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Box 28  
Folder 28

CIA files relating to Ruby's Cuban activities

I. Jack Ruby's CIA file

Jack Ruby's CIA file contains a memorandum dated January 7, 1964 to the CIA from Hoover. This memorandum states that Carlos Villa furnished the FBI with a letter which had been forwarded to a friend of his, Jose Antonio Juan. Mr. Juan allegedly received the letter from his son in Cuba. The letter states

it is known here that Rubenstein was here a little less than a year ago visiting a Mr. Pranski, owner of shop dealing in Tourist articles on Prado Street between Animas and Trocadero opposite the Seville Biltmore.

(Memo, 1/7/64, To CIA from Hoover.) This memorandum also states that the FBI has developed no information that Ruby visited Cuba except for one occasion in 1959. (Ibid.)

A memorandum for James Angleton from John Sherwood, dated January 9, 1964, contained a translation of another memorandum which was sent to Carlos Marquez Sterling. (FOIA Doc. # 1213-1128). It states

The Brigadier of Giron, Sr. Evidio Pereira, who is in constant communication with Cuba, informs the General Delegate of the Movimiento Patriotico Cuba Libre, ... news of great importance.

1. Notify the Pentagon of this fact: Ruby, the assassin of Oswald was in Havana a year ago. He is a friend and

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customer of a citizen named Praskin, owner or manager of a novelty shop for tourists located between Animas y Trocadero, Paseo del Prado, in front of the Hotel Sevilla.

This information received in Miami, as noted at the beginning of this memorandum, were received by Brigadier of Brigade 2506, Evidio Pereira, who is ready to verify them. New York, 29 December 1963.

(Ibid.)

A CIA cable from Miami, dated January 30, 1964, (WAVE 1283) reports that an article had appeared in the Miami News on January 29 entitled "Ruby visited Cuba- Exiles Say." This article stated Ruby flew from Mexico City to Havana in the latter part of December 1962. This cable also states that the DRE originally reported this allegation to the Miami station on January 17, and the CIA had requested the DRE to provide originals of the bulletin and letters containing these allegations. (Ibid.)

A dispatch from Miami, dated February 13, 1964, states that the letter, containing the allegations regarding Ruby, was sent airmail from Cuba and postmarked December 28, 1963. It was sent to a fictitious name, SRA. Juana Barreiros and received at DRE Post Office Box 168 in Miami. It was also reported by the DRE that the sender's name on the envelope,

Alicia Cardoso, is false. The letter was received on January 13, 1964. This dispatch indicates Carlos-Valdes was interviewed on February 4, 1964 who indicated the letter was from his sister-in-law, Graziella Rubio y Rivera. He also stated the story about Ruby was hearsay on the part of his sister-in-law. (Ibid.)

The CIA has provided no information to indicate that the Agency conducted any further investigation of this issue.

II. John Wilson Hudson File

A review of Hudson's CIA DDO file indicates that in a report from [redacted] dated August 8, 1957 or 1951 a source was of the opinion that "Wilson was very probably an intelligence agent and that he is under direction of some service."

(Report from [redacted] August 8, 1951, or 1957) On October 6, 1959, a memorandum for the record reported that Hudson was arrested with Paul Hugues in Cuba and that

Wilson may be summarized as a person of intelligence, but so erratic as to be considered mentally unbalanced at time. He is a soldier of fortune, having begun his career in July 1936 when he left Oxford to fight in Spain. He has been accused of working for the intelligence services of several countries, and he himself has claimed to have acted on behalf of different intelligence services. He has been consistently anti-United States.

(Memo for the record 6 Oct. 1959, subj: "Carl John Wilson Hudson.")

A 201 file request was submitted from [redacted] on October 29, 1959. (201 File Request, from [WH/I/Chile,] 10/29/59) Handwritten at the bottem of this request is the statement "In contact with suspected Soviet Agents." (Ibid.)

The next file reference is in a cable dated December 19, 1959 from Havana to the Director of the CIA which states that in Ref B (HAVA 2296) Havana station reported that

[redacted] (unidentified) is in contact with John Carl Wilson. (Cable, 19 Dec 1959, To Dir from Havana, HAVA 3072)

After the assassination, a classified message dated November 28, 1963, to the White House, the State Department, and the FBI from the CIA reported the Hudson allegation regarding Ruby and stated, "His story is being followed up." (Classified Message, FOIA Doc. # 206-83, 11/28/63, CIA no. 85657) On November 29, 1963, the [redacted] reported

Altho [redacted] tracing John Wilson aka Wilson Hudson with [redacted] believe on first returns from FBI check he likely be psychopath. [redacted] gathers he gave this impression when testifying before Eastland Committee in 59. We are therefore not pursuing further except thru [redacted] for any info they have on him.

(Cable to Dir from [redacted] 29 November 1963, FOIA Doc. # 233-94, [redacted] 6115).

On December 12, 1963 the Deputy Director of Plans sent a memorandum to the FBI detailing Hudson's background. (Memo to Director of FBI from DDP, 12 December 1963, FOIA Doc. 385-736). This memorandum reported the arrest of Hudson in Cuba. It also stated that

On August 1959 Wilson walked into the U.S. Consulate, Kingston, Jamaica, and said he was a journalist who had just been released after 54 days detention in Habana prison... On 21 August 1959 the U.S. Consulate in Kingston issued a single entry non-immigrant visa. He was carrying passport 147356 issued in Habana 14 August in the name of John Wilson. He was attempting to get air passage to Miami in order to sell his

his story to the Miami Herald and then to obtain a new visa from Chilean consulate to return home. (UK or Chile not specified but apparently he returned to UK).

(Ibid. at 8).

The last entry in the file was a memorandum of a conversation between Wilson and the First Secretary of the American Embassy in London, dated April 7, 1964. (Memo of Conversation between Wilson and Richard A. Ericson, Jr., 4/7/64, London, Subj: "Interest of Carl J. Wilson Hudson in Political Intelligence") Wilson indicated he had come to England early in the fall on business, but was planning to return to Chile. (Ibid.) The comment made at the end of this report states

This is the second time Wilson has approached me to show an interest in intelligence matters. The first time was shortly after President Kennedy was assassinated, when he said that he had been imprisoned in Havana by Castro in 1959. He alleged that while he was in prison, meals for a fellow-prisoner, a former gambling czar in Havana with early associations with the Capone gang, had been brought to the prison by a man who identified himself as "Ruby" and who bore a physical resemblance to the man being tried for Oswald's murder.

(Ibid.)

The Committee has been provided with no evidence to indicate any further investigation was conducted by the CIA with regard to Wilson Hudson.