Castro's entourage who could accomplish the mission". Roselli downplayed Brannan's part to that of a "back-up" man. (Roselli

6/24/75, p.15)

~~All of the information~~
Whether Roselli received a message from Brannan's murder four days before Roselli's Senate appearance is open for question. Roselli's characterization of Brannan's role as minor is in contrast to his alleged ^{recruitment of} ~~discovery of~~ Brannan's "knowledge of the Cuban word" which the 19 Nov. 1970 memo recorded.

Senate

due to his

Phase I

Traffickers' involvement in Phase I is even more justified by the available evidence. The 1967 Feb. Report and Senate Intern Report ~~say~~ state that "bold" identified "Joe" to Makou as a man who would serve as a courier to Cuba and make arrangements there. (Feb. Report p.19; Intern Report, p.77). To

7.7

support the description of Traffickers as a courier, the ~~1967 Feb. Report~~ Intern Report quotes p.19 of the 1967 Feb. Report in stating that "At that time, the gambling casinos were still operating in Cuba and Trafficking was making regular trips between Makou and Havana - in syndicate business".

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Comment ^{factually}

This unsupported assertion runs contrary to the evidence available through official government records ^{of other agencies}. As an example, State Department files reflect that Traffante applied for a passport in October, 1959 and received that document in Havana on February 2, 1960.

(See Traffante File, State Dept). ~~None~~ ~~is~~ ~~available~~. No records available to the Committee from DNS, State Department or FBI record any later 1960 travels even though the Bureau ~~and State~~ maintained decent surveillance on Traffante during the period. In his Committee testimony, Traffante

recalled

~~remembered~~ that he made two trips to Cuba after his release from prison in August 1959 and placed these sojourns within two or three months after his release. ^{from prison} Testimony, pp 4-53, Oct. 1970

in Havana

His testimony has some logical credibility in that all of the casinos were either closed or operating in the red by mid-1960, and law enforcement reports placed him in the Tampa-Miami area consistently ~~in the~~ during the pre-Prigoz Big period.

By the time of the Senate testimony of ~~Rosen~~, however, Traffante's role had diminished to a great

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even below Biancanis, ^{He} had been reduced ^{from "courier"} to a mere "translator" and was needed only to facilitate communications between Rosselli and the Cubans who had been recruited for the actual assassination. Inferno, Trafficante and Rosselli 1975 and 1977 Congressional appearances done tail, well but remain in contradiction to the ~~my~~ facts as reported in 1983 of the jurists.

they were being

Comment:

The Senate testimony of Rosselli and Trafficante needs to be outlined ~~specifically~~ with a view to contrasting the "courier is interpreter" role. My memory is that the Senate did not rigorously cross examine either man on this discrepancy nor did ~~they~~ the Interim Report "hint" at the problem.

Once the actors had been assembled for the launching of the enterprise, a discussion began as to the method ~~of~~ to be employed to accomplish the goal. The Army took the simplest, straight forward approach of shooting Castro but this ~~plan~~ ^{SECRET} was rejected

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 by Binzana. In a Comment
 to its 1967 Report, the Inspector
 General noted that "Binzana
 was flatly opposed to the use
 of firearms. He said that no one
 could be recruited to do the job
 because the chance of survival
 and escape would be negligible.
 Binzana stated a preference for
 lethal pill that could be put
 into Castro's food and drink."
 [affiant (Joe, the owner) was
~~in touch~~ in touch with a ~~high level~~
 Cuban official with access to
 Castro's presumed of a sort
 that would enable him to
 surreptitiously poison Castro. The
 gangster named their man
 inside as Juan Ota, who was
 then office chief and Director General
 of the office of the Prime Minister
 Castro. The gangster said that
 Ota had once been in a position
 to receive briefings from the
 gangster informant but had since
 lost that source of income and
 needed the money. [F.B. Report, p 25]

Comment

The observations ^{quoted above} of the 1967 F.B.
 Report are ~~an~~ extremely significant
 in several respects. First, the poison
 pill ~~of~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{of} Binzana's original
 with Binzana, not the Agency; a prison

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which is crucial to the final
conclusion presented below.

Secondly, Trappante is identified
as ~~providing~~ having access to, and
providing the ^{private} assassin in Cuba
which is in consistent with
his "self-saving" role depicted
of "in September". His ability to
recruit "into agreement" ~~as~~ was
directly tied to his former
gambling empire associations
which formed a constant pattern
for all his ~~delegated~~ conduct for Trappante both
during and after his Cuban days.
{ See Trappante profile }

Comment

note

Speculation concerning this
note arose during the Agency's 1977
Report when it was forced to
address a problem raised by
an April 23, 1975 article, covering
Frank Stupis, written by Paul
Merkell of the New York Daily News.
Stupis was quoted as saying,
"The third (assassination) scheme
involved planting a bomb in Castro
office. I had access to the Rome
Minister's office," Stupis said. "I knew
Fidel's private secretary, Juan Soto.
I recruited him to work with the
Embassy. I ~~know~~ Embassy in Havana.
What was ~~his~~ ^{his} ~~purpose~~ ^{purpose} to the

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writings of the 1977 Report was the fact that Onta's name had surfaced in connection with a Castro assassination plot, before revelation of the CIA-Mafia connection by the Senate Intelligence Committee. The Report references news stories by Stuyvesant & Fujis with Trappenberg and with a "gambling partner" of Trappenberg, Norman Rothman (see Rothman paper). Coupled with Stuyvesant's alleged relationships, is the allegation that Stuyvesant had a role in ~~an~~ inspecting the gambling casinos in Cuba on behalf of the Castro government and could have developed an interest with Onta in running gambling "hit pads".

A second aspect of Mishkin's ~~the~~ news series concerned a claim by Anita Jorey that she had acted on behalf of Stuyvesant in 1960 in attempt to poison Castro who dove failed with the 18 October 1960 FBI memorandum on domestic electronically surveilled currencies in which he stated that "the assassin had arranged with a girl, not further described, to drop a 'pill' ^{SECRET} some drink or food of Castro" (Memo, Hqs to DCI, 10/18/60).

The tentative conclusions advanced in the 1977 Report are as follows:

It is obvious that many lines of speculation can be developed, not the least of which is that the Agency did not know the full extent of syndicate activities...

Additional considerations:

1. Current syndicate may well have had some independent activities of its own activity prior to CPTA involvement in late 1960. Also, could have been Agency when CPTA was still active in 1962 April.
2. Syndicate operators could have had contacts such as those in New York Daily News story in 1975 and 1976.
3. Frank Sturgis seems to have had contacts with, but not a member of syndicate. Could well have been used by the syndicate.
4. Sturgis has not been a useful source. He probably knew Orla in Cuba but he was outside Cuba when Orla assumed role of assassin.

If there was an earlier operation in Orla, it was not CPTA; it could have been earlier operation of syndicate. Sturgis could have been or been involved in syndicate operation, or picked up gossip from Miami in 1965 after Orla visited there.

Neither the 1967 I-C Report
 or the SSC Interim Report can
 pinpoint the precise date on which
 the Agency processed the poison pills
 which O'Connell delivered to Rosen
 { Interim Report, p 83. The chain of
 custody, according to the 1967 I-C
 Report ~~was~~ was for the lethal
 pills to be delivered from Rosselli
 to Truffante. Although the next
 intervening steps remain a
 mystery, Rosselli reported to O'Connell
 that the pills had been delivered to
 Ota in Cuba in late February - early
 March 1961 { Interim Rpt. p 27; Interim Rpt p 8

Comment:

The Senate Interim Report reported
 the version of Joe Shimon ~~whose~~
~~story~~ whose memory was that the
 money and pills for the operation were
 delivered at a meeting at the Fontainebleau
 Hotel on March 12, 1961 attended by
 "Mahan, Rosselli, Truffante, and the
 Cubans." { Interim Rpt p 15 Shimon's
~~memory~~ story is filled with
 vivid ~~and~~ details which are documented
 on p 2 of the Report, but his credibility
 is subject to serious question as
 his account is not shared by
 anyone else connected with the plan
 and nor is his relationship with

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0002198 Roselli, broncano, or Trafficante appear as "copy" as he would lead me to believe.

It is also apparent that Shuman was a source for Judge Williams column of January 9, 1961, which fixed the date of the passage of the poison at the Fontanelletta ^{by Roselli} as March 13, 1961, and confirmed the report that Castro became ill a few ~~top~~ weeks later.

The real problem with Shuman's story is that the pills were returned to the CIA for a few weeks because Ota could or would not, attempt the poisoning; a fact apparently unknown to Shuman before his "leak" to Williams and his Senate testimony.]

Comment

One additional fact concerning Ota's inability to carry out the mission lies on with the final lines of this report. Ota lost his position in Castro's office on 26 January 1961, while ~~the~~ planning for the operation was still going on in Miami and Washington.

It would seem though, that the gangster did know that Ota had already lost his access to Castro [~~in~~ 1967 ~~to~~ Report p. 27]

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0002199

With the failure of Onto
 to produce the desired results,
 the project was at a standstill
 until, once again, Sant Trappante
 assumed command. Roselli has
 stated that "Trappante believed
 a certain leading figure in
 the Cuban exile movement ~~was~~ might
 be able to accomplish the mission."
 [File 1167 PB Ex 10 29, Parker Ppt 88]

Comment:

The real leader was, of course
 Tony de Vanna, ~~the~~
 who was the subject of speculation
 in an FBI memorandum of 11/29/61
 accusing him with receiving financial
 aid from American agencies for
 anti-Castro activities which were
 the CIA operation.

At the time of his introduction
 into the CIA mob jobs, de Vanna was already
 being funded by the Agency through
 the Revolutionary Front and was being
 involved in CIA planning for the
 Bay of Pigs invasion which was
 imminent.

De Vanna was also ^{being} exposed
 by Mike McKernan whose ~~admission~~
 agency was ~~not~~ engaged in
 promoting Vanna's image in
 collaboration with McKernan from

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in 1960-61

0002260
 "Pierri" or "Chillo" Mendezal Mendez
 is described in Truffante's FBI files
 as a close Cuban associate.

Completing the picture of
 support for Varona in the promotion
 efforts of the Dins and Eddie
 Cellini, McHenry and Harry Busenik,
 associates, who were reportedly
 working through a Washington DC,
 public relations firm, Edward
 & Moss and Associates. Moss had
 previous CPTA associations and
 was supposed acting as a contact
 for funds supplied by the Cellini
 benefactors with the understanding
 that their group would have
 "privileged treatment" in the
 Cuba of the future. Attempts
 to verify these reports were
 unsuccessful. [1967 FBI Report
 p 30]

The heavy influence
 using the Cellini brothers as a
 "front" is particularly interesting
 in light of Varona's admission
 that Jorge Pujol arranged a
 meeting in Miami in ~~the summer of~~
 1960 wherein ^{my} Varona offered to
 financially "back" Varona's
 efforts to ~~assist~~ "educate"
 all Cuban people about Castro,
 which may be a euphemism for
 anti-Castro plots. [See Varona transcript

0002201

The logical inference to be drawn is that both the Agency ~~and~~ ^{and} other persons interested in removing the Castro regime, had settled upon de Vanna, as an individual who had the potential of uniting the ~~various~~ ^{various} multitudes of exile groups who were in a continued infernal feud. de Vanna was understandably pleased to permit both the U.S.

government and criminal syndicate to offer him support and asked no questions as to the source of the funds or the motives of his benefactors

(See Vanna testimony -)

Although de Vanna has no ^{specific} memory of meeting Truffante, the Tampa crowd has admitted that he acted as an "intermediary" in several meetings attended by de Vanna, Roselli, Casanova, and other exiles. These meetings were arranged by Regal, "Macho" Jones, a Truffante family partner from Havana who continued to serve Truffante in Miami during the 1950s. Truffante claimed that Roselli had previously recruited Jones but this appears unlikely in view of Truffante's long-standing ^{SECRET} friendship with Jones on Cuba. And Roselli's admission to

7
810

0002202

O'Connell that ~~Trappanese~~ Trappanese would provide the replacement for the ill-fated Juan Orta who had escaped to the Venezuelan Embassy in April 1961.

Comment: ^{Paralleling} ~~Probably~~ the situation at the Senate hearings July 1975 when Roselli's depiction of Trappanese's role ~~changed~~ changed from ~~his~~ his "counsel" ^{characterization} ~~interpretation~~ in 1960 as reported by the Agency to conform to Trappanese's state ment, in the recent interview with Gener who agrees with Trappanese's ~~united testimony~~ testimony ^{with de Vanna} he was an ~~interpretation~~ ^{interpretation} for Roselli. ~~the~~ The net result in both instances is to minimize Trappanese's exposure (See CF. Forgi interview with Gener, May? 1978 and Trappanese testimony, Oct 7, 1977)

~~Happened, the meetings with~~
~~Vanna came to pass, the~~
If ~~ambiguity~~ ambiguity exists as to the introduction of de Vanna into Phase one of the Castro assassination plot, more ~~deliberate~~ ~~ambiguity~~ confusion surrounds de Vanna's ~~as~~ actual participation prior to the Bay of Pigs invasion, the I & Report indicates that de Vanna attempted a second ~~person~~ person ^{person} before the Cuban invasion that Roselli was positive that only one

SECRET

0002203

attempt, (Cortés) was made. He was also positive that he delivered both pills, money and supplies to de Vaura which is corroborated by O'Connell ~~points~~ during 1961. The conflict is resolved by the Senate in speculation that only one pre-Opay of Pigs attempt was made, and that... [de Vaura] was the contact in the United States who arranged for... [Cortés]... to administer the poison.

