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C. Berk

IGR 1967

1. 4/25/67 Memorandum re: plans to assess costs of "Because of extreme sensitivity of operation," as a matter of principle no official records were kept of planning, of approvals, or of implementation.

W. Harvey retained sketched notes of his activities during year in? - these are the best source of data

most info given has come orally

2. everyone deemed knowledgeable interviewed except Dulles and Cabell

"If there are significant inaccuracies in the report, they are more likely to occur in faulty ordering of the sequence of events."

5 separate phases in Agency assess. planning the transition from one to another

(3) ...

6/1

by influencing his behavior & altering his appearance

b) 8/60 - 4) 61; ^{the plots} revised by some ^{participants} mainly in aspect of overall active effort to reentrain Castro regime - culminated in Bay of Pigs

c) 4/61 - late/61; major scheme begun in 8/60 called off after Bay of Pigs - ~~was~~ dormant for several months as was most other operational activity related to Cuba

d) late/61 - late/62; scheme in c) reactivated in ~~late~~ early '62, pushed vigorously in era of Project MONSIEUR and in climate of intense admin. pressure on CIA to do something about CASTRO and his regime

e) late/62 until well into 1963; post-Cuba missile crisis, 10/62 and collapse of Project MONSIEUR,

4 aggressive scheme begun in 8/60, revised in 4/62, terminated in early '63. 2 other plots organized in 1963 but ~~but~~ ~~never~~ ~~operational~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~executed~~ ~~at~~

1963
1963
1963

4

- 2 points of importance:
- 1) eliminating a leader will not necessarily come
 - 2) bringing about downfall of govt requires removal of leaders from positions of power always
- also the participants will want to assess to Gen'l M. Taylor design for contingency plan
- draft paper of 10/61 initiated in response

A third point: frequent resort to signed doc is a reference to a particular threshold is to be understood sig. use of phrase disposing of CASTRO which read narrowly & literally means to assassinate him but which is intended to be read in broader, figurative sense of deposing CASTRO regime

Can also be read from the side of CIA - a policy of eliminating CASTRO means killing CASTRO

TOP SECRET - NO REASON TO BELIEVE

1964

SECRET

6) Isk concludes that Cuban was in fact for Pearson's reporters

a) CIA officer passed assassin weapon to Azary, Cuban asset at Paris meeting on 11/22/63. The weapon was a ballpoint pen rigged w/ Hypodermic syringe. Poison suggested for use was Black Leaf 40.

7

b) Aug 10, 1962 meeting of SS (augmented) at Dean Rusk's conference room. At meeting Robert McNamara raised subject of liquidation of Cuban blades. As a result Edward Farnside prepared a Project MONTGOMERY action memorandum. On 7/31/64 - another SS meeting - discussed clandestine service info report on Cuban exile plot to assassinate CASTRO. CIA refused their request for funds and did not involve them in the plot.

c) On 2 occasions, early '61, early '62 CIA supplied poison pills to crime syndicate members to assassinate CASTRO. '61 plot aborted, pills received by CIA. '62 plot aborted, pills received by CIA. CIA will provide info on this plot. The FBI has been notified of this matter. Request is made that CIA provide a report on this matter.

7. of oppy case, the three men would attempt to kill Castro perhaps with pills

8. Implication of D. Pearson story of Alcott, accurate relationship among various plots is unproven

9. Miscellaneous dates from 8/60 March to August '60

3-4 schemes considered well before B. of P. time frame is speculative - 1959-1961

J. D. Luke Estelle, head of Cuba task force pre-B. of P. - most reliable witness in field timing ^{is accurate} - all schemes under consideration while Estelle had direct respons. for ALBA operation

10. Estelle indicates March 1960 as time when planning and preparation to consideration of island - by end of that quarter of '60, all focus on concentration on "main thrust effort" & all other

10

Air raid attack on Radio Station

Ray Trecker, TSP, scheme discussed
to spray LSD like substance on radio
collected where CASTRO did broadcasts -
nothing came of idea - discouraged
because chemical was not readily effective

Henry Fortner, TSP

11

recalls experiment of psychic energy
and that used to hit CASTRO as a target

Contaminated Cigars

pre B. of Pigo processing contain. Cigars
by Establine. Cigars would produce
temporary personality disorientation.

Wanted to have CASTRO smoke one before speech
Might have been prepared by Ray Trecker
Establine might have confused the chemical
agent in that cigars might have been
intended to make CASTRO's beard fall
out. Establine positive cigars were
not lethal

12

Cigars not used because w/1/4 couldn't
figure out how to safely deliver them
Establine had to return to TSP, h.s.

2000

Depilatory

13

R. Mendenhall recalls scheme to use depilatory to destroy CASTRO'S image by making his beard fall out. Idea was to deposit trichloroacetic acid (the depilatory) on CASTRO'S shoes. Scheme got only so far as procurement of chemicals and testing on animals. Beard scheme fell through because trip outside CUBA by CASTRO at which time powder was to be used fell thru.

