124-10200-10184

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JFK Assassination System Identification Form

Date:

5/26/201

Agency Information

AGENCY:

FBI

RECORD NUMBER:

124-10200-10184

RECORD SERIES:

HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER:

CR 109-480-1718

Document Information

ORIGINATOR:

CIA

FROM:

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANS

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE:

DATE:

02/25/1959

PAGES:

SUBJECTS:

AHH, ASSOC, PAYMENTS, NCK

DOCUMENT TYPE:

PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT

CLASSIFICATION:

Secret

RESTRICTIONS:

1B Redact

CURRENT STATUS:

DATE OF LAST REVIEW:

06/29/1998

OPENING CRITERIA:

APPROVAL OF CIA

COMMENTS:

INC S/S

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED FROM
FEB 27 1959
CIA - SJP

25 FEB 1959

TO:

Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attention: Mr. S. J. Papich

FROM: Deputy Director, Plans (MV

SUBJECT: U.S. Banking Transactions by Marcelino GARCIA Beltran,

friend of former President Batista of Cuba

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CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO

BRACKETS JM 1-26-98

> MKH 2-6-4 SLD/KSR

6-9-98

The following information was furnished by another office of this Agency. The source of the information is Mr. Alfred W. BARTH of the Chase Manhattan Bank, New York City.

a. On 5 and 9 December 1958 Marcelino GARCIA Beltran, representative of the Mabay Sugar Central, and a close friend of Fulgencio BATISTA Zaldivar, former President of Cuba, cashed four checks totaling more than \$125,000 (United States dollars).

b. The two checks presented by GARCIA Beltran on 5 December were drawn to the order of Alberto FERNANDEZ Hechevarria, and endorsed by him to GARCIA Beltran. The frafter was the Francisco Sugar Company, New York, which guaranteed the signatures. Payment, which was requested and made in US \$100 bills, totaled between \$53,000 and \$55,000 in U.S. currency.

On 8 December GARCIA Beltran presented two more checks, totaling \$75,000 (United States currency). These checks were drawn by International Weighers, Inc., 110 Wall Street, New York. Inasmuch as credits to this account had not cleared, GARCIA was told to return to the bank for the money on the afternoon of 9 December. The latter returned to the bank at the stated time and was paid \$75,000 in \$100 bills. Markelino GARCIA was the payee on one of these checks.

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