Comment

There appears to be no factual way to resolve de Vaura's initial contribution to the poison attempts especially since Vaura denies ever having received poison pills from Roselli or being involved in any attempt on Castro's life at any time. (See Vaura transcript)

Comment

The Agency was aware of the possible dangers inherent in having de Vaura participate in the mob's plots while ~~in~~ ^{acting} his part on the "Restoration Squad". However, "Steph" stated to end his participation in the syndicate plan but [they] were apparently ineffective. (See I.C. Report, p 32)

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Phase II

The debacle which marked the mid-April 1961 Bay of Pigs effort, curtailed CIA efforts with the mob to assassinate Castro, but it was not until April 1962, when Bill Harvey assumed Agency responsibility for the task, were efforts made to re-establish contact with Roselli.

However, the fact that the Agency was squeamish during the Bay of Pigs aftermath to continue to try to kill Castro, does not mean that the mob shared their opinion. Indeed, both Harvey and Council swore that Harvey "took over a going operation". I.E.O. Rept p 3. The exact details of what that operation might have been ~~cannot be discerned~~ has not been uncovered, but Roselli's ability to regenerate his forces ~~was~~ in response to Harvey's contact in April 1962 was immediate. Once again the ubiquitous *el hombre* was to provide the ~~individuals~~ who would carry the lethal poison into Cuba.

However, there were some significant ~~important~~ differences between Phase One and Phase Two of the operation which bear upon the ultimate question of the mob's motivation and

0002205

success in carrying out their part of the bargain struck in 1960 with the Agency.

Fact In Phase One, Rosselli et al had demonstrated their ability to execute the contract on Castro by naming their source who was, in fact, in a position close to Castro to succeed. In contrast, the details of the matter operated and the ability of the ~~source~~ ^{intelligence} ~~source~~ was deliberately vague. After ~~Harry~~ Harry contacted Rosselli in Miami in April 1962, Harry reported that "the manner in which the actual material was to be introduced into Castro's Ford & ~~Wainwright's~~ ^{an asset of name} who had access to someone in ^{LAOIT #41} restaurant frequented by Castro." By June 1962 after the ~~Vanna~~ had received money and munitions from the JMWAVE station and had presumably sent the goods into Cuba, ~~the~~ "Rosselli" reported to Harry on 21 June that Vanna had dispatched a team of three men to Cuba. Just what they were supposed to do is pretty vague. Harry said that they appeared to have no specific plan for helping Castro. They were to recruit others who might be used in such a scheme. If an opportunity to help Castro presented itself, they or the persons they recruited will to make the attempt - perhaps using the pills. Harry never heard

their names or anything about them
 [1967 DO Report p 51]

Comment

As the 1967 DO author correctly observed, Harvey's tale of the "Favorite restaurant" poisoning apparently ~~was the same plan that Edward~~ was familiar in "that Edward had decided precisely the same plan". The fact that Vauma related the exact notes regarding to Harvey as he had discussed with Edward in Phase One (circa 1960 - mid 1961) leads to the possibilities that:

- (1) Harvey was correct in assuming that he was taking over an ongoing operation in April 1962 or
- (2) the plot had been underway since before, during, and after the Bay of Pigs and prompted the CIA to provide logistical support and future protection against the Justice Department; or
- (3) de Vauma was simply making up a story for the Agency to gain their financial backing or in response to directives from a foreign source.

Second

the cost of unbelief

character changed. Harry had insisted that Mahon and someone be dropped from the operation which Roselli readily acceded to. Traffante's "infiltration" role was assumed by "Marco", a mysterious "Cuban who spoke Italian" and who sometimes used the name Barack Bonny and today.

Comment

"Marco" introduction into one of the most sensitive CIA covert actions in history without any attempt ^{by the Agency} to check his background or to ascertain his identity is extraordinary. Yet, the Agency apparently blithely "led" ~~to~~ ^{with} ~~the~~ ^{movement} of the top hoodlums in the United States without doing any basic background security investigation.

Although the 1975 Report characterizes Marco as "Roselli's man", it is probable that this individual was ~~never~~ drafted by Traffante who had provided all the Cuban personnel previously used in the attempts and who still possessed, in 1962, the most complete network of Cuban allies in Miami and Cuba.

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0007208

2.

termination of the CPA -
 mafia ^{was} plots slow and undramatic
 Roselli, in May 1962, reported to
 Hany that the plots and guns which
 had been delivered to Varma in Miami
 in April had arrived in Cuba, and an
 three-man team had been dispatched
 in June to execute the plan [Inform Report
 p845]

unidentified

7.

During September 1962, ~~and~~ Roselli
 related to Hany that de Varma ~~proposed~~
 readying a second three-man team
 who were "supposedly military men
 whose assignment was to penetrate
 Castro's body guard. During this period
 the 'medicene' was reported as still in
 place and the three men of the first
 team safe [1967 Inform Report, p515]
 However, the second team never
 made Cuba and a series of alibis
 were constructed during December and
 January 1963. Nevertheless, de Varma
 supposedly collected \$200 for the maintenance
 of these individuals from Roselli
 who had received the payment from
 Hany. [1967 Inform Report p525]

supposedly

In mid-July 1963 both
 Hany and Roselli agreed that "nothing
 was happening and that there was
 not much chance that anything would
 happen in the future" [1967 Inform Report p525]
 Roselli was instructed to ease
 his way out of touch with
 Varma ~~whom~~ ^{whom} ~~he~~ ^{he} ~~primarily~~ ^{primarily} did.
 The last meeting between Hany

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0002209

and Rosselli occurred in Washington
D.C. in June 1963. when he was
Harvey's ~~guest~~ overnight guest. Hence
their meeting ostensibly was not directly
related to any assassination plots.

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CONCLUSION

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in part, the available evidence suggests that ~~the Agency~~ the thesis which is tacitly assumed by the Agency in its 1977 internal Directorate Periodic Report wherein it states that, "It is possible that CIA singly found itself involved in providing additional resources for independent operations that the syndicate already had under way. ... In a ~~sense~~ ^{sense} CIA may have been piggy-backing on the syndicate, and, in addition to its material contributions, was also supplying an aura of official sanction." [1977 PB Rpt p 208]

The relevant evidence is as follows:

1. FBI memo 18 Oct 1960 re Biancane FT SUR:

... Biancane reportedly assured those present that Castro's announcement would occur in November. Moreover, he allegedly indicated that he had already met with the mission to be on three occasions. ... Biancane claimed that everything has been perfected for the benefit of Castro, and that the mission had arranged with a girl, not further named, to drop a "gift" in some hut or food of Castro. [1977 PB Rpt p 195]

Comment

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Although the content of messages between Mahon, Prindle, and ...

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are subject to different interpretations,

it is clear that no plans were finalized between the parties ~~by~~ until some time after October 1960. The date of the ^{FAPS} intercepted conversation between Bianca.

The grim pills prepared by the CIA at Ponzana's request were not ready for delivery until late July - early August 1961, so that it is difficult to see how Ponzana's November 1960 assassination plot could be a part of the CIA operation. Rather, it appears that the mob had its own plan in progress, using a mixture of Castro, to accomplish the deed, when the CIA fortuitously happened along to offer its support.

The mob was then in a perfect position. If their ~~private~~ private plot actually worked and Castro died, then the syndicate had enormous blackmail potential against the CIA which it could exercise at the opportune moment. However, if their ~~plot~~ back-fired, then their position ~~was~~ would be that they were only attempting to violate the wishes of their Government.

Additional Comment

The notion of Ponzana's "hired hand" Richard Cain ~~was~~ not to raise some interesting possibilities. Brian Cairns Admison

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0002212

to the FBI that he had ~~been~~ joined the Chicago Police Department and Sheriff's office while on someone's payroll. Cain's approach to ~~the~~ the CIA Chicago office in the fall of 1960 to volunteer ~~his services~~ information on the Cuban community appears ~~as a little more than~~ ^{a little more than} coincidental. Then when FBI files disclose that he is planning to go to Cuba for Life magazine (and me stay), and to "buy" influential Cubans in Havana ostensibly for et-pudus Prio (second stay) the coincidence becomes more suspect. The suspicion is that Cain was being sent by someone to supervise the poisoning attempt on Fidel Castro. Cain could be the "arranger to be" whom someone refers to in ^{the FBI memo of} Oct 11, 1960 or he could be the contact man for the operation.

[Tie in memo on Cain with Salinas' view which is strongly supportive of the evidence, that Cain was the "missing second man" in the Los Vegas writing of Oct 30, 1960. Mahan needs to be questioned on this point]

Cain continued to "volunteer" information and assistance to the CIA during 1961-1963. In August 1963, he offered information on the DRP Student Directory in Chicago to the office of the Agency. In August, Cuba

0002213

was the former head of the Directorate
in Cuba when he was a major
Wagner in deposing Batista.

In September 1963, Cain reported
to the Chicago office of the CIA that
DRB was in a deal to purchase
a large arms shipment. He was
told by the Agency to "get out
of the picture" ~~with~~ a directive
which is subject to periodical updates
including the fact that the CIA
was a willing participant in the deal.
Again, on November 27, 1963, Cain
now the chief investigator for CIA
County Sheriff's office, gave the Agency
some information that Oswald was
in ~~Cuba~~ Chicago in Sept 1963 with
the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and
had purchased the mass murderer
with in March 1963.

2. Recruitment of ~~the potential~~ Assassins

In describing the potential poisoner,
Garrana spoke of a "girl" who
was close to Castro while the
individual recruited for the CIA pills
was Juan Orta, a secretary in
Castro's Prime Ministry.

The identity of the "girl" referred
to by Garrana can never be ascertained
but Trafficante was clearly in the
best position to recruit ~~the potential~~
one of Castro's Cuban ministers due to
his multitude of contacts in the
Cuban gambling and publication circles

000221A

It was common for American gangsters to have Cuban mistresses and Trafficante, Rottman, and Toure were typical examples. Also, one witness told the Committee that Castro was accustomed to arriving at the Nacional Hotel (owned by Mike McKay) consistently on a regular basis to visit one of his paramours. Thus, it would have been relatively easy for Trafficante to have arranged for a young woman to serve Castro and to attempt to poison him.

L. Maria Loring is a complicit witness, to say the least, and her potential as an assassin recruited by Frank Stupin has been previously discussed. However, one interesting point is that she was also Thelma Toure's mistress and, thus, would have been solicited to activate the poison plot. Unfortunately, Toure is totally uncooperative and Loring was not asked about her relationship with Toure in Cuba so that we do not know the dated match.

Comment

— Juan Orta, the man identified to the Agency as the gangster's contact in Castro's inner circle, was presumably involved by Trafficante, but to date former receipt of gangster "handouts". One fact is extremely bothersome however, in attempting to gauge the depth of the mob's involvement in using Orta to execute the assassination plan. According to the 1962 FO Report 1962

Ota "lost his position in the Prime Minister's Office in July 1961, which played for the operation was still going on in Miami and in Washington." Acordy to the official version Ota accepted for the pills in late February - early March 1961 and kept the pills for a couple of weeks before returning them" [1967 FBI Rpt p 273]

7.7. If the mob was close enough to Ota to have pills smuggled in and out of Cuba, then they had to know that Ota had lost his position of accessibility. The other possibility is that the pills were left in the United States and then were available to him at a time when he was brought into the plot.

The question arises then, as to whether the mob was pursuing their own assassination plot and the CIA operation or, what appears more likely, simply using the going for its ulterior motives previously outlined.

Turning to Phase II of the operation which began in April 1962, ~~there is~~ the same possibilities exist. If Kany and Conrad are correct in assuming that Kany had walked into an "ongoing operation, then ~~it is~~ ~~not~~ ~~to~~ be assumed that the mob's relationship with de Verna, which per the CIA participation account to the FBI Ministry 21 Dec 1960, and 18 Jan 1961 had continued uninterrupted after the Bay of Pigs ~~with~~ the revolution.

it can

0002216

of the CFTA's participation, funding and mutual support could, once again, be returned to the Agency although de Vanna would continue to deal through his not contacts, Russell and "Maceo."

lack of interest

Due to the loose structure of Phase II in terms of the ambiguous nature of the operational means of attack, the lack of identity of the intended assassin, the complete silence of Harry upon Russell's word not that was not actually being passed out, the Agency's inability to corroborate Russell's information, the speculation arises that the syndicate was not serious enough to assassinate Castro after the Bay of Pigs fiasco and the solidification of Soviet influence on Castro's Cuba, being settled summons. Trappante, having at other times must have believed that the "golden game" of Russia had laid its last egg, and that fortune would be made elsewhere. Certainly, the evidence shows strongly influence in the Bahamas, Las Vegas, and Trappante projects in the Dominican Republic, and a new opportunity for whitewash operations in Florida with the influence of Cuban whites. It was also abundantly clear that the new Justice Department program in regard to crime would never permit the "wide-open" Cuba of the pre-Kennedy era if even if Castro and all his Communist associates could be eliminated. SECRET

??

