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**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM**

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RECORD_SERIES: HQ
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Consultation

COMMENTS: TRANSLATION; TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH, REFERRED TO INTERPOL

DEC 13 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

The following is a translation of a letter and two newspaper clippings contained in an envelope addressed to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., from the Central National Bureau of Cuba of the International Commission of Criminal Police, San Lazaro 672, Havana, Cuba, postmarked at Havana (date on postmark illegible).

DECLASSIFIED BY 5608-5LD/KSR
ON 4-18-97 JFK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

International Commission
of Criminal Police

International Commission
of Criminal Police

Central National Bureau
(Cuba)

Secretariat General

San Lazaro 672 - Telephone U-1155
Cable: INTERPOL, Havana

60, Boulevard Gouvion-St-
Cyr, Paris (17)
Telephone GALVANI 96-60

(U) (S) [Havana, Cuba, December 4, 1955]

Your Reference _____
Our Reference: 241 E
Subject: Information regarding JOSEPH G. LEASE

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Class. & Ext. By SP1/GSK/JHE
Reason - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2-1.3
Date of Review 12/13/85
3/17/82

[Dear Mr. Director and Friend:]

In our directive capacity in the Central National Bureau of the "INTERPOL," and in keeping with our duty to maintain our vigilance for anything which may represent a problem for our fatherland, we have the honor of addressing these lines to you, hoping that you may furnish us with certain information and, in the event that this letter has been misdirected, that is, that the material herein is pertinent to another department, we hope that you will be kind enough to route this letter accordingly, confidentially, and that our request will not remain unattended.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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DEC 12 1955

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

We are attaching herewith a release published in the press today, as well as a photograph of JOSEPH G. LEASE, captioned above, who claims to be a big business magnate in the United States, a breeder of purebreds, promoter of track enterprises, etc., possessing large capital. This individual has come to promote the racing season at our hippodrome, but there is a series of details which causes us to be suspicious of his activities. (S)(U)

Our hippodrome in the last twenty years has maintained an average of plays which does not go above 45 thousand pesos per race day (races are held three days a week), which amounts to a weekly total of 135 thousand. This individual has presented a program of prizes and salaries which would require the raising of 300 thousand pesos in plays per week in order to just barely cover the expenses of the business. Only by means of clandestine gambling, plus a Sweepstake in April, could it cover the costs of this business and for this it would be necessary to have placed a large number of such tickets. Since nobody is "fighting against his money," it would seem strange to us that this business would not represent a great daily loss, for which reason we request from you, or from whomever it is pertinent, the exact information regarding this individual, that is, whether he actually is a promoter, breeder, capitalist, etc. (S)(U)

There is one more detail. Last night, as you will see in a note, he was mysteriously assaulted, "allegedly in his hotel by unknown individuals." As you well know a luxurious hotel, such as the "Hotel Nacional" of Cuba, does not permit anyone to go upstairs to private rooms without authorization from the guests, for which reason we believe that this may involve problems of a "gang" in operation and that this individual forms part thereof. The reason for this request is that the season begins the coming 10th of this month. (S)(U)

[We remain, sincerely yours] (S)(U)

[S/ Dr. JORGE A. DE CASTROVERDE
Director of the Central National
Bureau
INTERPOL] (S)(U)

* * *

- 2 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Clipping from an unidentified newspaper:] (S)(U)

[PRESIDENT OF THE HIPPODROME IS SERIOUSLY INJURED] (S)(U)

Mr. JOSEPH G. LEASE, North American, of 47 years of age, President of the Cuban Racing Company (Marianao Hippodrome), resident of the "Hotel Nacional," who was found unconscious in Room 302, which he occupied in said hotel, was treated for serious injuries at a clinic in Vedado. (S)(U)

Mr. LEASE's secretary, whose name was not given, informed the police of the Eighth Precinct that she participated in the case, reporting that she occupied a room adjacent to that of her superior, from which she heard a strange noise, and upon entering the apartment she found Mr. LEASE injured, and thought that he might have fallen. (S)(U)

There also exists another version, which the police is endeavoring to substantiate, that LEASE was assaulted by two unknown individuals who broke in unexpectedly into his room. (S)(U)

The injured party could not furnish any statement because of the serious condition in which he was. (S)(U)

* * *

[Caption appearing below a photograph cut out of an unidentified publication:] (S)(U)

Mr. J. G. LEASE, new President of the Cuban Racing Company, who has initiated a crusade for the artistic prestige and the international credit of Cuban horse racing. He found the hippodrome almost in ruins and the turf's family threatened by the disappearance of the track. (Read "Oriental Park") (S)(U)

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TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