14

Gambling Syndicate

2 phase operation

a) from 8/60 - 4/5/61

b) from 4/62 - 2/63 (mostly 9/12/62)

Phase I

August 1960

W.P. Bussell asked Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security of Edwards, could establish contact w/ U.S. gambling syndicate active in CUBA - objective was to assess CASTRO thru Edwards said term was added in context w/ Bussell

Edwards contacted Robert Maken
Maken had been an SA for FBI.
Maken had provided in the past
support to CIA in some of its more
sensitive operations

CIA people in TOR report who worked for FBI
Maken, ^{Robert} Cunningham, William Hawley, James
O'Connell, Edward Morgan

Maken told Edwards he had contacts
U.S. crime syndicate. Maken agreed to
participate only after being pressured by
Edwards. Maken's contact was Johnny
Roselli. Edwards and Maken agreed
Maken would approach Roselli as
representative of businessmen of interest in
CUBA who needed CIA's elimination

\$150,000 authorized to pay for CIA's removal

September 1960 - case opened for operation
was James P. O'Connell, Chief, Oper-
ational Support Division, Office of Security,
9/19/60 - O'Connell & Maken meet

11111889
O'Connell agreed to support Maken
to the sum of \$150,000 for CIA's
removal from Cuba

Roselli decline payment, believed I would
17 Memo for Record prepared by Supt. Edwards,
5/17/62: no more was paid to Roselli
or Duncan. (Garcia is "Gold")

CIK emp in office of Searcy
Only O'Connell was made writing of operation
at the time. Edwards was near Roselli
until summer of '62

Russell informed contact w/ syndicate
by Edwards during ~~summer~~ late fall
of Sept 1960. Only Russell, Edwards,
& O'Connell ^{at CIK} knew of the plan. Edwards
stated that Helms was not informed
of the plan because Russell was handling
CUBA at the time.

18 Edwards briefed Dull and Cabell on
the syndicate plan. Russell was
present at briefing. Edwards avoided
use of "bad words" - descriptive
term used was "an intelligence opera-
tion" but Edwards said that Dull and
Cabell know what the nature of the operation
discussed was.

4-11-1960
The Russell report of the syndicate
operation prepared by Edwards
is being reviewed by the

SECRET

19 week of 9/25/60 - O'Connell, Michael
ago to Miami where M. Hill intro-
duced to Sam "Gold" at Fontainebleau
Hotel - "Gold" said he had a
man "Joe" (Santos Trufficanti) who
would be coming to Cuba and make
arrangements there

O'Connell never met "Gold" or "Joe"
O'Connell learned their true identities
a few weeks later
from Carole Maguire supplement
see office of Security memo to DDCI 6/27/66

At time of Miami meeting Trufficanti was
making regular trips between Miami
and Havana on syndicate business

20 "Trufficanti was to make the arrange-
ments (for CASTLE's assets) with me of
his contacts inside CUBA on my
trips to Havana."

41111891

Fall and Winter 1960

Plan to find contact of Roselli, making
arrangements for...

...
...
...

21. Theckbreckle, treating a full box
of cigars w/ botulin toxin - would poison
them a fatal fashion after ingestion
22. Neckle Dept. of Health experimental cigars
Hawaii 1967.

Dr. Edward Gunn got the cigars and
kept them in his safe - destroyed
them upon a note of Shy Edwards action
in June 1963

23. Roosevelt, Chief of TSD remembers
speaking to B Shy Edwards after
Bessel discussed it w/ Edwards
Roosevelt recalls 4 possible approaches;
- something highly toxic e.g. shellfish
poison administered by a pin
 - bacterial material in liquid form
 - bacterial treatment of cigars or cigarette
 - handkerchief treated w/ bacteria
- Russell and Roosevelt both recall that
discussion was for bacteria in liquid form

January - February 1961 41111892

25. Hancock against use of firearms -
would have been suicide mission -
he prepared a lethal pill. I made
note for ~~the~~ signature was Juan Ortiz,
Officer & Director General of the Office
of the Prime Minister (C.A.S.T.E.S.) - Ortiz needed
money

2/10/61 - ^{recording} connection between Gunn and
Trenchler - Gunn had tested pills on
guinea pigs & found them to be ineffective
The pigs had high resistance to bovine TB

26. when tested on monkeys, the pills worked
O'Connell eventually reviewed the pills.
He recalls dealing w/ Trenchler but
Trenchler has no record of delivering
pills but he doesn't ordinarily keep
detailed records of such things

27. O'Connell believes there were 6 pills - gave 3 of
them to Roselle - possession sometime
of the 2/10/61

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Gunn was approached about the
operation by William Harely in Feb 61
Harely was linked w/ the operation

Feb Feb - March 1961

- 27 Roselle passed pills to Trafficante
Roselle told O'Connell that pills
delivered to Onta in Cuba.
Onta kept pills for couple weeks
and then returned them - syndicate
28 said he got cold feet. By the time Onta
had lost his position in the Prime Minister's
office

"It seems likely that, while the
Agency thought the gangster had
a man in Cuba with easy access
to Castro, what they actually had
was a man disgruntled at
having lost access"

- 29 Onta suggested replacement who made
several unsuccessful attempts. Neither
Edwards nor O'Connell knew who the was

March - April 1961

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Roselle told O'Connell the Trafficante
knew man in Cuban Exile movement
who might do the job - Tony Varona
(Dr. Manuel Antonio de Varona y Sureda)

30 T.R. man for Varona was Edward K. Moore who had significant ties to Cuba thru his mistress's brother (Celleri)

31 Traffickers approached Varona about killing CASTRO. Varona is receptive because its by money for ships, ammo etc

Roselli
O'Connell
etc

O'Connell informs Robert Bannerman, Edward's deputy of the operation. Since Edward out of town, Bannerman authorizes passing money (\$25 or 50 thou) to Varona. site of document to DDL 6/24/66 25 figure of \$10,000 cash

32 ~~Roselli~~ O'Connell delivers money and pills to Roselli. Roselli gives money and pills to Varona. Little is known of the delivery channels beyond Varona

April - May 1961 41111895

33 Soon after Bay of Pigs Edwards sends word to Roselli thru O'Connell that the operations of O'Connell believe standard was not firm and final and that something was going on between

Maguire and Varona thru O'Connell

24

O'Connell believed he received the pills and destroyed them.

