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COMMISSION ON CIA ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

Washington, DC 20500

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May 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE FILE
FROM: MARVIN L. GRAY, JR. *mg*
SUBJECT: Interview with Colonel J. C. King

On Wednesday, April 30, 1975 I interviewed Colonel J. C. King at the Commission offices at 712 Jackson Place. Colonel King served as Chief of the Western Hemisphere Division during the 1960-61 period with which I was concerned. He is now retired and living in the Washington suburbs. He stated that his neighbors do not know of his background with the Central Intelligence Agency and that he prefers to maintain his cover. We agreed not to refer to him by name.

Colonel King's recollection of the events surrounding the death of Generalismo Trujillo was very vague. King recalled having met with Trujillo and with his Chief of Intelligence, Johnny Abbes, with the approval of the American Ambassador in order to establish liaison with that service. He described this meeting as very friendly.

Colonel King stated he remembered some talk on the subject of weapons, but he never saw any weapons and does not recall any weapons being sent to the Dominican Republic. He commented in response to my statement of facts that three pistols did not represent very much and stated he did recall CIA objectives to know what the internal opposition was doing.

Colonel King had no recollection of the meeting at which Assistant Secretary Rubottom allegedly authorized the provision of sniper rifles. He stated, however, that he had the closest relationship with Mr. Rubottom and met him almost daily. Colonel King recalled no flap with the State Department about the provision of weapons following Generalismo Trujillo's death.

After the discussion concerning events in the Dominican Republic I left the interview room and Mr. Belin discussed with Colonel King some of the events surrounding the alleged attempts on the life of Fidel Castro. As I was not present for this portion of the interview, I have not described what was said at that time.

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