~~SECRET~~ Despite the obvious

0002217
 continuing the paramilitary attempts
 against Castro in a subterranean way,
 there still was a percentage in
 "stringing the Agency along." First, there
 was no expense to the syndicate
 because the Agency was provided full
 logistical support for the operation. Second,
 there was the mounting pressure
 from the ~~State~~ FBI and Justice Department
 which had to be blunted, if possible.
 No better weapon to accomplish this
 goal could be found than to use
 one agency (CIA) against another (FBI).
 A brief look at the record shows the
 employment of ~~the~~ strategy ~~at~~ at moments
 of crisis for those who participated in
 the plots.

1. Robert Mahon

- Quarry of Long Committee subpoena
 in 1966 [Intern Report, p 79, note 3; Intern ^{Edward} _{P Morgan}
- solidification of position with
 CIA and with Hughes Department
 [Hughes was definitely told of the project of Mahon
 in Nov. 1960, and was himself involved in an
 alliance with the CIA which in fact, occurred
 later when Mahon was Hughes' principal agent]
 [Intern Report, p 75, note 2; Mahon ^{Sancti Spiritus?}
- Dispute with Hughes; See memo 20 May 1971
 on office of security file on General P Morgan

2. John Roselli

- evading criminal prosecution [Intern
 Report, p 55, note 4,
- use in ~~legal~~ means in Miami 1971 to
 attempt to reduce confidence
- ~~was~~ attempt to delay deportation
 hearing with DWS which included

0002218

Jack Anderson's journal intervention
with PRS (See Anderson interview, and
CFA Roselli file; ~~re~~ CFA office
of Security full re Edward P. Morgan)

3. Sam Giancana

- October 1960 meeting in Las Vegas
where Giancana got Martin to take the heat
for him by blaming the tap was a
result of the CFA plots.

- Early 1962, intervention with FOU
Farrell of FNS re possible deportator
[See Tab C, Roselli CFA File,
stating that ref. E. Swab, Osborn, Stephen
Locca, & Houston know]

- attempts to ward off FBI surveillance
in 1963 & 1967 DC Report p 129]

- Conversation with Sam Pupich
on 3 May 1967, Sam comments that
Roselli and Giancana have CFA
'over a barrel' because of "that operation".
He said that he doubted that the FBI
would be able to do anything about either
Roselli or Giancana because of their
previous activities with your people."

[1967 F.B. Rpt p 137]

SECRET

Notes re Jack Anderson
"Castro Retaliation" theory

0002219

March 3, 1967 }
March 7, 1967 } Drew Pearson Office

Source:

1967 I.O. Report:

1) It is quite likely that Rosselli is the source, Morgan the channel, and Anderson and Pearson the recipients
(p 120)

- We may now assume that Pearson's story is not patched together from bits and pieces picked up here and there. His ultimate source Rosselli, knows more about certain details than we do, and he evidently has talked

(p 120)

- Fraguet

The Russell-Burnham contact in Las Vegas in March is particularly interesting. It lends substance to reports that Castro had something to do with the Kennedy assassination in retaliation for US attempts on Castro's life. We do not know that Castro actually tried to retaliate, but we do (CIA emphasis) know that there were such plots against Castro. Unhappily, it now appears that Burnham may also have been this (p 121)

- Mahan

SECRET

does have good reasons not wanting the story aired further. Unpleasant publicity might cause him to lose his microphone

092221

Client, Hughes. There might be some value to be gained from endorsing his suggestion that he approach Morgan and perhaps Roselli and urge discussion

- The Pearson story, which is now carrying so much distress, includes one detail that is not found in Phase Two: the three-man team
Comment

Not necessary since Pearson was involved in Phase One also, he may have begun the 3 man team initially and may have told Roselli on the concept in Phase Two or Roselli just didn't mention the 3 man team to Mahan or O'Connell during Phase 5
Comment

- In figuring out 'ulterior motives' for a leak to Pearson, Agency makes the following point -

If protection was what the source was seeking, he could be better assured of getting it by a direct approach to CIA for help Eq 12:

Since Agency can figure an ulterior motive, they decide that Roselli is drinking too much and ~~is~~ talking to Morgan who is also drinking and talking to newspaper & Pearson

Comment

Don Pearson has not yet, as far as we know, used two of his best gadgets: the story of the job

and the fact of the State Dept. meeting.
SECRET
GOC2227
P 1275
Comment

See p 112 wherein "Drew Pearson claims to have a report that there was a high-level meeting at the Dept of State at which plans for the assassination were discussed."

I.C. speculates that Pearson is talking about the 10 September meeting of the Special Group (Soyuzdetfilm) which was attended by Harvey. (p 112)
E R F K was not present.

2. Other Sources

a) Memo re 15 Feb 1972

DCP aware that Russell's was going to expose plots. He "decided to ignore his threats and take a calculated risk as to the consequences that may occur with the disclosure of his story. This was subsequently done by Russell or someone on his behalf furnishing Jack Anderson details of the incident."

(Memo in office of Security Fed re Morgan)

3. Memo: 20 May 1971

Subject: Internal

Mr. Pease [James C. Pease] saw with [redacted] said Mabein & Anderson fought on some oil mix deal. Recent exposure of Anderson re Mabein oil on the Carter Revolution was a deliberate exposure instigated by Robert Mabein using his son Peter, an oil volume dealer.

Believe' theory is that Mahan probably thought that such publicity would "scare them off" (re. Felt's in a memo CIA stuff to influence Hughes).

-Magan makes notes to caution Hughes officials that they had better take it easy on Mahan because of his past involvement with CIA
 2 Memo in Security File re Magan

4. Memo 19 Nov 1970

7
 7
 - Harry had contacts with Roselli in November - December 1967 and January 1968 following Roselli conversion.
 - 17 Nov 1970

Magan had received a call from Tom Wadden who requested Roselli that Roselli faced deportation and would slow stop. DCP decided to ignore threat and Mahan agreed.

"Mahan further advised that he was not concerned about any publicity as it affected him personally.

5. 19 Dec. 1967

- Summary conversation on behalf of Harry on Roselli's behalf to get CIA interested directly or at least discover how good court case against Roselli was.

- Calls from Roselli began on October 6 Harry. Roselli knew what Harry had done for Mahan with Sen. Long because Ed Magan told

Roselli:

- Also, the Director Belmont had sent Harry a news clipping re Agency use of binoculars (primarily the Bryant 1963 Chicago story of Sandy Smith)

Roselli said the lead came from Senator Kennedy's office where Kennedy was still Acting General.

6. Memo 28 April 1967

- J. Connell sent to Las Vegas to find out source of Rumson story

- Mahan admitted telling Morgan some of the Phase 7 operation but to Agency delaying on long committee subpoena.

- Mahan visibly upset over Morgan going to Pearson and asked if he (Mahan) had been identified as the "client" by Morgan because he was aware of the propriety of the FBI relationship with Hayes. with Roselli

- Mahan denied document latter phase of Rumson & said he had no knowledge of operation after April 1962

- Roselli met Morgan through Kent Beenspurr in the 1950's

- Mahan recalled that Morgan and Roselli met with O'Brien in Las Vegas during March 1967. Under the impression that Roselli sought legal advice from Morgan but did not know the circumstances.

- Roselli under pressure from FBI during hearings had a 19 yr old girl.

- Beland Morgan had done some

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work for Pearson and did believe
that Anderson had more than a
passing acquaintance with Morgan.
- Morgan also fought with
Pat Coyne of N 82

SECRET

John Handell
Review of Office of Security File

SECRET

January 6th

15 Jan 1977

0002225

Memo re request of Dade City
investigation for information on
8 Cubans:

1. a. Ramon Dom Resteray
- b. Rolando Masferrer Rojas
- c. Luciano Nieves
- d. Jose de la Torre
- e. Jose Quintana
- f. Joaquin Antonio Cortez
- g. Manuel Artines
- h. M.L.H.

2. Two of the 3 Cubans mentioned in
Roselli (SSCP) testimony.

Two names mentioned in a Dec
1970 Office of Security memo.

v. No background investigation done on
Roselli or Brancusa

vi. Sporadic contacts, direct and indirect
between Roselli & Agency officials requested
approx. 1971.

vii. O'Connell has always been informed
by Dade City.

viii. Office of Security has no such
evidence that Cuban Fulbrights have ever
been involved or Cuban agents in Miami area
during time of his death.

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Nieves

c. Released in March 1965 after serving approx 16 months of a 20 yr sentence for anti-Castro plot; went to Spain briefly where he was of contact to [Madrid Station]
 - August 1965 entered US
 - Nov 1965 to Jan 1966 of operational contact to DDO

Shannon

He is mentioned in the John Roselli file as a personal friend of Roselli. It is further noted that Shannon knew Roselli but nature & extent of their official/social relationship is unknown

30 August 1970 report by S/A Edward C. Rudiger, Alexandria FPO office.
 - Cuban contacts of Roselli

1. Juan Ota

was an official of the Castro Govt circa 1960-61 and was a contact of Santos Trafficante. Ota was reportedly selected by Trafficante to make the assassination attempt against Castro.

2. Tony Varona

When Juan Ota was not successful in carrying out the mission against Castro, Trafficante suggested Varona be used. Roselli contacted Varona. Varona was to use

assets of his son to carry out the mission
Varona also reportedly used his son, in-laws
to assist him in this effort but there is
no identifying info in regard to the mission.

3. Roselli had a man, also presumably in
Miami, known to Harvey as "Marco",
who also used the names Garcia Gomez
and Godoy. Harvey was unable to
identify Marco, who was described as
Cuban who spoke Italian.

517-339-3523
F. No info in regard to death or
wedding threats against Roselli or
Cuban in DCI or Mexico, Panama - Traft,
Sullivan, or Mason incl

3. Memo 15 Feb 1972

4. The Agency was aware that Roselli
intended to expose his participation in the
plot should we not intervene on
his behalf. The DCP decided to
ignore his threats and take a calculated
risk as to the consequences that might occur
if the pressure of his stay. The risk was
subsequently done by Roselli or someone
on his behalf furnishing Jack & William
details of the incident.

0002229

Memo 20 May 1971

Subject: Futer Tel

015 - Magan had been engaged by Hyden
 Tolpe regarding the Mahan efforts. Mr. Pease
 [former spy] and Futer tel now, said Magan
 made noises to certain Hyden officials, but
 they had better take it easy on Mahan because
 of his past involvement w/ LFT

[John Southard] in 1962-64 was in touch
 w/ Mahan & simultaneously worked out details
 of a non official cover arrangement w/
 Aircraft Div of Hyden Tel.

For past several years Magan had been quite well.

In May 10, 1971 Mr. Pease said Mahan
 & Anderson are involved together in some oil field
 deals. I would lobby into this oil field
 such similar matters to trace the source & disburse
 of funds. Recent exposure by Anderson re
 Mahan's role in the Cuban Revolution was a
 deliberate exposure instigated by both Mahan
 using his son Peter as an intermediary.

Pease's theory is that Mahan prob. that
 such publicity would scare them off.
 The Futer tel staff is aware of a series of
 contacts & meetings between Peter Mahan
 and Jack Anderson or a member of his staff.

0002239

19 Nov 1970

For: DCI
Subj: Roselli, Johnny

2. In August 1969, Mr. Richard M. Bissell advised
Col. Jeffrey Edwards to inform if the office of
Security had assets that may assist in a
sensitive mission requiring gaseous-type
action. The mission target was Fidel Castro

5. Mr. Mahan advised that he had met
one J R on several occasions while visiting
He did know him casually thru contacts, but
was given to understand that he was a
high ranking member of the 'syndicate' and
all of the old money members on the staff.

Mahan seemed that, if R was in fact a
member of the club, he undoubtedly
had connections leading into the Cuban
gaseous units.

6. Mahan to approach R who knew M as a per
son. hardly private's frequent.

7. Pitch made on 14 Sept 1960 at Hilton Plaza
His initial reaction was to avoid getting word
but, thru M's persuasion, he agreed to introduce
him to a friend Sam Gold who knew the
Cuban crowd." No money required or paid.

8. During the week of 25 Sept, Mahan
introduced to Sam Stagg at the Fontainebleau
It was several weeks after his meeting
w/ Sam and Joe, who was assigned

SECRET

0002232

to him as a courier operating between Havana & Miami that he saw photos in Sunday "Supplement" of Parade 9. In discussing the possible methods of accomplishing this mission Sam suggested that they not resort to firearms but if he could be furnished some type of potent pill that could be placed in Castro's food or drink, it would be a much more effective operation. Sam indicated that he had a prospective nominee in the person of Juan Orta, a Cuban official who had been receiving high-level payments from the quarterly militants, who still had access to Castro and was in a financial bind.