5/14/62 memo by S. Edwards states that 14 persons had knowledge of the operation but 15 persons identified

13 people who knew in late '60 or in early '61 of ^{the} operation at Assass Center

- 1) Allen Dull
- 2) Gen. Cabell
- 3) Richard Bissell
- 4) Sheffield Edwards
- 5) James O'Connell
- 6) J. D. Esterline
- 7) Cornelius Roosevelt
- 8) Ray Trechler
- 9) Edward Gunn
- 10) William Hawley
- 11) Sidney Gottlieb
- 12) Robert Bannerman
- 13) J. C. King

35

4 persons named got known to be writers of the operation and the Agency connection.

- 1) William ...
- 2) John ...
- 3) ...
- 4) ...

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35 other sources but their knowledge of CIA connections is speculative

- 1) Juan Ochoa
- 2) Antonio Verna
- 3) Harmond son-in-law

36 RFK and Lawrence Huster learned full details in May 1962

was for ^{an report} Drew Pearson's ~~article~~ ^{has} if it approximates the FOR then the following might be knowledgeable

- 1) Edward P. Morgan
- 2) Drew Pearson & Jack Anderson
- 3) Earl Warren
- 4) James Rowley
- 5) Pat Coyne
- 6) Atty Gen Ramsey Clark
- 7) Various members of the FBI

37) Gambling Syndicate - Phase 2 41111897

Feb 61 Bissel assigned sensitive ~~mission~~ ^{operation} to Hickey - refers to as Executive Action Capabilities - stands capability to carry out assassinations

Bessell had discussed certain aspects
quite problem of Arnold Silver and Sidney
Wittlieb - Harvey uses Silver in development
Execution capabilities, but not in respect
to CASTRO.

Helm was briefed ^{on November} on general concept
of E. A. but did not mention the
the then ongoing plot to assassinate
Castro.

Exec Action - known as ZRRIFLE

Programmer - ATWIN - recruited for

^{assistant} ~~number~~ ~~2~~ - recruited by Silver
was to be run by Justice O'Donnell - (he
asked to be released - didn't want party

etc - Bessell granted the request)

ZRRIFLE - first appears in file in

5/61 - first recorded approval 2/19/62

on 2/19/62 - DPP Helm authorized

39 Harvey, by memo, to handle project

on special basis

ATWIN gets annual salary of 7200

+ 7500 for operational expenses

Cover for ZRRIFLE was ^{at} F.T/D operation

11/15/61 - Harvey discusses w/ Bessell

Late 1961 - Early 1962

27) Harvey ~~was~~ following discussion
w/ Bassell re the ^{Edward's} CASTRO
operation

40) Feb - March 1962

Harvey 1st meets w/ Edwards re CASTRO
operation in Feb 1962

Harvey ran Castro operation as one
aspect of ZRRIFLE - but Harvey personally
handled the Castro operation and
did not use any of the assets
developed in ZRRIFLE. Harvey
attended Exec. Action program as
synonymous w/ QT work

Harvey said when he wrote ZRRIFLE/QTWIN
the reference was to Executive Action
Capability; when he used the cryptonym
ZRRIFLE alone, he was referring to
CASTRO. Harvey said his correspondence
would disclose the distinction. TFR
received the correspondence for
most part found it in a file

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41

April 1962

Edwards w/ Helms approved arrange
for Harvey to be put in touch w/
Roselli. Harvey briefed Helms
prior to meeting w/ Roselli with
purpose & reported to Helms
results of meeting w/ Roselli.

Harvey, however, states he regularly
briefed Helms on status of CASTRO
operation.

April '62 - Edwards statement that
the "briefed Helms approval" is
earliest indication of Helms writing
on gambling syndicate operation.

and that Helms approved that Harvey
not brief the Director (McCone) on
the meeting.

42

Edwards believes that the operation
was called off completely after Bay of
Pigs and no further operational activity
until Harvey met Roselli & reactivated
the operation in 4/62.

Harvey reported to Helms on 4/15/62
that the operation was reactivated.

43 O'Connell does believe there was
something going on between 9/01 after B Pigo
and 4/02 but can't remember particulars

4/8 - 4/15 - Hawley + O'Connell in NYC
to meet Roselli

44 Hawley + O'Connell dispute whether
Makew was present at meetings.
Bears upon whether Makew knew
the operation continued under Hawley

45 ~~Makew~~ Hawley, Roselli, O'Connell +
maybe Makew go to Copacabana
see Phyllis McGuire there -
Roselli attempts to avoid her

Edwards says that when he briefed Hawley
on takeout he did not mention Makew
so that he could screen Makew out of the
operation

44111901

46 O'Connell carried over into Phansitt
for purposes of continuity - appears to
be a few weeks - he notes the

47. Harveley arrives in Miami on 4/27/62 -
finds Roselli in truck w/ Tony Varona
Harveley wants to talk to him. How he took
over a "gray operation" O'Connell
concurs.

