

JFK Assassination System
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~~SECRET~~

Mr. T. W. Leavitt

S. S. Mignosa

ILONA MARITA LORENZ, AKA
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

- 1 - Mr. R. J. Gallagher
- 1 - Mr. D. W. Moore
- 1 - Mr. F. C. Fehl

6/16/76

- 1 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. T. W. Leavitt
- 1 - Mr. J. W. Redfield
- 1 - Mr. S. S. Mignosa
- 1 - Mr. R. D. Hampton

Handwritten notes:
 C. J. ...
 ...
 TO JFR

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you of information in FBI files concerning the subject, who according to recent newspaper articles (copies attached), publicly admitted to being involved in a CIA plot in 1960 to assassinate Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. The newspaper articles indicated that she was interviewed during that period by the FBI.

SYNOPSIS:

The subject, according to recent newspaper accounts, was alleged to have been involved in a 1960 CIA plot to assassinate Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. According to the newspaper accounts she was in contact with Alex Rorke allegedly a CIA and FBI employee and a Frank Fiorini allegedly a CIA employee. During contact with the New York Office in 1959 and 1960, the subject admitted being the lover of Castro and having an abortion as a result. She never advised the FBI of alleged involvement in the above plot nor was she ever directed to perform any tasks on behalf of the FBI.

(U) The subject's husband is a New York informative asset in the Soviet bloc field. The subject, who is separated from her husband, was briefly under development as a criminal informant from April to June 14, 1976; the case is closed.

Enclosures - 3

RDH:jmr
(9)

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Memorandum to Mr. T. W. Leavitt
Re: Ilona Marita Lorenz

The attached newspaper stories alleged that "Alex Rorke, a wealthy adventurer who worked for both CIA and the FBI" was involved with Frank Fiorini, a "CIA Agent," who recruited the subject in an assassination plot against Castro. Alexander I. Rorke is a former FBI clerical employee who, during the time of the alleged plot in 1960, was a free lance photographer. He had been temporarily detained by the Cuban Government in 1959 and for many years was active in anti-Castro activities in the Florida area. From time to time he contacted the FBI and was dealt with at arms length because of his adventurer, personality and self-serving motives. He disappeared on a plane flight in 1963 to Central America. Frank Fiorini also known as Frank Anthony Sturgis was well known to the FBI for his anti-Castro activities in the U. S. following his defection from Cuba in 1958. He was also one of the Watergate break-in subjects.

Additional information in FBI files indicates that the subject also furnished information concerning the July 26th Movement in the U. S. This group was the original political and military organization which Castro used to overthrow the Batista Regime in Cuba. The subject was also interviewed in 1962 in Florida regarding a White Slavery Traffic Act (WSTA) case and admitted being the mistress of Marcos Perez Jimenez, former President of Venezuela, who fathered her daughter. Investigation failed to establish the subject was a victim in the above mentioned WSTA case. The subject is the present wife of NY 7511-1A who furnishes information on Soviet and Soviet-bloc matters. She is aware of her husband's cooperation with the New York Office and has, on occasion, volunteered information of value. The subject is presently separated from her husband and in April, 1976, the New York Office opened a potential criminal informant file on her because of her contacts with a New York area crime figure, Guiseppe Faggiano, and a race horse trainer. She furnished information regarding gambling, shylocking and bank robbery matters. However, because of the recent publicity set out in the attached newspaper clippings, the fact that she is planning to write a book concerning her Cuban experiences and the fact that she terminated her contact with criminal elements, her case was closed by the New York Office. ~~(U)~~

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Denver, Colorado
January 28, 1976

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AS SANITIZED

CLASSIFIED BY: 568 SW/gcd
DECLASSIFY ON: X (C)
(FK) 3/8/99

RICHARD N. ELY

On January 16, 1976, the captioned individual telephonically contacted the Denver Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and spoke with Assistant Special Agent in Charge Simon Tullai. He referred to a letter dated January 13, 1976, from the Director of the FBI, Clarence M. Kelley, which he received concerning Mr. Ely's Privacy Act request. Mr. Ely appreciated the response of the FBI, but felt he was now under surveillance by either the FBI or the CIA. He requested a personal interview.

On January 22, 1976, Richard N. Ely was interviewed in the Denver Office of the FBI by Special Agent Dale A. Berndt. Mr. Ely advised he is investment advisor to D. H. Baldwin Company, Colorado National Bank Building, Denver, Colorado (Lucian Wilson, President). Mr. Ely lives in Lakewood, Colorado, and maintains an office at Brooks Towers, Suite 37-K, Denver, Colorado. He stated he is married and lives with his wife.

Mr. Ely wished to explain his concern over being surveilled and felt it was the work of the CIA. When asked what would prompt such surveillance, he stated that previously he had been self-employed in an auto safety device firm. Having had difficulties with patent infringements on his devices in Europe, he had occasion to travel to Sweden and Switzerland. During 1961, Ely was in Sweden and as he was having marital difficulties with his first wife, entered into an affair with a Swedish citizen, Helena Johnson. Miss Johnson was an agent for various art firms. At one point in their affair, Johnson urged Ely to purchase a moose hunting license and a Swedish war surplus rifle fitted with a Zeiss scope so that he could bag a moose and sell it for about \$700. Sensing something was amiss, Ely returned the rifle to Johnson and discontinued their liaison. While going with Miss Johnson he learned she was a member of the Baltic League, a violently anti-Russian organization. After their split, he learned she was also a member of the Swedish intelligence services. He, therefore, suspected he was being set up as a "patsy" for an

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~~SECRET~~

RICHARD N. ELY

assassination attempt which would have taken place in Sweden when Premier Khrushchev came there to speak to the Swedish Reichstag, subsequent to the death of United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold.

Additionally, Ely claimed to know the identity of a man described in a recent book relating to the assassination of President Kennedy, who was supposed to be a hired killer for the CIA named "Saul." When Ely's Privacy Act requests of the CIA failed to produce information to him, he sent a letter to the CIA, United States Department of State, Department of State Consular Service, and the Church Committee which indicated he would tell all he knew of the CIA unless they revealed to him all they have on record concerning him. This letter seemed to result in the surveillances he suspects are directed at him, and as a result he has consulted various lawyers, police officials, and his employers for aid in determining what will stop the suspected surveillances. He indicated his office has been broken into and his mail has been tampered with.

Mr. Ely requested the Denver Division of the FBI get in contact with the local office of the CIA to notify them that he is willing to say nothing about the CIA to anyone if they will cease their interests in him. He mentioned he had received a personal letter from Senator Church of the Church Committee assuring him his case would be heard subsequent to the Committee's termination on February 21, 1976. Mr. Ely advised he would furnish nothing to the Church Committee now unless obliged to by it.

During the interview, Mr. Ely appeared calm, articulate, educated, and sober. He indicated his IQ was in excess of 160 and he had graduated from three different colleges. He was well dressed and business-like.

On January 23, 1976, Special Agent in Charge James Sommerville, CIA, Denver, Colorado, advised his office has no record identifiable with Mr. Ely. (S)(U)

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