11. Joe delivered the pills to Orta. After several weeks of reported attempts, Orta apparently got cold feet & was kicked out of the assignment. He suggested another candidate who made several attempts w/out success.

12. Joe then indicated that Dr. Gregory Vroom had become disappointed w/ the apparent ineffectual progress of the Orta mission & was willing to handle the mission thru his own resources.

13. He asked, as a prerequisite to the deal, that he may be given \$10,000 for operational expenses & \$100 for commission.

7 Feb 62

SECRET

scout boy R.F.K. in circumstances leading up to making in report in workshop. At our agent's ^{discovery} ~~discovery~~
17. May 1962 Harry told me as Case officer & it is not known by this office whether R. was used openly & fully from that point on

0002233

17. Illegal entry Nov. 1967
18. 2 Dec 1968 R arrested by FIA on.
19. Harry reported to office of [unclear] his contacts w/ R in Nov - Dec 1967 & Jan 1968. It was his belief that Johnny was a subvert the Agency for assistance in deportation unless he actually found deportable. R expressed confidence that he would win an appeal.

20. 17 Nov 1970.
Mahn called O Connell to advise that Mahan's attorney, Ed Morgan, had received a call from Tom Widdin who stated appeal exhausted & R faced deportation.

If someone did interfere on R's behalf, he would make a complete expose of his activities in Agency

21. 18 Nov 1970. DCF lawyer's direct not to arrest R. Mahan was so pleased by Agency's position & he was a complete opponent w/ our side. He further advised that he was not concerned about any publicity in it appearing publicly.

London 18/11/71
to [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] just return on a

SECRET

rooftop; last of Feb or first of March 1967
 CLO 2233
 CLO 2233
 - a few weeks later contact with
 contact at Fontainebleau

Feb 23, 1971

Once he called on the racket boss
 Sam Giancana to line up a contact.
 The confidential files report that he had
 "gambly interest and an interest in the
 slump business in Cuba". However, the
 the gangster tests no direct part in the
 assassin plot.

19 Dec 1967.

Memo For Record

Telephone conversation Harry & Howard Osborn
 2. The first revealed Dir of Security
 the subject of our last Sunday conversation
 re J.R. the validity of the FBI Dept case
 report from; & whether or not the King plans
 to consider any possible information on
 his behalf

3. Harry indicated that he thought the
 policy of "sitting tight" might be alright,
 but that he felt it would be a simple
 matter for the Dir to see Howard personally
 & discuss an arrangement, one of his
 what would case the FBI Dept had.

Osborn - speculates Harry might
 find out validity of case for report to King
 (Harry to work for King)

SECRET

Page 0002234
not in this folder

0002236

11 Dec 1947

1. Harry reported luncheon meeting w/ Pagan on 8th Dec. & Osborn on Dec 9th
2. 20 Nov. 1947 R calls Harry who met Levin at Madison Hotel for 3 hrs.
- 27 Nov, they "bumped" into Tom Byrd & Harry called R as "Mr. Nelson."
- 28 Nov. spent 11 hours at Bethesda County Club.
4. Harry to Harry, R in town to see Morgan re a radio station in San Jose. Not worked re which he brought. - R said he had not seen Bureau since 1945 (Papich checking & may respond to Harry)
- R I/n state or imply that he wanted help from Agency.
6. Golly told Harry re luncheon meeting w/ Col. Edwards in 1944 & they met w/ Council head w/ Madu & R in Cal when he refused your duty in France.
7. Harry insists that he must know status of case. If it is a good case, Harry feels the Agency must exert influence to have the matter "handled". If it is not a good case, Harry will tell Golly & he will walk it over.
10. Harry independent as regards his interest was more than to protect Agency

SECRET

0002237

He had my the highest regard for ~~Harry~~
and the way we had handled his problem.

8 Nov 1967

2. Harry is source

R called on Oct 27th & 27th. but
Harry refused to answer R's attorney

- R wondered why ~~Harry~~ would not
do as much for him as it did for ~~Mahm~~.
R'd Morgan knew what ~~Harry~~ did for ~~Mahm~~
w/ Sen. Long & had told ~~John~~ about this.

4 Oct 67

Osborn & Harry at lunch.

- R quite vehement & bitter re
Mahm indirectly Mahm would "sell anyone
down the river to protect his interest."

- Dor had sent Harry news clipping
re use of banana. R said leak came
from Sen. Kennedy office whom ~~he~~ was ~~sent~~ to

Eye on Mahm

28 April 67

1. ~~Conrad~~ ~~Wagner~~ allegedly contacted some high level
officials in art indirectly he had a client
who had been involved in an ~~operation~~
~~Wagner~~ ~~recalled~~ & said he had told ~~Wagner~~
when ~~Harry~~ ~~delivered~~ on Long ~~subject~~.

2. Mahm possibly upset to find if he
had been identified as client source

0002238

publicly on his relationship w/ Hayes.
5. No knowledge of mission after April 1961
& never discussed latter phases w/ R
6. Mahan - R met Magan thru Pearson
in 1950's when Magan was legal work
for Lee Kuan Yew.

R & Magan in Vegas some time in
March. Jim Cannon in town "it was Mahan's
recollection that these individuals spent
some time together. He was under the
impression that they sought legal advice
from Magan but did not know nature of their
conversations.

7. Claude R had daughter rapidly
dwindling, 14 yr old girl & account of ^{Shirley} ~~daughter~~
for father to register. R pretty promise
for Mahan to hire his funds.

8. Believed Magan had done some
work for Pearson & did know that Friedman
had more than a passing acquaintance w/
Magan.

Magan fight w/ Pat Coyne for
NSA.

9. Knows Jolly heavy problem at the
FBI but don't know details.

10. It is evident that Mahan is deeply
concerned about possibility of being identified
w/ Castro project. but placed cooperation in
a heavy context

1002239

Sen Long Mahan

Sherman, Long's personal staff, told him
that Mahan would be Long's.

7 June 66

Mahan reported by Morgan in detail
w/ St Lawrence staff, a personal friend of Long,
re Mahan's appearance.

3. Fensterwald had identified some
names, etc by name to O'Connell &
Col. Edwards.

In the case of Sam, Ed Dubois
& a couple of his technicians now aware
of Mahan's tie-in w/ Hancock.

31 May 1964

Mahan asked if "Sam grant" was in
the unit

12. Morgan had advised Mahan that he
knew Long's personal staff who exerts great
influence on Long. They flew to St Lawrence
& then the 3 men flew to D.C. & met
w/ Long & Fensterwald. Fensterwald
wanted Mahan as his "ace in the hole"
so that Mahan's contacts have great appeal
for T.V. He said that Mahan was not just
enough to make a bid. Under Long's
12, Fensterwald would proceed

13. Mahan claims several of Long's

SECRET

Sam thru a series of circumstances
that will be pointed out at our request.
The Hon. R.B. N.F.K. was orally
briefed on the background that led up
to Mahan's involvement & a Top Secret
document furnished to Justice Dept
which served as a backbone of the
survey

000000

000000

July 14

1967 Feb Rpt

0002242

SECRET

P3

Each phase is a reflection of the then prevailing Govt attitude toward the Cuban rev.

a. Prior to August 1960

All of the identifiable schemes prior to Aug 1960, w/ one possible exception, were aimed only at directly curtailing the economy by interfering with the flow of money or by attacking the appearance

b. August 1960 to April 1961

Plots aggressively pursued; views of at least some of participants as one aspect of effort to overthrow regime culminated in BOB

c. April 1961 to late 1961

Major scheme begun Bay of Pigs was called off after BOB & remained dormant for several months

d. Late 1961 to late 1962

Particular scheme reactivated in early 1962 & pushed vigorously in era of MONTANA

e. Late 1962 until well into 1963

After MONTANA & collapse of Project MONTANA, aggressive scheme began Bay of Pigs; revised in April 1962; were finally terminated in early 1963

P6

Drew Pearson column of 2 March 1967 refers to a reported CIA plan in 1963 to assassinate Castro.

He also has info:

- a) State Dept meeting at which assassination discussed
- b) team actually landed in Cuba w/ gifts

SECRET

5. If syndicate identity is now
known, tends to reinforce thought
that details named above were
obtained by direction or security despite
FBI Oct 1942 report.

per Ford Report requires that sub
plots have no relation to a previous
thing

Reily - Traffante

1 thru Report Assassination Proposals

5 report messages were identified that
made reference to plans to kill Castro or
proposing such action. Three of the
messages related to the same operator
the other two relating to separate
proposals; there is no indication
that any of these proposals were the
result of CFA initiative.

[MARONC/5] viewed 29 May 1942
and was viewed 30 August 42. He has
been reported as never admitting that
he was a CFA agent. His name not
given to me. Three other were

0002243

SECRET

AMKASH

CUG2244

SECRET

SSC

1) infer that AMKASH a custo agent
with the mission of providing a plot agent list
so that custo had participation for release;

or

2) AMKASH so intricate the details could have
been known thru providing custo

what should have been reported to US

Agony - the character of the relationship
between CIA and AMKASH, prior to Oswald
murder of President Kennedy, was so insular
and in confidence that it would not have
AMKASH to feel that he had any kind of
CIA support for plotting against Castro.

... there was little for him to
report or leak.

Comment p 5

Over a year passed between August
1962 and Sept 1963 when he was not
contacted by CIA. In terms of the
relationship that he had with CIA the
critical period, since is therefore between
5 Sept and 22 Nov 1963.

Reason for hiatus is
CF p 13
Final report AMKASH If a name Cuba, he was
recontacted due to his potential.

SECRET

SECRET

0002245

Cable on Sept 7th says "AMLAH is ~~very~~ ~~totally~~ spotted but who will always be a control problem.

... is best approached as a chief conspirator allowed to recruit his own cohorts among whom we may then find persons susceptible to long distance and covert operations

"Clearly, at that point, while AMLAH was viewed as potentially important, he was also viewed as a person of considerable capability, requiring careful but long range developments for whatever course of action that might later ensue

APB-4 of SSC Summary and Findings, points AMLAH as an ~~important~~ ~~person~~ & infers that Carter Sept 7th speech might have been a result of leak by AMLAH

"The fact remains that whatever views AMLAH may have expressed, he had no response from his CIA contacts of any support for his proposals at that time

Fitzgerald meeting still be reported high-power up w/ ~~political~~ ~~rights~~

SECRET

14 Nov from WHIP reported that [redacted] satisfied w/ policy considered but unhappy over fact he had not been given technical assistance. He also indicated why he had not been given "certain small pieces of equipment which provided a final solution to the problem".

Comment

In essence he [redacted] was told there would be no U.S. support until after the fact, and then only if he was successful. While that may not seem a very realistic way in which to bring about the overthrow of a govt, it is directly relevant to the question of what [redacted] was told and what he understood. It is contrary to the statement in the SSC Final Report (p. 18) to the effect that it was not clear how [redacted] interpreted the part of the [redacted].

After July 1954 [redacted] Report states that [redacted] was unhappy with CIA response and As. Kennedy had refused to support [redacted].

19 Nov 53 Fitzgerald "approved" policy [redacted] he would be given a cache inside Cuba. The cache

could, if he requested it, include...
high-power rifles w/ scope...

19 Nov. ~~Walt~~ ~~ASST~~ ~~Full~~ ~~CIA~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~
returning to Cuba.

Request by headquarters to ask him
to delay for 1 more meeting.

~~Walt~~ ~~ASST~~ ~~agrees~~ "if it is ~~smuggling~~
~~activity~~"

p 19 SSC speculates that this is fact
in ~~which~~ ~~he~~ ~~might~~ ~~return~~ ~~specific~~ ~~supp~~
Army - at best a piece of highly
speculative analysis, not supported by
the evidence.

[Fails to mention ~~per~~ ~~w/~~ ~~identifying~~
Opinion.

MHU read.]

p 24

9 11

"unaware of ~~Walt~~ ~~ASST~~ ~~1963~~ ~~association~~
with CIA

No info at least 1 1/2 years ~~ago~~
after death of JFK; no idea of 1963
CIA ties w/ ~~Walt~~ ~~ASST~~ ~~what~~ ~~was~~
very incomplete

SECRET

0002251

c. CIA twice (first in early 1961 & again in early 1962) supplied to that pills to US gambly syndicate members. . . . The 1961 plot aborted & pills were recovered.

These furnished in April 1962 pursuant of gambly rep. to a Cuban wife leader in Fla who in turn, had them sent to Cuba about May 1962. In June 1962, the wife leader reported that a team of 3 men had been dispatched to Cuba to recruit for the operation.

cf. . . . "while the events described of the Cuban did occur & are subject to being patched together as the one complete story, the implication of a direct, causative relationship among them is unproven."

Q18: During the week of 25 Sept 1962, O'Connell's Mahan went to Miami where Roselli introduced my Mahan to "Sam Gold" at a meeting in the Fontainebleau Hotel. "Gold" said he had a man whom he identified only as "Joe", who would serve as a courier to Cuba & make arrangements there. Mahan provided contact "Gold" to O'Connell from a address but O'Connell never met either "Gold" or "Joe".