48. Harveley didn't want Giancanna in
or reactivation of the operation -
Harveley believes Roselli honored the
request. Rafferty no longer involved
Roselli knew had man known to

to be
interior
Roselli
in connection
Varona
became known
of him
Harveley
knowing
him

Harveley as Maceo - discussed names
Garcia - Gomez and Today

Harveley describe Maceo as "a Cuban
who spoke Italian"

Roselli remained prominent
on the operation but he worked directly
for Cuban exile and directly on behalf
of CIA

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49. "It would be naive to assume that Roselli
did not take the precaution of informing
himself upon the syndicate that he was

provided many opportunities to
investigate

44 After Pills given by Roselli to Varona,
Varona requested arms and equipment
for support of his operation. Harney was
~~not~~ informed of this by Roselli.
Harney and JMWAVE station chief
Ted Shackley procured the materials
at cost of \$10000 via T/Aid to Headquarters.

Harney + Shackley loaded equip into a C-truck
and parked it in parking lot at address
in restaurant. Roselli given the car
keys.

50 Delivery to Marco Varona, a Varona
son-in-law. Harney + Roselli did
not trust each other yet. Each placed
a double-cross. ~~The~~ Each party
swivelled the rite C O'Connell was
w/Roselli, Shackley w/Harney -
The truck was picked up + returned
empty w/ keys under the seat as
prearranged. Harney says Shackley
never knew to whom delivery was
made or what purpose - he really
did not know who to give to.
Shackley explained...

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50

May 1962

Harvey and Roselli communicated telephonically by prearranged signals. Roselli reported that pills in Cuba at restaurant where Castro eats regularly.

51

June 1962

June 21 - Roselli reports to Harvey that Varona has dispatched a 3 man team into Cuba. Harvey says 3 men have no specific plan for killing Castro. The 3 men would recruit others to kill C. If agents presented they or other would kill C, maybe users will. Harvey never knew their names.

Sept 1962

Harvey and Roselli meet in Miami on 9/7 + 9/11. "Medicine" reported in place, 3 man team safe + Varona ready to order another 3 man team to infiltrate Castro's bodyguard.

52 Sept 1962 - Jan '63

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3 man team down + leave - Oct missile crisis develops. Between 12/22 + 1/6/63 Harvey and Roselli + others in Miami. Harvey and Roselli talk by phone 1/11/63. Roselli reports the 3 man team is in Cuba. Harvey reports the 3 man team is in Cuba.

52 Feb 63

Harvey in Miami 2/11-2/14 leaves word
for Marco that it looks like it all
over 2/15 - Harvey leaves Miami for
L.A. to meet Roselli. At L.A. meeting
Harvey + Roselli agree to close off the operation
but that Roselli would continue to see Yarnon,
gradually reducing frequency until no contact

53 April - May 1963

Harvey says gets 2 phone calls from Roselli
Harvey wants one last meeting w/ Roselli before
Harvey leaves for Rome. Helms informed of same
by Harvey. Helms gives approval

June 1963

Roselli in Wash. mid-June to meet w/ Harvey
Sam Papuck calls Harvey while Harvey + Roselli
are dining out who asks Harvey if he knows
his dinner guest identities. Harvey says he does

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54 Harvey meets Papuck re: information. Explains
that he is terminating an operational association
w/ Roselli. Papuck says he must report
this to J. Edgar Hoover. Harvey asks Papuck
if he agrees that Hoover might call Melvin
Parker. Melvin Parker is believed to be a
major contact of Roselli.

14 Harvey says he then told Helms of the incident & Helms agreed that (Harvey) no need to brief McConne unless Harvey's calls to be expected.

55 This was Harvey's last face to face meeting w/ Roselli

- 2nd phase writers persons
- Richard Helms
- William Harvey
- James O'Connell
- Sheffield Edwards
- Joe Co King
- Bruce Cheever
- Ted Shackley
- Ray Treacher
- Antonio Varona
- Varona's son-in-law
- Mason, Roselli's "man"

56 San Juan may have been informed of 3rd phase by Roselli, ditto Santos Raffacante O'Connell believes Maken knew, possible leads:

- Roselli to Maken
- Maken to [unclear]
- [unclear] to [unclear]
- [unclear] to Chief Attorney President
- [unclear] to [unclear] (Chief [unclear])

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The Wiretapping Incident

57 Late '61 - Early '62

Guerrero's private life ^{caused} incident that made FBI aware of Agency's relationship - strip w/ syndicate - required briefers of A.C. on details of assassination plot

Phyllis McDunn - Guerrero's mistress
Guerrero thought she was having affair w/ Dan Rouse - Guerrero wanted McDunn's Las Vegas hotel room bugged. McDunn reluctantly agreed to bug room for Guerrero

58 Date of incident is uncertain - could have been 1961 - after Bay of Pigs, maybe early 1962 but before 2/7/62 on which date Director of Security Told FBI that CIA would object to prosecution

Edward L. DuBois handles request for Mahan. DuBois assigns Arthur J. Balletti + J. W. Harman to do the job

1111907

59 O'Connell says telephone tap used in attempt of planting bug in room + Balletti equip. furnished by the State + local sheriff killed. Balletti arrested Harman + Balletti called Mahan w/ purpose of setting up

