

Memorandum

TO: Jeremy Gunn
FROM: Eric Scheinkopf
RE: Justice Department memos relevant to anti-Castro activities-Box 28, Folder 2
FILE: Church Committee report 4.0.1.4

There were two staff memos that focused on Justice Department documents relevant to an awareness of assassination plots. These documents are not attached and were not in the file at NARA. Among the documents of interest cited in the memo is one from Hoover to Bissell on 10/18/60 which shows that Hoover had reason to believe that Giancana and others in the underworld were telling other individuals that they were involved in efforts to kill Castro. Another memo that may be of interest is one from Hoover to RFK on 5/22/61 that according to the Senate staffers who write about it say it "clearly sheds light on RFK's awareness of the use of underworld figures by the CIA 'relative to anti-Castro activities.'" The Senate committee staffers appear very interested in the memo because they say it is evidence that RFK knew about the CIA's use of the Mafia almost one year before the IG report and other evidence previously indicated. The Hoover memo was followed by a handwritten note from RFK to Courtney Evans saying he wants what the staffers call "a vigorous follow-up." The staffers wrote this memo on 8/12/75.

Another memo cited by committee staffers is one from Osborn to then DDCI Helms on 6/24/66 that they say supports the contention that Dulles was "briefed about the liquidation of Castro." A later memo from committee staff, 9/2/75, on the same topic adds more details of other files it is recommended be examined including one from the Justice Department's Internal Security Division. The memo noted that ISD had a file on anti-Castro activities that predated the 10/18/60 memo.

FILE NAME (castrojd.wpd)