Q19: At that time the gambly career was still operating in Cuba. Truffante was making regular trips between Miami & Havana as syndicate runner.

SECRET

p. 24 Despite the admission that a poison in liquid form would be most desirable, what was actually prepared and delivered was a solid in the form of small pills about the size of saccharine tablets.

00022524

Comment - Giannini was fully opposed to the use of firearms. He said that no one could be recruited to do the job because the chance of survival's escape would be negligible. Giannini stated a preference for a lethal pill that could be put into Castro's food and drink. Trujillo (you); the courier was in touch with a disaffected Cuban official with access to Castro and personally of a sort that would enable him to smuggle poison Castro. The gangster named then was inside in Juan Orta who was then Official Chief and Director General of the office of the Prime Minister. The gangster said that Orta had once been in a position to receive such tablets from the gangster contacts, had since lost that source of income and needed the money.

p. 27. Late Feb - March 1961

As passed the pills to Trujillo. Roselli reported to O'Connell that the pills had been delivered to Cuban Cub. Orta is understood to have kept the pills for a couple of weeks before returning them. According to the gangster, Orta got cold feet.

Comment Orta lost his position on 8/11/61

SECRET

SECRET

officer on 26 Jan. 1961, while fleeing for the
operation was still going on in Miami & Washington.

0000

0002254

He took refuge in the Singapore Embassy
April, 1961...

... It would seem that, at the
gamester did know that Cuba had already
lost his access to Castro.

p 30. The Cuban brothers were believed to
in touch with Varona. Varona Moss had been
reported to have offered Varona large sums
of money for his operations against Castro, with
the understanding that they would receive
privileged treatment "in the Cuba of the future".
Attempts to verify these reports were unsuccessful.

p 31. Traff approached Varona and told her
that he had clients who wanted to do away with
Castro & that they would pay big money for the
Commit.

Roselli said as a loyal American he would
whenever he could & would never divulge
the operation.]

p 31. R wrote letter may to Varona for approval.
- O'Connell recalls 50,000; Edwards recalls
25,000; Pennington recalls 25,000

p 32 Roselli gave the jills and may to Varona. The
Roselli dealt with under a pseudonym. Little
is known of the delivery channels beyond Varona

SECRET

SECRET

p. 32 ²² Edwards recalls something about a contact who worked in a restaurant frequented by Castro.

0002255

p. 33 (O'Connell) believes that there was something going on between April 1961 and April 1962 but he cannot now recall what. He agrees with Bill Harvey that when the operation was under way in April 1962, Harvey took over a "gongy operation".

p. 34. O'Connell believes he must have received the pills, but he has no specific recollection of Harvey doing so.

p. 49. Roselle needed Gran. & Troff in the first phase as a means of establishing contacts inside Cuba. He did not need them in the second phase because he had Valera. However, it would be naive to assume that Roselle did not take the precaution of informing higher ups in the syndicate (but he was working in a territory considered to be the private domain of someone else in the syndicate).

p. ~~47~~⁵¹ June 1962 Harvey said they appeared to have no specific plan for killing Castro. They were to recruit others who might be used in such a scheme. If an opportunity to kill Castro presented itself, they or the persons they recruited were to make the attempt. ^{perhaps using the pills.}

SECRET

Harry never named their names or anything about them.

p. 52 Harry says Roselli wasn't badly hurt. He agreed with Harry that nothing was happening and that there was not much chance that anything would happen in the future.

p. 201 RFK - I trust that if you ever ~~try~~ ^{try} to do business with organized crime - with gangsters, you will let the Attorney General know before you do it. Houston quotes Edwards as replying that this was a reasonable request.

p. 66. The Attorney General's copy of the memo for the record of that meeting (May 6 or 7, 1962 by Edwards & Houston) is in Archiver of the AG's office.

p. 67. Mayor Sun-Toner's letter of 16 August 1963 cites Justice Dept belief that Oswald never did any spying - merely pretended to go along "in the hope that the Justice Dept done to put him behind bars might be slowed or at least affected - by his use of co-operation w/ another govt agency."

Trick puts his cooperation from 1959 to some time in 1960 - long before the abortive rebel invasion at the Bay of Pigs in April 1961. Reports McBain's buggering incident.

p69 20 August 1963 Chicago Daily News

FBI agent talking bear who allegedly says:

Why don't you fellows leave me alone?
I'm one of you.

Person pictured as being approached by
CIA but denying

00002258

- 079 AMLEASH
- DR took Presidential Palace where they refused to surrender to the; Mr de la Foz
 - Cuba believed to be one participant in assassination of Lt Col Antonio Blanco Rico, head of Batista's military in Havana
 - DR quite apart from 28th of July but signed a treaty just

⇒ ... Agency was primary involved in helping Cuba's action in [MIA PRON] program directed against Cuban military leaders, with receiving but plus for technical assistance in an assumed attempt. The obvious project files and info furnished us by Nestor Sanchez, Cuba's case officer, do not wholly support these recollections. The Agency offered both direct and indirect support for Cuba's efforts.

087 14 Sept 1963

Cuba wrote Tuzedino - "I don't intend to see (be interrogated by) your friend again, whom you should tell them," so they don't

make the top: I want to get away from politics completely!

1992 Sandy says that, while Cuba was anxious to do away with Castro, Cuba was not willing to sacrifice his own life in exchange for Castro's. What Cuba really wanted was high-powered, silenced rifle w/ an effective range of hundreds or thousands of yards. Cuba finally said that, as a doctor of medicine (which he was) he was quite sure that we could devise some technical means of doing the job that would not automatically cause him to lose his own life in the try."

The Drew Pearson Story

a) Published Details

Robt. Kennedy may have approved an assassination plot

The Facts as we know them

is not true. He was briefed on Phase 1 after it was over - it was not ~~briefed~~ briefed on Phase 2

b) Three (3) men assassins were caught in Havana; one still in prison

It tells Kary on 21 Jan 67, that Kary says 3 men included. We do not know their identities or what may have happened to them. We have no proof that they were actually disabled. Most of the arrested captives and execution during this period - 67 this year

Who saved enough at ~~that~~ this report has come out
to believe that it was really to kill in the future. Investigation. It
was also stated by Castello in
the Philippines under secret
information. We have no
direct corroboration of any sort. (No
that version met w/ Records
in Las Vegas March 1965)

0002260

SECRET

1977

SECRET

9 May 1967

Beamborough apparently to be used as a source
of information to show Oswald a CIA agent
& was to be used to convince Castro. Current
alleges he has letters signed by CIA reps
or by Sen. RFK asking Cuban to work
to work with Cubans for removal of Castro.
This memo is intended to work for
such letter never signed a document could
not be in Gamm's possession.

0002261

SECRET

Request

SECRET

0002265

- Richard Cain aka Robert Scully Cain
Richard Scalpette
DOB OCT 1931 Chicago

FBI memo

- 21 Dec 1960 not found after

- 18 Jan 1961
identified individuals

- Identity of WI ROBERT

- April 61 to April 62 ^{000 103} matters
- ~~some~~ "something going on"
independent of Agency.

- RFT security called on 4 March 67
to obtain memo; already seen article
of 7 March 67

- 15 March 65

Bango in Madrid & claims group
in Cuba ready.

Jailed in July 62

1 March 66 arrests in Cuba

Trial refused up to late fall 64 & 1965
w/ Airline meetings

SECRET

10 Jan 64 "Paper" Brumli Remo approach The WH.

SECRET

0002266

O'Connell interview of Madson in May 1960

- Additional info on S.T. JR or SB contained in material previously shared for review on Sturgis

- Chicago Trib

Dec 28, 31, 1973

- Cairn

- Fall 1960, contact in Chicago

- Summer 1961 Mexico City

- April 1962 Mexico City

- 4 June 62 departed

- 19 Aug 63 Chicago

- 26-30 May 63 Infr - re Student Directory, Miami

- 12 Sept 63 DRF arms purchase

- toll to get out of picture

- 1 May 1972 disappear.

27 Nov 63

- Fair Play met in Feb 63 at 907

~~S. S. Spaulding~~ and brother Michael Orley

- LHO purchased rifle March 63

- Sturgis suspect LHO in Chicago 1963 April

SECRET

SECRET

0002267

1. Ramon Don Pesterey Dominguez
DOB 2 May or 5 Feb 1934

2. Rolando Masferrer Rojas
DOB 12 Jan 1918

3. Lucario Navés

4. Jose de la Torre

5. Jose Quintana
DOB 3 Oct 45 *replac group*

6. Joaquin Antonio Cortez DOB 10 Jan 43

Edward Percipit Morgan DOB 28 May 1913 St. Louis

SECRET

SECRET

0002268

Morgan

[Covert Security Clearance on 2 Feb 1951 for use as "cut out" re negotiations for school of Howard Ditt Studios & John Hopton Wells.

Amended & Approved March 1951 to include Morgan's use in providing covert legal support for operations in the form of a "cut out"; legal advice transmission of funds in connection with DDO projects
 ∴ DDO should make decision whether to release info.]

Resort

Resorts Int. #591 722
 Walker Groves OS file # 473 865
 - assoc. w/ Meyer Lansky
 - Corp. Grand Bahama Development Corp
 w/ Robert Whisnant (#633 974) and
 John P. Roulett (#639 997)

Cain

According to DeMun, Cain in Mexico 1961 into 1962

-1964-65

SECRET

SECRET

0002269

7-Mar-35
St Pauli Minn
36 yr

Bradley Earl Ayers
Eglin AFB Fla.

April 17, 1971 Post

April 27, 1971 Post

Sunday April 18 1971

Call name? Daniel B. Williams

Paragon Air Service

Zenith Technical Products - south
campus of Miam U.

Roddy; Harry, Robert (Pip) Big Fader

Tracing sites

Palo Alto Key

Upper Key Camp

Card found in edge of P. Fader

Date 10 Aug 1964
Secrets Approval

Refnum 23826 (DDP / WTH / SH)

Case No. 366085

Request For Record Return

Serial No
366085

Nature
Separation Return to Parent SUC 12-15-64

Organized Disruptors;
DDP / SHS Forward operator Station - JM WAVE
US Field Office Parandby Branch Section 17
Rensselaer C.R.C. Inddy Pol groups

SECRET

ZR/RIFLE

All (cable) traffic being ZR/RIFLE to be delivered in sealed envelope to Chief FI/Div. D, 15024 Bldg only

- Personally approved of DD Plans

Harry
Chief FI/Div. D

19 Feb 1962

To Harry re authorization of ATUM for ZR/RIFLE activities thru Dec 1962

Because of sensitive nature of this activity, accounts for funds will be of general category & of your category

2. Salary \$500 per yr; 750 in addition to salary

3. Items to be considered in lieu of project & constitute authorization for all travel, per diem, operations & other expenses

4. Eyes only

Rich. D. Helms.

Hand written notes

Morgan - Roselli - Mahan - Gannon

- Mackin via Vegas

Morgan & Jack Hudson

- 1) Prior to Aug 60
- 2) Aug 60 to April 61 (BOS)
- 3) April 61 to late 61
- 4) late 61 to late 62 (Custom mistake even)
- 5) late 62 to mid 63

Rodli op started in Sept 66
(Mahn to Rodli to Oranena)

to Supd 7 May 67

Taylor became chairman of FCS
on 9 Aug 67

Rush, McNamee, Taylor, Bundy,
O'Dwinn, Silpatuck, Lamelle,
Murray, McCone

Memo For Record

Rept at request of DCF; conveyed
to FO on 23 March 67

The one stayback been copy (FO)
all notes, & other derived source material
destroyed 23 May 67.

Memo: Chief WTT (Parent)

From: Dir of Security

Subject: WTT (Security Report)

Final account of memo reported on
a sensitive paper of interest to DDIP, Chief WTT
& Dir of Security

Disburment.

25 Sept 1960 by TO Contact
6 Feb 1961

SECRET

0900.

11 Feb 1961 To Personal Agent 1000
 31 Jan 1961
 14 Feb 61 CMMMO Symposium 1043
 26 Sept 1961
 Hly
 12 Feb 1961 993

Page 3
IO Rpt

e. Late 1962 until well into 1963

After missile crisis Oct 62 & collapse of MWoods, aggressive scheme that was begun in Aug 1961; covered in April 1962, was finally smashed in 1963

Two other plots were organized in 1963 but were impracticable & nothing came of them

P 9

b. 10 August 1962

Meeting of Special Group (Keynote) wherein McNamara broached subject of liquidation of Cuban leaders.

Result - Project MWoods memo by Lansdale

31 Jul 64

Discussed at Special Group of a Chamberlain
 Discusses merits of special plot to kill Castro;
 CIA had refused to fund. Wile had no interest.

see (c)

and Ossetian

P 2 Gonzalez Galianotta

Press Release
 9 March 1964

Missory
 Page

- program of ~~SECRET~~ for intelligence; not
 truth is down purpose
 - Jose ROBERTO, Alberto Blanco Ramon and Taped

Should have
been deleted.