59 Thus, case reached the FBI, ~~FBI~~ FBI
wanted to press for prosecution under
Wiretapping statute. Maken on being
approached by FBI referred them to
60 Supt Edwards & CIA. ^{Edward says} Maken told
FBI that the tapes for an operation
working on for Edwards, FBI memo
of 3/23/62 indicate that FBI ^{now} knew
of ~~the~~ Cuban intelligence information
operation and believed working
Person's room done for its purpose -
but don't indicate FBI knew it ~~was~~
~~was~~ the intelligence operation was
an ~~an~~ plot

March 1962

The memo of 3/23 confirms 2/7
meeting between Edwards and FBI rep.
2/7 meeting - Edwards says Maken involved
in sensitive operation w/ agency - Agency
objects to prosecution

61 3/28 or 3/29 Edwards and FBI liaison
Sam Paprik meet - Edwards reiterates
his position re prosecution, Edwards
made a copy of memo on 4/4/62
which would give by the time, FBI
didn't have the facts - Edwards dealt
w/ Paprik w/ all reference to agency about
etc.

63 At A.G.'s request memorandum
record of meeting prepared
Edwards & Houston both helped write it
RTK report on 5/11, memo date 5/14
2 copies ~~to~~ - original to RTK, other to
Sgt Edwards - Dir of Sec'y -
true purpose of operation may be
inferred from the memo
McCone, Edwards says was not
briefed on Carter & Helms

64 "From reports of other briefers, it is
reasonable to assume that Kennedy
believed he had such a commitment
(to be told in advance of CIA involve-
ment w/ O S gangster elements) from
Agency representatives

But at this very time that RTK
briefed on Phaset I, Phaset II under Harney
was under way - as far as I O R knows
Kennedy was never told of Phaset II

65 5/14 - Harney says he briefed Helms
on meeting. Harney advisor against
briefing ~~the~~ McCone + Carter & Helms con-
curred.

66 It appears that ~~that~~ was not just

copying of a memo, but something like
a detailed journal entry

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SECRET

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67 FSR characterizes Agency as
first unwitting and then
reluctant accessory after the fact
in the wiretapping flap

August 1963

Chicago Sun Times article 8/16/63 -

"CIA sought Dominican help for Cuba
Agency"

68

69 8/20/63 Chicago Sun Times article

8/16/63 - DDP Helms memo to McCon
forwarding a copy of 5/14/62 memo for
record to RFK following 5/7/62

briefing of RFK on phase I operation

70

FSR - earliest date 8/16/63 - that
have evidence of McCon's awareness

a scheme to assassinate Castro using syndicate

FSR says it is not new knowledge that

CIA allied w/ gangsters to collect info -

what is new is that McCon knew

CIA + gangsters to ^{assassinate} plot re Castro

May - July 1966 - Select Committee

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71

72

Maken worked for Marcho against
Orrison - Maken received support
through State Dept request from CIA
in 1954-1955 period

73

Maken has been used over the years in a
number of sensitive CIA operations.
CIA didn't want him to testify before
Soy Committee

74

Maken may have told his atty - Edward
P. Morgan the details of the plan to
assassinate CASTRO using gangster
CIA has interviewed 3 times ^{with} Maken ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
1 - Marcho
2 - Maken

Seters in Early 1963

75

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76

Sydney Holtick, Samuel Halperin,
William Hawley, + Fitzgerald knew
of it - maybe Mike Miskovsky
also. Hawley says he mentioned it
to Henry M. ...
...
...
Hawley denied ...

77

Booby-Trapped Sen Hall

Dr. Fitzgerald, Chief SAS
advised discussed impractical to
Fitzgerald, Halpern, + Bruce
Cheever knew of it. Halpern believes
he committed TSD on this

FDL/8

Tab A Source of Info

file furnished by:

- 1) Div. of Security
- 2) Dep. Dir. for Support
- 3) Gen'l Counsel
- 4) Dep. Counsel
- 5) Chief of W. H. Division
- 6) Col F. L. Herz, former chief of
W H division

biographic file + intel. parts
furnished by Director of Central Reference

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List of those interviewed re Castro Assass Plot
Donald Fitzgerald, Samuel Halpern, Bruce
Cheever, F. L. Herz, Alfonso Rodriguez,
J. D. Estabrook, Edward Gunn, Howard
Osborn, James O'Connell, Sidney
Hartland, Clifford Roberts, Robert
Kendall, Arthur Hays Sulzberger,
John Warner, Nestle Saunders, William
Hoyes, Charles L. Howard, Robert F. Kennedy,
John F. Kennedy

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(Secrets)

Project Amalash - Rolando Cubela

78

3/9/61 - Jack Stewart, NY City Station
officer meets Cubela to get his
views on Cuba. Cubela non-committal
meeting arranged by AMASHIP, Carlos
Tepedino - Cubela's friend

79

Cubela held rank of major in Cuban military -
the highest rank

Project AMASH grew out of initial
meeting between Stewart and Cubela
The March 61 meeting was inconclusive
Cubela said that 1st step to overthrow
regime is to eliminate CASTRO which
Cubela would do. He requested re-
peatedly that CIA furnish him equipment
to do the job

80

Nestor Sanchez was Cubela's case
officer. "The Agency offered both
direct and indirect support for Cubela's
plotting."

3/25/61

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José Ota x Cubela wanted to defect. CIA
was for the infiltration but called off
because of report that Cuban police
had arrested Ota. Ota's
departure plan was to
of Cubela's plan to get support in Cuba
through CIA. Ota's plan was to get support in Cuba

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81

8/14/61

Cubella sends message to Tepezinos that he wants to talk to "friends of Stewarts" in Paris if possible. Paris station ok'd to approach Cubella but no indication from file that actually contacted.

