

DATE: 11-14-2017

**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM**

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY: FBI  
RECORD\_NUMBER: 124-90068-10030  
RECORD\_SERIES: HO  
AGENCY\_FILE\_NUMBER: 62-75147-210-96

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR: FBI  
FROM: HAV  
TO: HO  
TITLE:

DATE: 11/12/1957

PAGES: 2

SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN CUBA

DOCUMENT\_TYPE: PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT

ORIGINAL  
CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified

NEW  
CLASSIFICATION:

REVIEW\_DATE: 06/24/1998

UPDATE\_DATE:

STATUS Redact

RESTRICTIONS:

**JFK Act 6 (4)**

COMMENTS: MEMO

DATE: 11-14-2017

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 12, 1957

Class. & Ext. By ~~S.P.-16SK/MLL~~

FROM : Legat, Havana (64-153)

Reason - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2, 3

Date of Review 11/17/87

SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN CUBA  
GIIF

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Reference Havana letter October 2, 1957.

On October 11, 1957, HAV-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised he had ascertained that individuals associated with GEORGE LEVINE in the operation of the gambling casino in the Jockey Club at the Oriental Park Race Track near Havana were BENNY KRAKOWER, MIKE LORIA and one JOE COSTELLO. Both KRAKOWER and LORIA are known to the Havana office as having had previous affiliations with gambling operations in Havana; however, Havana files contain no identifiable information concerning COSTELLO. HAV-4 indicated he had received information from one source that LEVINE and the afore-mentioned individuals were not paying any rent on the Jockey Club since at the beginning of the racing season they had lent LOWELL BIRRELL, who has the concession for the Oriental Park Race Track, fifty thousand dollars and that in lieu of paying interest on this money he had given them the privilege of operating the casino at the Jockey Club. While the possibility exists that this is true, it should be noted that none of these individuals is known to have any substantial amount of money in his own right. Therefore, the possibility exists that this money may have been furnished by MEYER LANSKY, who already possesses substantial gambling interests in Havana.

FBI - Cuba

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On October 16, 1957, Lieutenant Heriberto Hernandez, of the Cuban National Police who works as head of the private police force at the Hotel Nacional, advised that he had apprehended an individual attempting to take a basket of towels out of the hotel. Hernandez stated that this individual claimed he would be in charge of the gambling casino at the Hotel Capri when the hotel is reopened. Lieutenant Hernandez identified this individual as MILTON SEID, FBI #573946, a former Pittsburgh gunman. JAKE LANSKY, who oversees the gambling operations at the casino at the Hotel Nacional, advised on November 5, 1957, that he had seen SEID in Havana and that SEID claimed to have worked for him (LANSKY) in the 1930's. LANSKY said as far as he could remember, SEID was never in his employ.

cuba

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#211,326  
DECLASSIFIED BY: [redacted]  
DATE: 11/15/85

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DJB:MEG  
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HCA re 11/27/57  
(See Bufile #62-117299)

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