Charles
Tepedino

↓

rod in ~~Florida~~ with Odom Agency

SECRET

0002273

Late Sept 1960

Edward O'Connell, Bessell of James
Munroville; 15 Swords then brief
Allen Dulles & General Cabell.

Maher called O'Connell & pointed out
Paradise sector sunny Gold & Joe
(Presumably not home, Maher & O'Connell
know names)

Joe a courier to Cuba & make
arrangements there re entry to Gold

Traff making regular trips to Havana

7 Jan '59 - casino closed

13 Jan 59 - Castro announced re opening

17 Feb 59 - Cabell announced opening

30 Sept 61 - last casino closed

P 23

Technical Chief TSD

4 approaches: (1) highly toxic like shellfish
poison to be admitted in a pin (Cuba's Communist
Roosevelt's suit was supplied to Gary Power
(2) bacterial material in liquid or (3) cigar
or 1) handwriting

P 29. March April 1961

Roselli told O'Connell that Traff knew a
man high up in exil movement. (Vanna
Rpt from ~~SECRET~~ suggest sun Traff

Winn Vaunco.

at 21 Dec 1960 FBI memo re gangster financing Cuban activities to overthrow Castro of 18 Jan 1961, associated with these schemes; had hired Moss as a fund-raiser

CIA had contact in Miami but no indication of any involvement in Cuba.

[March 1959 for use in NR Down as consultant to Indian Embassy

- Nov 62 by CIA Staff under 20 MATJOC a program for exploitation of political consultants.]

Roselle to deLima & H.V. Estimates vary but Esterline says 10,000 + 100 of communication as per secret memo.

Comment - V one of 5 key figures in Rev. Front & many involved in BOP. Steps taken to end his participation in operations plan but apparently ineffective.

People who knew:

1. O. O - original man to poison
2. A V -
3. son-in-law of H.V.

Phase 2

SECRET

6002275

Harry briefed by authority of Bissell
in Feb 1961 in connection with a general
stand-by capability for Executive action

Harry had already discussed problem
w/ [Arnold Silver] Sidney both before
both parties probably cut in to Cuba
project.

Helms briefed on general concept but
not on ongoing Cuba plot.

[in Congo;] QJ WIN account of [insert] ⁱⁿ use
Justin O'Donnell summit out

ZRRIFLE covered as a FID operation
(ostensibly to develop a capability to enter sites
& kidnap carriers)

15 Nov 61 - Harry discusses applicability of
ZRRIFLE to Cuba; initiated by Bissell
to run syndicate operation

Unrelated - Helms puts Harry in
charge of Agency's Cuba task force

Late 1961 - Early 1962 Harry busy

Early March 62

- March 62 Harry takes over Castro
- Harry view

came to threat of Castro operations
ZRRIFLE as being synonymous.

- Exec Adm is synonymous w/ QJWIN
- ZRRIFLE ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{is} related to Exec Adm
ZRRIFLE alone meant Castro

Harry's
in operation

A review of his correspondence was unrevealing.

[Permitt] should Castro operators & L/n use any of assets being developed in ZR RIFLE

- Memo of Hany after he left Task Force W & going to [Rome] on 27 June 1963 to Chief FI Staff that ^{organised} ~~was~~ ^{was} to help QJ W in no longer work & support ~~himself~~.

- Records [OLLA-1974,] 24 April 64 show termination of [a wiretap station] on 21 April 64.

Copy of ^{there is} no indication in the file that the Exec Room ~~copy of~~ ZR/RIFLE / QJWID ~~was ever used~~ Edwards -

- No activity after BOJOP until Hany met Roselli & reactivated April 62.

- Edwards inf contact w/ RFK over McBuire wiretap

- 14 May 62 - Hany called Edwards & indicated he was bringing Roselli from Cuba via

742
Hany - took me a "junk" operation. since he described plan for getting possession to a favorite Castro restaurant. The restaurant was identified to those described by Edwards and as reported in Phase one's

- O'Connell thinks "something gray on" before April 61 & April 62 but can't remember

0002277

April 8th 1947

- Harry met w/ Rosell & O'Connell
- O'Connell got into Mahan there
- Harry says he would have recognized Mahan; saw him socially once or twice after 1947 when Harry came to Agency; not since '52 when Harry sent to [Berlin]

- Edwards, deliberately did not mention Mahan when he first

p45

O'Connell out of June '62 when he was assigned PCS to [Olema]

p47
18 April 62
O'Connell gets
p48 for Rosell
meeting w/ Harry
in Miami

O'Connell says operation going on when Harry took it over altho he cd be remember when I was there.

Harry specified that O'Connell not to be brought in for 2nd phase & further Roselli bound upon.

Roselli right that O'Connell asked him what was going on; R replied "nothing" O'Connell - "too bad"

p48

Macco - unlikely a V-associated person known MACEO Mackell who Harry probably would have known. Also, it's clear Macco was Roselli man.

Roselli mentioned to 2nd phase as a contact to O'Connell.

p 49. When the jobs were given to Vanna your recall. Vanna reported arms and equipment needed for his end of the operation.

6002278

SECRET

April 1962

- a) explosives
- b) detonators
- c) 20.30 caliber rifle
- d) 20 45 cal. handguns
- e) 2 radios
- f) 1 boat radio

V reported arms & support & recall journal word to Harry. With help of Shaddy, chief of TMDATS, about 5M of weapon & equipment.

Harry & Shaddy went U-Haul. I put truck in parking lot for delay to Maco, U, or via son in law. Harry & Shaddy set up watch on do Roselli & Council.

Shaddy not aware of plan.

230

May 62 - Roselli reported that the job was in Cuba & at the restaurant regularly used regularly by Castro.

Jan 62
V had ^{disparous} 3 man team to Cuba Sept 1962

Harry saw Roselli in Miami on 7-11 Sept. Another 3 man team of militia men assigned to penetrate Castro's body guard but never happened. "Medicine" reported safe still in place and first team safe Sept 62 - Jan 63

p 51
militia men
used to
take off
Delay due to
at conditions
of Get muscle
in side

Harry in Miami. 22 Dec - a team saw Roselli & Maco several times. Gave Roselli 2700 to V for return of 3 militia men who never left in Fla Keys!

Feb 63

Harry left word for Maco in Miami 11-14 Feb that nothing new & looked as if dead off. (Just how Harry left this word for Maco is not clear)

SECRET

April May 63

Helms approved a last meeting
w/ Harry Roselli before Harry left
for [Rome]

People who knew
P 55 [Bruce Chiver] (Harry left 1962)
how Harry meeting w/ gangster in
Reno in winter of '62

May 62

Sluf Edwards & Lawrence Houston brief
RFK "all the way". RFK agreed not to
pursue writing case but wanted to be
informed of Agency work w/ "gangster" again.
RFK asked for a memo of
the meeting via a phone call; memo
prepared on 14 May 1962 by Edwards & Houston
NO briefing of McLean, ^{Conrad} Carter, or Helms

RFK not told that Phase II had
begun; that V had jitters & arrived late that

On 14 May 62 Harry briefs Helms;
advises against briefing McLean & Conrad
Carter. Writes Edwards that Roselli
is not going to be used

Comment

RFK's secretary called on 4 March 67
to obtain Edwards memo. He knew

SECRET

0002280

of Pearson article of 7 March 47 & apparently wanted to check his recollection of what he had been briefed upon.

Helms had talked w/ RFK & allowed him to read memo. He did not have a copy.

1954-55 Mahon served by Neardness to offset Onassis control of Saudi oil shipments. Worked at top levels of U.S. & British govt & met at least once w/ Nixon.

O'Connell rept'd that during negotiations w/ Long Committee, Mahon stated he might buy his attorney to manipulate in past activities.

SECRET

9 March 61
P28 [Jack Stewart] met w/ Cubela
in Mexico City, arranged for [Carlos]
[Tepedino] Amkash P 1, a long-term
friend. Cubela then [Stewart] from
Havana where he was once arrested.

Cubela and leader of DR
are like group of leftist students, signed in
1956 to fight Batista; N for Sandberg - case officer.

28 March 61

Both Cubela & Cota wanted to
defect; according to asset of Miami Station.

Ex-filtration called off as report
that Cuban police aware of Cubela's
desire to defect & his departure plans.
[Comment:]

First of 3 rumormongers with USA; but
unknown if Cubela aware of rumormongers in Cuba!
Other two links are even more suspicious

~~15 Jan 61~~ 14 August 61

message from airline store (good friend)
[Tepedino] that Cubela group in Paris &
wanted to talk to ^{and end of Stewart} ~~the~~ ~~intention~~ of my
meeting.

15 Jan 62

[Lucia Echevarria Branci] told
an asset [H.M. contact - 1] that Cubela group
to Helsinki & wanted to defect.

SECRET

Would stop in Paris to see [Tepedino]

0002283

27 June 1962

[Tepedino] approached FBI in Miami on 11 June with idea that Cubela wanted to defect. FBI sent a detailed memo to CIA since they knew [Tepedino] to be a CIA asset.

8 July 62

[Tepedino] dissatisfied w/ CIA handling of Cubela's "defection" in Paris in 61 so he contacted FBI. Stated his source of info on rumors for defection were [W Chivarrias.]

30 July - 2 August 62

[Wm Wainright] met w/ [Tepedino] a few times in NYC & both went to Helsinki, Cuba. Talked into being recruited "in place" & not defecting.

Cubela wanted to blow up oil refineries; kill Castro, Carlos Rodriguez, & Soviet leaders.

7-9 August 62

Meeting in Stockholm because Helsinki too risky. Cubela stated that he told 4 of his Cuban associates that he met [Tepedino] in Helsinki.

SECRET

10-11 Sept 42

SECRET

[Wainwright, Tejedor] Cuba in
Copenhagen [Wainwright] used "unassessable"
& Cuba insisted "delimited"

14-23 Sept 42

Cuba [Tejedor, Wainwright]
[Earle Williams] from [Madrid] met in Paris
Cuba given S/W financing &
supplies; show a document submitted.
Refused to be photographed.

[Williams] cables that no physical
elimination mission be given as a
requirement but he might do it on his
own initiative. Headquarters strongly advise that
no physical elimination mission be given Cuba.

5-8 Sept 43

Brayil - met by [Wainwright]
[Tejedor] Nestor Sanchez who became
case officer.

Cuba demand 2 S/W managers but
only 1 rec'd. afraid of postal censorship.

That night of [Ramon Guiso Day]
[AMTRUNK-10] who was badly injured
[DIA2 Isalyne (AMICE-14)] who had
been sent to recruit [BUIW]

SECRET

14 Sept 43

From Brayil Cuba flew to Paris
& was going to tell Castro after the fact

SECRET

that he was taking a vacation.

0002286

3 Oct 63

Sandy arrives in Paris to meet w/ Cubela who had written [Tepeduo] saying that he didn't want to continue.

[CIA had to tell French Govt that contacts were for purposes of defense, French unilaterally keeping Cubela under surveillance.]

11 Oct 63 Sandy cables that Cubela insists on meeting w/ RFT; proposed Cubela going to try an attempt in Castro even w/out US support.

29 Oct 63

Fitzgibbon, Ury, SAs, go to Paris & get approval from Helms.

Fitz states he told Cubela that US would have no part in attempt in Castro's life.

Winton went from Sandy in contact

14 Nov 63

19 Nov 63

Sandy memo states Fitz assumes that Cubela would get cache of rifles w/ scopes inside Cuba, on request

22 Nov 63

SECRET

Sandy arrives in Paris on Nov 22 after getting gen w/ ~~Robert Kennedy~~ from

Sandy says Cubela accepted gen but stated he would not take it to

Cuba with him. SECRET

0002287

Cubela asked for a cable of arms to be placed at [AMTRUNK 10] farm. As they left meeting, heard JFK shot.

Sandy stated he received an OP in cable from Fitzgerald that everything is "off" but nothing in AMTRUNK fell.

Cubela will take SW with him to Prague
1 Dec 63

Cubela returns from Prague to Cuba
19 Feb 1964

JMWAVE to have 2 caches in place in March.

Done on 17-21 March 64 on [AMTRUNK VII]

24 April 1964

[Tepedino] had been brief to meet [Carlos Jorge ROBERTO Murray] who has message from Cubela.

3 May 64 [Roberto] says Cubela wanted a silence
30 August 64

Arturo record info thru Madrid that a group of doubtful members of Castro regime wanted to ~~be~~ establish direct contact. 7 Oct 64, Arturo sends

Alberto BLANCO Romariz.

13 Nov. 64. SECRET

Arturo agrees to talk to AMTRUNK-1 if it turns out he is contact man for internal dissent group. Arturo

Think if AM205A-1 is chief of disident
group we can forget about operation
4 Dec 64

Sanchez prepares a memo for [6570] for
Arteme to maintain contacts w/ disident
groups' reps in Prague. Arteme does
6-7 Dec 64

Sanchez meets Cubela in Paris & was
told group to continue his plans
Told US. could not be involved.
10 Dec 64.

Arteme did know not Cubela
that CIA in direct contact with them.
Rather SAS continued to put both
men together.