6/15/62

JMWAVE station cable station asset (AMCONCERT) told by Susan Echevarria Bianchi that Cubella left for Helsinki on 6/10/62.

82

6/27/62

FBI forwards to CIA report of meeting w/ FBI informant on 6/11 in Miami. Informant states Cubella wants to defect. FBI informant was Tepezinos. Bureau informed of Stewarts' meeting w/ Cubella.

7/8/62

4441915

Tepezinos talks to JMWAVE station office. Tepezinos identifies the informant as Cubella in the Echevarria report. Tepezinos also informs Paris station of Cubella's planned departure from Paris on 7/10/62.

83

7/13 - 14/62

William Wainwright of H.A. meets
Tepedano in New York. Tepedano
will assist Cubell defection

~~83~~

7/30 - 8/6/62

Tepedano in Helsinki on 7/30 -
Cubella meets w/ Wainwright
on 8/1 - first of a series of
meetings
original objective of defectors
Cubella changed to recruiting them
in place

84

Wainwright note - Cubella also wanted
to assassinate Carlos Rodriguez (top-
ranking CASTRO subordinate) and the
Soviet Ambassador & also FIDEL,
by operation, if necessary
Wainwright said CIA could make no
commitment or plans

Cubella states he would only involve himself
in a plan of significant action, and which
was designed to achieve rapidly. He de-
sires to help Cuba

11111916

8/7 - 11/62

first meeting requested by Stockton
in Copenhagen meeting assigned
to meet with Tepedano in Helsinki

7

84

He had told many of his Cuban associates of his meetings in Habana w/ Tepedino.

85

8/10-8/11/62

Wainwright, Tepedino, & Cubela in Copenhagen for further meetings. Wainwright wrote that he used the term assassinate in talk w/ Cubela. Cubela found the term objectionable (as reported by Tepedino). The fact he did not object to (but the term)

"It is worth noting here that Tepedino, a Cuban jeweller in New York, was present at a series of meetings at which the assassination of Castro was discussed between ~~Tepedino~~^{Cubela} and Wainwright, whom Tepedino knew to be a CIA officer."

8/14-8/23/62

11111917

Carl Williams, Spanish speaker, CIA officer from Madrid meets Cubela, Tepedino, & Wainwright. Then Williams joins Tepedino & Cubela - Cubela official CIA. Also seen w/ + described Tepedino.

Copy of memo in Habana concerning Wainwright
being prepared 8/11/62 - cubel

8/29/62 - Cubela leaves Prague for Havana.

86

9/5-9/8/63 . Cubela set in Brazil
by Wainwright, Teperino, + Nestor
Sanchez - Memorandum Cubela's case
office

Cubela reluctant to use S/W message
because he feared efficiency of Cuban
Postal Censorship

Cubela wanted to approach Ramon Guin
Diaz (AMTRUNK-10) who was
hiding Miguel Diaz Osalque (AMICE-14)
Diaz had recruited Guin ^{in place} for CIA + had
address

Cubela told to assist Guin in his
intelligence assignments - Cubela
concerned about Guin's drinking and
"neurotic condition"

87

9/14/63

Cubela to Paris for extended vacation -
to inform Castro afterwards

9/16/63

Cubela wrote Depina - Report 1111918

P
87 10/3/63
~~10/15/63~~

Sanchez in Paris to see Cubela
also present were John (Pat) Slant &
Richard Long. French were keeping
Cubela under surveillance. CIA informed
French that Cubela contacted to defect from
10/14/63

88 Cubela calls wants to meet senior U.S. official
preferably RFK for assurance of U.S.
moral support for his activities in Cuba
Sanchez felt strongly that contact
should be made

10/13/63 Paris calls re Sanchez return
to HA re AMKASIT

10/17/63
Cubela meets w/ Slant & Trepedino
reiterates his desire for high-level U.S.
reassurance

89 10/29/63 1111919
Dr. Fitzgerald, Chief SIA, arranges
to meet Cubela in Paris to give him the
assurances he sought. Fitzgerald,
according to AMKASIT file represented
and accompanied by PTK who
was with him. Fitzgerald discussed
with PTK who was with him. Fitzgerald
discussed with PTK who was with him.

SECRET

89 Meeting held in ^{in Paris} at Kerstent's house
Fitzgerald used alias Jane Clark
Nesta Sanchez was the interpreter
Stent not present at the meeting
Sanchez made memo of meeting on 11/13/63

"Fitzgerald informed Cubela that the United States is prepared to render all necessary assistance to any anti-Communist Cuban group which succeeds in neutralizing the present Cuban leadership and assumes sufficient control to invite the United States to render the assistance it is prepared to give. It was emphasized that the above support will be forthcoming only after a real coup has been effected and the group involved is in a position to request U.S. (probably under OAS auspices) recognition and support.

41111920

90

"Those involved now recall the purpose of the meeting as being something quite different from that appearing in written reports. It appears that the meeting was held to discuss the possibility of the neutralization of the present Cuban leadership and the assumption of sufficient control to invite the United States to render the assistance it is prepared to give.

7 Fitzgerald says he told Cubela that U.S. govt would have no part of an attempt on Castro's life.

Sanchez memo states that Cubela wanted to know what technical support we could provide him

91) 11/14/63 - Wainwright meets Tepedino in N.Y.C. Wainwright contact report reveals Cubela's reaction to meeting w/ Fitzgerald:

Cubela satisfied w/ govt policy, concerned but not happy about not being given technical assistance for the operation. Tepedino said that Cubela dwelt constantly on this point.