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Cable: INTERPOL, Havana

60, Boulevard Gouvion-St-
Cyr, Paris (17)
Telephone GALVANI 96-60

Havana, Cuba, December 4, 1955

Your Reference: _____
Our Reference: 241 E
Subject: Information regarding JOSEPH G. LEASE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Class. & Ext. By SR/6SK/031F
Reason - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 1-13/85
2/17/85

Dear Mr. Director and Friend:

In our directive capacity in the Central National Bureau of the "INTERPOL," and in keeping with our duty to maintain our vigilance for anything which may represent a problem for our fatherland, we have the honor of addressing these lines to you, hoping that you may furnish us with certain information and, in the event that this letter has been misdirected, that is, that the material herein is pertinent to another department, we hope that you will be kind enough to route this letter accordingly, confidentially, and that our request will not remain unattended.

DECLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSR
ON 1-18-97 (JFK)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

We are attaching herewith a release published in the press today, as well as a photograph of JOSEPH G. LEASE, captioned above, who claims to be a big business magnate in the United States, a breeder of purebreds, promoter of track enterprises, etc., possessing large capital. This individual has come to promote the racing season at our hippodrome, but there is a series of details which causes us to be suspicious of his activities. (X)(u)

Our hippodrome in the last twenty years has maintained an average of plays which does not go above 45 thousand pesos per race day (races are held three days a week), which amounts to a weekly total of 135 thousand. This individual has presented a program of prizes and salaries which would require the raising of 300 thousand pesos in plays per week in order to just barely cover the expenses of the business. Only by means of clandestine gambling, plus a Sweepstake in April, could it cover the costs of this business and for this it would be necessary to have placed a large number of such tickets. Since nobody is "fighting against his money," it would seem strange to us that this business would not represent a great daily loss, for which reason we request from you, or from whomsoever it is pertinent, the exact information regarding this individual, that is, whether he actually is a promoter, breeder, capitalist, etc. (X)(u)

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(u)(X) [We remain, sincerely yours]

(u)(X) [S/ Dr. JORGE A. DE CASTROVERDE
Director of the Central National
Bureau
INTERPOL]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Clipping from an unidentified newspaper:] (S) (u)

[PRESIDENT OF THE HIPPODROME IS SERIOUSLY INJURED] (S) (u)

Mr. JOSEPH G. LEASE, North American, of 47 years of age, President of the Cuban Racing Company (Marianao Hippodrome), resident of the "Hotel Nacional," who was found unconscious in Room 302, which he occupied in said hotel, was treated for serious injuries at a clinic in Vedado. (S) (u)

Mr. LEASE's secretary, whose name was not given, informed the police of the Eighth Precinct that she participated in the case, reporting that she occupied a room adjacent to that of her superior, from which she heard a strange noise, and upon entering the apartment she found Mr. LEASE injured, and thought that he might have fallen. (S) (u)

There also exists another version, which the police is endeavoring to substantiate, that LEASE was assaulted by two unknown individuals who broke in unexpectedly into his room. (S) (u)

The injured party could not furnish any statement because of the serious condition in which he was. (S) (u)

* * *

[Caption appearing below is a photograph cut out of an unidentified publication:] (S) (u)

Mr. J. G. LEASE, new President of the Cuban Racing Company, who has initiated a crusade for the artistic prestige and the international credit of Cuban horse racing. He found the hippodrome almost in ruins and the turf's family threatened by the disappearance of the track. (Read "Oriental Park") (S) (u)

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60000-10000

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ON 1-18-97 (JFK)

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Havana, Cuba, December 4, 1955

Your Reference _____
Our Reference: 241 E
Subject: Information regarding JOSEPH G. LEASE

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Class. & Ext. by SA/BSK/JHT
Reason - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 12/1/85
3/17/82

Dear Mr. Director and Friend:

In our directive capacity in the Central National Bureau of the "INTERPOL," and in keeping with our duty to maintain our vigilance for anything which may represent a problem for our fatherland, we have the honor of addressing these lines to you, hoping that you may furnish us with certain information and, in the event that this letter has been misdirected, that is, that the material herein is pertinent to another department, we hope that you will be kind enough to route this letter accordingly, confidentially, and that our request will not remain unattended.

TRANSLATED BY:
PATRICK J. PHELAN:hjp
December 9, 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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We are attaching herewith a release published in the press today, as well as a photograph of JOSEPH G. LEASE, captioned above, who claims to be a big business magnate in the United States, a breeder of purebreds, promoter of track enterprises, etc., possessing large capital. This individual has come to promote the racing season at our hippodrome, but there is a series of details which causes us to be suspicious of his activities. (S) (u)

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(u) (S)

S/ Dr. JORGE A. DE CASTROVERDE
Director of the Central National
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