CIA did want to put silver
weapon in ~~the~~ Cubela's hands directly
but could do it. Here Arteme
27 Dec; 30 Dec (initials)

Cubela & Arteme meet in Madrid.
Arteme reports to Sanchez that Cubela
had requested a silver for FAT rifle
but Americans w/n gave him one.

Arteme to come up w/ silver or
different rifle in Cuba.

11 Feb 65

Cubela to receive pistol w/ silver
& Belgian FAT rifle w/ silver for
Arteme's secretary. ~~SECRET~~ Both weapons come
from ~~the~~ U.S. & are now in Madrid.

Conflect

12 Feb 65

SECRET

0002289

Artemio has never deluded to Cuba in Madrid.

4 March 65 - Cubela in Havana; source is friend of Tepedino's who tells him

15 March 65

Rafael Garcia Bango Director news in Madrid from Cuba & involved in a state-affair. [Partly] Close friend of Cubela; & claims to be in touch w/ group of military leaders planning to overthrow Castro.

Jack in July 62 for sup. Trip as lawyer for Copal Hotel. Trip - of money. [Another name - link]

June 1965 [Victor ESPINOSA Hernandez, a former PM trainee who was arrested as a militant on 20 March 1961, contacted FIA's new lawyer FBY on 3 June 65.]

Esposito stated he had never letter from a friend in Paris urging him to meet w/ Albert Flores who had a message from Cubela who wanted it delivered to CIA.

Message - Cubela in a position to help Castro & would CIA & US Govt be willing to support them if "yes"; you detail on what he needed.

SECRET

Cubela had wanted money in Paris on 1 Feb 65. Turned down & urgent.

16 Feb 65 Sandy gave hints.

0002290 [Tepeduro] 7,000 in NY C.

SECRET

23 June 1965 Headquarters sent cable Kennedy contact. 'convincing proof that evidence from [REDACTED] group insurance, Semedo [REDACTED]

1 March 66 - Cubela & bair arrested for activities w CIA

Jose Luis Gonzalez Ballarreto, Alberto Blanco Romany, Juan Alena Navarro. Confined Also appearing - Guillermo Cuenhill Alvarez, Angel Herminio Udey

Gonzalez Ballarreto - attempts in Spain [contact of James Noel ^{was "cover"} ~~official~~ official] in US Embassy in Madrid.

Cubela met w Arteme in Spain in Feb. 1965.

Arteme sent baggage to US to get Selencio's sign & sender. Delivered to Blanco Romany who delivered it to Gonzalez Ballarreto then to Cubela the day before he left Madrid.

Tasco Selencio's sign, F&T reflect. 9 March 66

Castro sent personal letter that death sentence not be asked. 10 March 66

Cubela testimony:

Selencio did not break; I threw it away because it was burning my hands

SECRET

000229 I spoke to Fidel in January. He opened the door to me ^{SECRET} but I did not have

the courage to tell him
(Comment)

Trial studies confined to trip to Europe in mid 64 & early 65 to meet w/ Hoffman. No mention of Meach at this
Nov 65 contacts w/ Agency.

No hint of poison pen Nov 63.

Speculate

If full details would have come out, Castro would have little to complain about. ^{speculating} ~~speculating~~ ^{to speculate} ~~to speculate~~ ^{in our own back.}

2 brief - level
intelligence meeting
where Castro
announced
discuss

Special Group (August)

18 August 62 (probably one described by Pearson)
State: Dean Rusk, Alexis Johnson, Edwin
Martin, Richard Goodwin, Robt Hurwath
White House

Maxwell Taylor, McHenry Bundy (RFK absent)

Deputy:

McNaman, Belmont, Tenenbarger, Lansdale
CIA - McCone Harvey

USIA - Edward Murren, Donald Wilson

Secy - Thomas Parrot

Parrot's notes & in main agreement
but Madra & very similar McNamara ~~notes~~
causing it & Murren's anxiety.

No one raised exception to McNamara
"happy agreement" ^{SECRET}

Lansdale wrote memo on 13 August
to Harvey, Hurwath, Harris, & Wilson which

SECRET

Lansdale memo among drafting papers
for various subjects related to Cuban
operation. A portion excised from CIA
copy of memo was "evidently elimination
of leaders". Lansdale repeatedly tried to
raise assassination of Castro in Hong Kong over
next several weeks but Hong did not.

0002292

At least 5 people in Lansdale's office
know Moore & Lansdale's involvement
in assassination as part of it.

30 July 1964

303 Committee met in Situation Room
of White House.

McBryde Bundy, Vance, Malone, Thomas
Hughes & Des. Fitzgerald for a discussion
of Cuba.

~~Thomas~~ Peter Jensen as secy.

18 June 64 memo from DD/P to Don
re Mafia plot to assassinate Castro.

Price was 150,000 w/ 10,000 of pass.
Cuban exile; Jose Maria "Pepin" Bosch,
Bacardi Rum, to contribute 50,000. He opposed
JMWAVE for US participation. Refused to sign

19 August 64

DCT (McCrall to Bundy) re
FBI interest w/ all participants

SECRET

Probably Peasner's info re a high-level meeting was 10 Sept 62

O'Connell interviewed Mahan in May 67 & wrote a report:

- 1 - Mahan taught Morgan in Phase I
 - 2 - Never heard of Phase II from Roselli or anyone
 - 3. Roselli started to Morgan by transpenn
 - 4 - Mahan suspects Roselli in chum of Morgan
 - 5 - Roselli definitely heavy; Morgan in Vegas recently "in success"
 - 6 - Garrison, Morgan, Roselli in Vegas in March. ^{business} In truck w/ Roselli; so was Morgan
- It is our impression that Greenspan also involved in the conversation.

0002293

¹¹²² Point finger to Roselli as source of info. and to confirm Morgan as Peasner's source.

EO Rosell Mahan are the only non CPA participants with immediate knowledge of the Robert Kennedy quest

¹¹²³ Summer of 62 - Edwards, Mahan, & Roselli had lunch & Edwards said he told Roselli he in front RFK of Roselli's confidants.

Peasner's story seems to rely on ref. there. Could be Harry if ref. source. Probably from 2 sources: State Dept meeting + mob organizer so Roselli chief suspect.

Reference: Roselli definitely had lunch & Morgan definitely talked to a newspaperman friend (Morgan)

0002294

Publicity has not run its course:

- a) Pearson has not yet used the pills & fact of State Dept meeting
- b) Baum has not revealed full case; CIA should be promptly displayed when he does
- c) P wants to remain in custody & will be deported

Pearson stay in chuds, i detail found out in phone to the 3 man team.

put in it best light - that there is no subversive nature in Speedy's stay

P 127. We do not know that Castro would try to retaliate, but we do know that there were such plots against Castro. Unhappily, it now appears that Pearson may also know this.

P 129. Mahon reports that Taylor fell on Tampa. I will be persona non grata in her Dept, very upset & register ^{with police} some kind in town. None of them would have connections about anything in his CIA connections when he was picked by law enforcement author. Pearson has already done it when the FBI was working on him in 1953, and he appears to do it in his conversation with Marguerite Baum.

P 131. Search - 3 May 1967

Comment: Red base CIA over a barrel

Tab A

SECRET

6002295

24 July 75 memo

Sarita Tropp

4. ST advised person full to agent who had access to Castro

When this attempt failed, T suggested another candidate (cancelled re BGP)

- Make formal contact subject w/ Office of Security
- Rosselli conviction

Nov 1967 - illegal entry

Dec 68 - Fingerprint

Serrato Staff 7-8-June 1975

Ad Hoc Staff

No 838-75

9 June 75

4. Report to Maxwell Taylor made by Dick Bissell on 8-10 Dec 1971. DDO

(made in company the active capacity)

5. Who is Torrella (yet another alleged Castro assassin) DDO

6. - WIREOUR's operational aliases?

- who was WIZARD 14 (John Stein's memo)

- 2 young officers who contacted WIREOUR DDO

- want to know John Stein's all WIREOUR file by Walt Elder

SECRET

SECRET

Messers

5 May 1967

G002296

July - Wm K. Harvey

1. ~~Harvey~~ ^{Bill} Harvey contacted Payson to report to Payson some contact he had w/ "gangster" and offer his copy to FBI. He explained to Payson ---

Missing

16 May 67

Tab B Attorney Edward Cohen 7 April 77
from Dumburo
re Duke City

Morgan associated w/ Harvey circa 1951 as a lawyer "cut out" in matters of contact to DDO.

Stuart Pierpont Morgan

DOB 28 May 1913 St Louis

Richard Scully Cain

MKA - Richard Scalpette SS 357-22-3335

1969 Texas Kansas Tex (Reg No. 17169-TT)

In May 1964 Boldin refused to testify before Warren Com. in absence of counsel George Howard.

SECRET

Chicago American for 26 Nov. 1963 in column Daily Day by Maggie's Day -

rumor that assassination planned w/for FD of Chicago

10/16/67

SECRET

1 Sept at issue of life

Garrison a guest of Mario Maurino,
a bookman of Marcella, as far as
known denied knowledge of Maurino's contact
to Marcella.

TO Chief SRS
Sulz. Carr

9 Oct 1947

TAD
B

Info re meeting of Fair Play
under Richard Criley (# 346 116)
[Source of info on Guillermo WSCORR
who was 'ml of Horace Speeds' (SAS)
leads obtained from Ralph PEREZ (444265)
Speed # (199499)]

WSCORR recruiting Cubans for Communist
Party in Chicago.]

0002297

SECRET

Copy
File

9 Dec 1970 DCT for Doc of Secy

Ruselli, Jolley

9 August 1976

SECRET

Behind memo "Sally" Jolley-Ruselli

0002298

Tab B o c

Added info re Traff, Ruselli, & Bruner contained in material previously released for review re Sturgis.

21 May 1975 Memo by Bruckner re Arthur Ballitto & Fred Hume

1. 12 Jan 1961 memo told FBI he recommended DuBois to an A atty whom he will disclose

2. A Hays is James Cantillon per a 13 March 1961 report.

3. 22 May 61 FBI memo re interview w/ Col. P Swann who said he contacted Mahon in fall of 1960 for use as a "cut-out" for Havana. Swann gave any information to Mahon he would attempt to accomplish some clandestine efforts in Cuba.

10 Jan 1974

Memo: Chief Warden Hampton Downer

Subj: Salvatore Bramanna & Richard Cain

Re Chicago Tribune Articles of 28 and 31

Dec. 1973

Richard S. Cain # 272141

DOB Oct 1931 in Chicago.

Left Vice Squad in 1960; Accurate
Laborer.
a F.I. firm

CIA contacts

SECRET

0002299

A. Fall 1960

Cain contacted contact in Chicago office
& returned info on Cuban cell groups in
Chicago area.

B. June 61

Contacted Lohmann of Chicago Field office
re a Mr. Krougansky who was met w/
President of Panama's investment Commission.

C. Summer 61

Cain met in [Mexico City by CIA staff]
identity & purpose unknown

D. Oct 1961

Cain wrote to Lohmann from Panama
offering his services

E. April 1962

Cain made unannounced visit to Hong
Kong. Winton Scott & [Walter Dean in Mexico City]
says he had an investment agency w/
branches in Chicago & LA which he used to
provide training to Mexican best Agents

F. 4 June 62

Reported from Mexico for board review
has handles & informant a Mexican official
& working

G. 19 August 63

met in Chicago at Lake Shore Drive Athletic
Club & Ralph Club of [Grace Speed] w/
Dev staff officer & Chief of Chicago DCD office

He would like to work overseas
for CIA

Cain worked for Cook Co Sheriff
& was in contact with Cubans in Chicago
area & would provide info on underworld
activities of Cubans particularly Pablo Sierra
H. 26-38 Aug 1963

Cain informs the Student Directory,
a Cuban exile group in Miami

- Miro Cordoy's infant is
purchasing arms

12 Sept 63 J. DRP people who had purchased
arms. [Rosa Speed] from Washington Chicago
told Cain to get out of the picture
H. 1967

FBI investigating Cain's arms work
& reexamined CIA sever contact

H. 15 April 1972

Cain returned to Chicago from Mexico
City; then disappeared, May 1972 says he
was going to Santa Anna. Involved
in illegal arms deals (international) &
on various occasions stated he was CIA
M. 16 May 1972

FBI agent in [Mexico City] used
[Mexico City Station for] traces on Cain
Eastern Airlines got ed. Cain as
Seymour who fled from Honduras. 5 May 72

27 Nov 63

By ROBT B. P. Lohman

1. Fair Play for Cuba Committee in Feb 63 met at 937 S. Spaulding Chicago under direction of Michael Wiley, Secy Chicago Chapter. Assassination of Rev. Dr. King
3. LHO provided info in March 1963 Shuff's office had not interviewed LHO at Feb meeting but strong suspicion he was in Chicago in April 1963 & responsible for firing the officer of UPT
4. Shuff advised in like FBI so had "officially" asked FBI for info on Fair Play for Cuba. If they developed anything definite they would report inform FBI.

~~Could not recall~~ "that early in 1963 the Chicago folks over apartment in U.S. for Fair Play

15 August 63

Sandy Smith Chicago seen Turner following up a lead that he call e/h re report Bureau would get info from Cuba but no info of value.