11/19/63 - Sanchez memo for record:

Fitzgerald approved telling Cubela he would be given a cache inside Cuba - cache could

include high powered rifle w/ scope, C/SAs, requested written report on AMLASH operation be kept for a minimum

of 30 days. In addition, Tepedino advised Cubela that a list of suitable high powered rifle

7
92

Gunn, Halpern, & Sanchez settled
in use of Black Leaf 40, common insecticide
as poison that could be used to kill
CASTRO

93

Plan at auction stage on 11/20 -
Halpern & Sanchez contact Gunn
when say ~~needed~~ a ball point pen hypo-
dermic that Sanchez could take up
him the following day. Gunn
then made it up & delivered it
to Sanchez & returned two proto-
types - as of 1967 still in Gunn's
safe - doesn't remember Sanchez
returning the device to him - he
believes he was told Cubela would not
accept the device

11/22/63

Sanchez in Paris - meets Cubela in the
afternoon

93a

Sanchez showed pen to Cubela & believed
he accepted it but said he would not
take it to Cuba. ~~The~~ Cubela not impressed
w/ the device. Gunn & Sanchez say it
was not loaded. Cubela was expected to

Sanchez could not get past the
and question for a year

93a Latest report summary: Cabelle to return to Cuba still determined to initiate Coup against Castro. Sanchez reiterates U.S. support of any successful Cabelle visit for the coupe.

94 ~~94~~ meeting re - Sanchez & Cabelle informed that JFK assassinated

"it is likely that at the very moment President Kennedy was shot a CIA officer was meeting w/ a Cuban agent in Paris and giving him an assassination device for use against CASTRO."

Fitzgerald cables says every-thing is off - no such cable in AMKASH file

IGK can identify only 4 people who knew of person per - Sanchez, Halpern, Gunn & Fitzgerald

95 back to Project AMKASH file

12/1/63 - Cabelle returns to Cuba

2/19/64 - JMWAVE reports by cable

that 2 separate caches would be

emplaced in support of Project AMKASH

dates, March

1111500

3/1/64 - JMWAVE reports

details of activities of transporters and other

repts

96

3/7/64 - Ho cable that high power rifle main item requested by AM/ASH

3/13/64 5 MWAVE can break rifle down so must come from the cache

3/17-3/21/64 - 1 Amtrak cache analyzed

4/24/64 - Tepedino briefed to meet Carlos Jorge Robreno Marquez who has rpt message from Cuba

97

5/3/64 Cuba won't silence for Belgian FAH submarine gun boat

5/5/64 TSP make the silence

6/9-6/11/64

2nd Amtrak cache put down with the FAH automatic rifles but silence not included

98

8/14/64 - ~~AMTRAK~~ S/W message from AMTRAK re recovery of caches

8/30/64 Manuel Antune ~~AMTRAK~~ associate goes to France on 10/17/64 to meet with dissident members of

AMTRAK

P
98

11/12/64

Cubela in Prague for meetings

99

11/13/64

- Antimo reports that will talk to Amlesh if he is contact man for dissidents. Antimo thinks

if Amlesh is the chief dissident

we can forget about the operation

11/25/64 Cubela in Paris

12/4/64 - Sanchez request money \$4500

~~to~~ for Antimo for travel to meet w/ dissidents.

Antimo did travel to Europe

and meet the dissidents

12/6-12/7/64 Sanchez & Cubela

meet in Paris

100

Cubela wants to continue w/ his plans

Told that U.S. would not get involved in his plan. Cubela said if he needed help he would look elsewhere

12/16/64 - Sanchez memo indicates

that Agency wanted to put Antimo

& Cubela together w/out their

knowing it had been engineered

by CIA. But CIA didn't intend to furnish Antimo arms w/plan to give Cubela

11/11/64 - ... 11/11/64 ...

to Cuba with personal ... H.A. ... to Paris

101 12/27/64 Artimo & Cubela meet in Madrid for first time

102 12/30/64 - Cubela & Artimo meet again in Madrid
Artimo reports meeting to Sanchez in Fla. on 1/3/65
Cubela told Artimo he had not been provided silencer - If Artimo could get Cubela silencer he would take it back to Cuba
If only could get another silenced rifle, Artimo would cache it in Cuba for Cubela

1/28/65 Sanchez ^{in Paris to meet} ~~to~~ Cubela ~~in Paris~~
PMM

2/2/65 - Sanchez meets Cubela & Repedone - Cubela says reached agreement w/ Artimo
Artimo to provide package in Mexico
Cubela to take back ~~to~~ in personal luggage

41111926

103 2/11/65 - Artimo reports for formal to
Cubela
Cubela delivered package to Repedone in Madrid. Cubela had signed

3/4/65 -

103 3/15/65 - Miami station cables that Rafael Garcia-Bonzo Double in Madrid from Cuba - contact to Batista officer claimed to be contact w/ dissident Cuban military leader - he was referred to Cubela - Garcia-Bonzo ^{George} had defended Santos Trufficante who was kicked out of Cuba

- none link between Cubela & the gambling syndicate plot

6/65 - HQ decides to term all contacts w/ key members of Cubela group

" It had become increasingly apparent that the circle of Cubans who knew of Cubela's plans and of CIA's association w/ them was ever widening