Said he did not show info to Ed Butthorn. but to someone in Butthorn's office (justified)

Buchenridge memo to Dad of requests

1. Passes in Sec H of paragraph 3 is contained in one of the volumes of material
2. Section B lists 3 American citizens. Contact is minimal
3. Quarter in Section C B1 is Arteme; Also used by Mafia in custo operations

Detectives have already interviewed a couple who is referred.

Tab C

1. Juan Don Festeroy Dimonquy (shortly)
DOB 2 May or 5 Feb 1936
2. Rolando Masferrer Rojas family
DOB 12 Jan 1948
3. Luciano Nieves (shortly)
4. Jose de la Tormenta (shortly)
5. Jose Quintana DOB 3 Oct 45
reporta report by name to Dad
6. Joaquin Antonio Cortijo DOB 10 Jan 45
7. Manuel Arteme

TAB c

SECRET

0002303

14 March 1974

Meeting w/ Terry Deninger

Frank O'Malley referred Hunt to Bob Mullen of the Mullen Group.

- O'Malley knew Hughes is client of Mullen's; this information pushed up in course of a cordial relationship between O'Malley & Mullen in early 60's in connection with Fair Cuba Committee.

Hunt & Mullen met in Paris during Marshall Plan

- when Mullen decided to hire Hunt possible insight on cover placements and environment.

- Hunt approached O'Malley for an individual having work & experience only skills.

- Thomas C. Amato apparently refused job.

- Houston

- Paul G. intervened w/ Farrell of ISNS re possible departure of Brancena

- only people who know well P. Inwood, Osborn, Angleton, Rocca, & Houston

SECRET

1977 Report

SECRET

0002304

AMTRUNK

Designed to identify & later use suspected
personnel in aerial forces in Cuba.

Bay 63, Nestor Antonio Moreno Lopez
& Enrique Cayardo Robera developed Fernando
Plan & Overland Castro.

Moreno defects in April 1961 & assoc. w/
George Volsky; Cuban citizen of Polish origin.
Presumably USSR & then in Polish Air Force under
British Command. Married Cuban & arrived in
Miami May 61.

Bay 63
Volsky contacts Ted Szyda & met with
Gordwin & Herwitch (State). CIA assigns plan
to Miami Station & it is known as AMTRUNK

Never progressed very far & by Sept 61
had 3 sources including Guin

Moreno in Oct 63 was removed from
AMTRUNK due to indiscution. He was going to
appear at JFK thru Volsky & Szyda

Had some contacts but no real action
capability; In '65 Guin & Piaz arrested.

Szyda & Volsky both Polish & met in Cuba
in 195-60

SECRET

Jose Ricardo RABEL Nunez
suspected agent who defected Dec 62 &
joined AMTRUNK; returned to Cuba on her own

x in 65 to infiltrate his family. Arrested & given 30 yrs. but freed in 67.

Accusation RHPZ a Cuban agent as early as July 1963.

Possibility -

W MTRUNK might have been an influence Cuban plan from the beginning. Inf action was saying Cuban & some info's infiltration.

M.D.

NY Daily News 20-25 April 1975 by Paul Masell, - quotes Sturgis on assassination attempts including using Juan data to bomb Castro. I recruited him to work w/ the embassy (US)

Sturgis' id of Otto, prior to its disclosure by external investigator, raises question as to what he knew.

Office of Security memo memo on 1975 noting connection between Sturgis & Rothman in 1962 citing FBI reports.

(made in conjunction w/ Daily News strand

Biancone in FBI memo 18 Oct 1960 indicated he had met w/ assassin-to-be & pills in Castro's food or drink.

Since CIA pills not until Feb 1961, seems that mat had their own plan

SECRET

- Loreny claims Sturgis recruited her in 1960

Verna

SECRET

0002307

FBI 21 Dec 1960

- MRS support for exile

FBI 18 Jan 1961

V receive some of that support

Stugis could have learned of Cuba's role after Gato settled in Miami in 1965

FBI report

14 August 1964 would a statement by a person jailed in Cuba by Troff.

Other Proposals

1. May 1975

Cuban exile who came to be a contact employee stated that in Feb 1961 he was given a rifle & a memo to kill Castro. Tried to enter Cuba 3 times & failed.

2. May 1977 Anderson column re Antonio Veciana

On 3 occasions (Dec 1960, July 62, Hydco) he proposed to CIA the assassination of Castro.

In 1970 report he made a proposal to an AID employee at an overseas post.

5 Agent Messages in 1961

SECRET

1. 3 of messages involved same group of agents

so probably same plan

0002308

1. 27 March 1961 [AMBROSE 15]

Plan to sabotage electric company in Havana & hit Castro at Sports Palace

2. 29 March 1961

same idea with different
arrived on 30 March but no comment on
assassination

3. 5 April 61

only runs for 50 min; would try
9 April but need military aid.

a) [AMBROSE] infiltrated several times
& finally executed 30 August 62 after May
62 arrest. Reported as some identity to was
CIA; & not mentioned in McBrewn Book

b) [AMCOAX 11] ^{the} persons in

c) [AM PUB 11] touch w/ [AMBROSE]

d) [AM PANIC 17] & mentioned in McBrewn book, Drug

30 yr sentences

All 3 people sentenced prior to Bay P. &
none had assassination mission. Only
[AMBROSE] mentioned that!

4. 4 June 61 Moratori of Italian Embassy
claimed he had plans for invasion w/in
30 days after killing Fidel.

Reply was that info was
untrue & Moratori condemned.

SECRET

SECRET

5. 3 May 61

0002309

- from a member of Revolutionary
Recovery movement saying they would try to
kill "Fidel today"

- Reply was "Lay low"

- Maybe [HMPUB 1]

Tab D

AMKASH

- Rejects notion that AMKASH a Cuban agent.

- No contact between August 1962 and
Sept 1963.

- 7 Sept & 9 Sept cables indicate that
AMKASH is a "spoiled brat"; hopeless as intel
performer; but approach in chief consequence
allowed to recruit his own cohorts."

Book V leaves inference that Castro's
speech to Dan Horner after AMKASH leak
Sumner's Findings but CIA had not probed anything at that
time & should meet until 2 Oct 63

Nov 19, 63 AMKASH told CIA officer
he was returning to Cuba. On 20 Nov
he was reported to delay until Fidel's arrival
"of something important" AMKASH

p 26 SSC Found Rpt.

SECRET

On 24 Nov Mexico Station responded to a
Headquarters request for names of known
contacts of certain Soviet personnel in Mexico City

Purpose was to determine significance
LHO's contact w/ Soviets

But HMLASH/1 name was included
in reference to contact before a member
of the Soviet Embassy & a Cuban cultural
attache. NOT a report of a contact between
HMLASH/1 and the Soviet

"H" role - clearly did not know of
HMLASH 1963 association w/ CIA

TABLE E

24 Nov 63 Subj: Cuban Recenter following
Assassination of Pen Kennedy

28 Nov 1963 DIR 85657 (C/WH/3)
John Wilson - Hudson

29 Nov 63

Acting on FDP report, Agency reports Almeida
be turned out to Mexican authorities.

12 Dec 1963 CSCF-3/779,048 (C/WH/3)
Subj: Wilson, Carlos John

30 Jan 1964 CSCF-3/779,814 (CI/SCC)
Subj: Jack Ruby - LHO

SECRET

20 March 1964 CSCF-3/780/612 (SR/CF/R)
Photos of individual identified as LHO

SECRET

10 June 1964 C S C I - 31781,841 (C/I/R&D)
Info re Ruby

6 Oct 64 C S C I - 316161446-64
[VIA DUCT] interview on 9 Sept 1964
His comments on 7 Photos Forwarded ~~7/25~~

W C Doc. 1054 Ruby & Associates.

0002311

SECRET

June 21, 1978

1977 D.B. Report

SECRET

0002312

1. Comments on Provo

The contents of the CIA are based on
sums of information of low value and
shall not be used, and on the non-acceptance
of various Agency equivalent activities that the
SSC Final Report judge to have been allowed
to the Warren Commission inquiry.

2. A stated thesis of the SSC Final Report is that
the quality of the intelligence reports against Cuba
showed a negative influence on the quality of
their support for the U.S. overthrow.

"If your research ... indicates p 2
they should have ... facts ... p 7
Certainly ... information, p 7

A central feature of the rationale in the
concept that if Castro had allowed of these
activities it would have provided serious
evidence against Pres. Kennedy. The SSC
Final Report makes it clear that if these
facts they should have been presented
and accepted at the time of the intelligence
reports not to mention the WCI and a
review of the various anti-Castro programs
to see what it might reveal.

Agency review of the program they in
the Final Report a part from of the

result of an evolution in perception.
 is Provocation ~~of~~ in '63 from
 both Cuba & USSR from Bay of Pigs,
 Minkovits; 'stay with the army of US
 Cuban program.

"The SSC Field Report has shifted to
 emphasize instead CIA operational activities
 against Cuba so requiring specific attention."

Review of Agency -

Persons ~~involved~~^{involved} know details of 1963
 & 1964 operations for the most part are no
 longer available. Primary witnesses are missing.

CIA has now conducted such a
 review - looking at "the other end"
 of possible chain of evidence, where they
 themselves could have started. This has
 produced no new evidence bearing on the
 assassination, altho' it has produced the basis
 for new lines of speculation. In fact, the
 review sometimes seemed to become
 a subtle exercise in trying to put
 fault to the provocation they
 rather than being able to identify
 evidence actually bearing on the
 assassination of Mrs. Kennedy. To explain
 sometimes blame one or another of their
 Agency (whichever was under review)
 could have provided clues to order
 the assassination ~~SECRET~~

Paul Carter learned of H. The SSC, in its Final Report, fell into this very trap, trying to make the KMTASTH operation actually fit the theory for which the SSC's presentation seemed to be tailored!

Tab C

KMTASTH

The Agency had not a tentative willingness with this man saving Pan Kennedy's life, altho the SSC Final Report - in trying to prove its thesis -- has attempted to present it differently. Because the case is discussed so extensively in the SSC Final Report, it is treated in a separate article in the paper at Tab D. The key point is that prior to Pan Kennedy's death this willingness ~~to~~ with KMTASTH was anonymous and without substance. Paul Carter learned as if he could ~~not~~ learn only that there was a contact that had not developed to the point of an understanding.

p14 New Consideration on the Septulante Operation

In a series of stories by Paul Marshall in the New York Daily News, of April 20-25, 1974 it quoted sources as follows:

The Cuban Comintern scheme involved planting a broadcast station in Castro's office. I had

access to the Prime Minister's office," Stuegen said. "I know Fidel's private security from Orta. I recruited him to work with the Embassy (American Embassy in Havana).

"He (Stuegen) has claimed on a number of occasions to have been an employee of CIA, although there is no record of any such relationship. He was in contact with some of the CIA Cuban employees in the Miami area, but had no direct relationships with the Agency.

"Orta was the director of the office of the Prime Minister, which gave him ^{easy} access that would make it possible for him to pass letters. The plan failed because Orta lost his position, and with it his access, in late June 1961. This was just to delivery of the prime gifts to him in late Feb or early March 1961. Orta's escape in this connection was over when he took refuge in the Venezuelan Embassy in Havana in April 1961. He was allowed to leave Cuba in October 1964 and settled in Miami in Feb. 1965.

and on 13 June 1974
 Same news source discuss a possible relationship between Stuegen and [redacted], also mentioning a minor relationship as a family partner of [redacted]. [redacted] of [redacted] wrote a memorandum in 1975, stating

a connection between Sturgis and Putnam in 1960, citing FBI reports.

Putnam that Sturgis reports to her had a role in gambling and. In this availability due to her "lost profits." One could deduce that Sturgis and Putnam could have known one another because of their connections with the gambling activities as well as having contacts with the men behind the gambling operations.

June 1976 Sturgis reports claim by Maria (Marie) ^{ETA} Loring that she acted on behalf of Sturgis in 1960 re poor pills in jar of face cream.

Quotes - FBI memo on "Bismarck":
 "This seems to confirm some job involving a woman to kill Carter with poison. Known, the delivery of poison does not fit the time frame known to CIA. While consideration had been given to various schemes, there were no CIA pills for selling until February 1961. It suggests that the syndicate may have been moving ahead on its own."

SECRET

In fact, it is possible that Maria already was involved in independent

squadrons with the central syndicate when first appeared prior to 1942 in Mexico to carry out the United States. The 1947 FO Report refers to two FBI reports that bear on this. One of them, on 21 Dec. 1940, indicates support by the central syndicate for some of the Cuban exiles. The other report, on 18 Jan. 1941, suggests that Varna was one of these receiving that support, altho' this was not confirmed.

... to late 22 June 64 another group plot in Mexico for 150,000.

Speculation that when undertaken in April 1942 can appear felt "there were something already 'ongoing'."

It is possible that CIA simply found itself involved in providing additional resources for independent operations that the syndicate already had under way.

In a sense CIA may have been simply backing on the syndicate and in addition to its material contribution was also supplying an aura of official sanction.