105 Last straw - June '65 -

Victor Espinosa Hernandez Tell story to CIA about contact w/ Cubela friend in Paris who

relayed Cubela message for CIA that in a position to kill

Castro - after her statement

was made of this, CIA report that CIA's story was

unsubstantiated - CIA report that

P
106 CIA files don't indicate what kind of "help" Cubela wanted from the CIA

6/23/65 HQ cable to stations concerned re termination of contact w/members of the Cubela group

107 Reade's report Cuban security police arrested Cubela & Guin who conspired w/ CIA

3/7/65 - Cubela & Guin on trial

3/8/65 escape from trial

108

109 Castro sends letter to court suggesting death sentences for the accused

2/10/66
transcript

110 Cubela & Guin get 25 years

Q - where is the release
Cubela. I struck the release away because it was burning my hand

Discussion of Assoc at High-level got meeting 11111928

111 None of ~~Cubela's~~ Cubela's dealings w/ CIA from 2/61 - 1/64 mentioned in the trial
... of Cubela
CIA ...
... that ...
...
...

129

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131

132

"Phase Two is associated ~~with~~ Harvey's
involvement with the Executive Action Oper-
ability, which reportedly was
developed in response to White
House urging."

133

"When Robert Kennedy was briefed
on Phase One in May 1962, he
strongly admonished Houston and Ed-
wards to check w/ the Attorney
General in advance of any future
intended use of U.S. criminal
elements. This was not done w/ respect
to Phase Two, which was already
well under way at the time Kennedy
was briefed."

41111929

111 JSC operated on reason for a split
occurred at trial
"Castro may have thought it politi-
cally imprudent to allow the specu-
lation of someone so close to his
inner circle, who had merely
plotted without acting. If the
full details of Cuba's involve-
ment w/ CIA had come out in
court, Castro might have had
little excuse for asking for leniency"

112 2 high level interagency meetings
at which aspects of CASTRO raised
1) meeting of SS(A)
2) held on 7/30/67 - 303 Committee
probably at White House Situation
Room

8/10/67
113 SS(A) meeting
Tom Parrott's minutes of the meeting
make no mention of the subject
of assassination.
McConer + Harvey recall McNamara
raised the subject - also Harvey's
notes show it was mentioned
by Thurman

11111930
The line 9/14/67 memo recalls meeting
on 8/9 or 8/8 /67 meeting at JCS ope-
ration room. The minutes of the
meeting are in the file. The page
with the minutes of the meeting
may be reproduced.

113. The Cone took immediate exception to the discussion & after meeting with McNamara & McNamara agreed The Cone says SS(A), never gave suggestion serious consideration

114. The Cone said that terms such as "knock off Castro" & "dispose of Castro" were used but always constructed etc, mean overthrow the Communist govt in Cuba

8/13 / memo from Farnside to Hawley, Robert Harwood at State, Genl Harris at Defense & D. M. Wilson at OSA

memo assigned resp. for drafting paper on various subjects relate to Cuban operation

Hawley's assignment had one portion deleted

Hawley sent memo to PDP Helms on 8/14. Payer's analysis portion said "including elimination of leaders". Hawley had, protested use of phrase to Farnside's assistant Frank Hand & Hawley said should be deleted from all copies

115. "Hawley told us that ~~Farnside~~ ¹⁹³¹ reportedly tried to raise the matter of assassination of Castro w/ Hawley over the next several weeks". Hawley said he always avoided such discussions

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.

7/36/64

303 committee meeting - Peter Jessing was secretary

reference in minutes to 6/16/64 memo info report from DDP to Director - about the "elite" including. Specimen sent to Pres. for Nat. Sec'y Affairs A. D., report related proposal for Castro assass. made to prominent Cuban exiles. Mafu appeared & benovolent - also Jose Male "Pepin" Bosch, Pres. of Bacardi Rum Int'l. Record shows CIA only involvement in plot was the report info on its existence

117 only other add. of the discussion is a 8/19/64 memo from DCI (McGuire) to Beards, reporting results of FBI interview of alleged participants

118 The Davis Klason Story

119 The Possible Complications of the Gambling Syndicate Operation

O'Connell wrote report submitted directly to DDP/IL/MS

120 Maken did brief his atty, Edward P. Morgan on Maken's participation in Phase I

2) Maken didn't know of Phase II - never heard of it from Roselli

3) Maken ~~is~~ suspect Roselli + Morgan - Law & partnership

4) Maken is a partner in the gambling syndicate - Maken is a partner in the gambling syndicate - Maken is a partner in the gambling syndicate

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122
123
124
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126

"In learning of the Roselli-Morgan link, we are relieved of the need for speculation as to how the story had gotten out. It is quite likely that Roselli is the source, Morgan the channel, and Anderson and Pearson the recipients,"
reason for leaking?

"Roselli is drinking too much and talking and that Morgan is also drinking and talking to a newspaperman friend."

127 The Philippine National Bureau Investigator Puerto Rican in custody who claim he participated in Castro-inspired assass. plot in Dallas. He also claim Castro made 7/62 speech threatening to assass. Kennedy in retaliation for 2 Kennedy attempts on Castro's life
"We have found no record nor recollection of Castro having made such a speech"

128 The Puerto Rican is probably going to be deported to U.S. -
"We may expect the FBI to take him away in a few days. We
understand that the FBI is going to take him to the U.S. and that he will be deported to the U.S."