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DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY:

FBI

RECORD NUMBER:

124-10220-10008

RECORD SERIES: HO

AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 2-2173-202

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR: FBI

FROM:

DEEGAN, J. G.

TO:

GALLAGHER, R. J.

TITLE:

DATE:

11/05/1976

PAGES:

5

SUBJECT:

DOCUMENT TYPE:

PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT

ORIGINAL

CLASSIFICATION:

Secret

NEW

CLASSIFICATION:

REVIEW DATE:

05/14/1998

UPDATE DATE:

STATUS

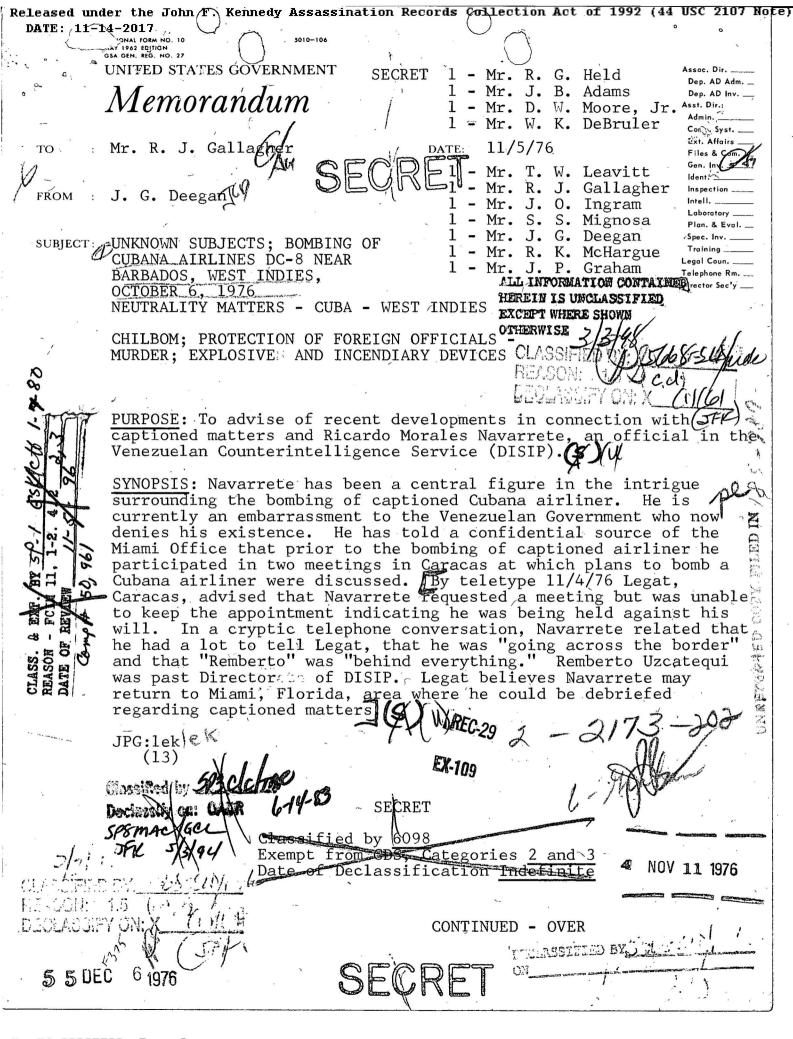
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RESTRICTIONS:

JFK Act 6 (1)(C)

JFK Act 6 (4)

COMMENTS:



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Memorandum to Mr. R. J. Gallagher Re: Unknown Subjects; Bombing of Cubana Airlines DC-8 Near Barbados, West Indies, October 6, 1976

CHILBOM



DETAILS: Navarrete has been a central figure in the intrigue surrounding the bombing of captioned Cubana airliner. He is a former Miami informant who has been an unpaid confidential source of Legat, Caracas. As an official of DISIP, Navarrete was responsible for the care and debriefing of Orlando Bosch Avila, an anti-Castro terrorist who had sought refuge in Venezuela and is now being held in connection with the Cubana bombing. Navarrete has provided information obtained from Bosch to Legat, Caracas, including the allegation that Guillermo and Ignacio Novo were responsible for the murder of Orlando Letelier, former Chilean official in Washington, D. C., on 9/21/76.

As evidence mounted that the Cubana bomb plot was hatched in Venezuela and that a number of present and former Venezuelan officials were implicated, Navarrete went on the offensive and attempted to discredit CIA, FBI and the American Government through telephone calls to Miami news media. Recently, Raul Diaz, a Dade County, Florida, organized crime officer traveled to Caracas to persuade Navarrete to testify in the Florida trial of anti-Castro bomb figure Rolando Otero. Diaz confidentially advised our Miami Office that he was told by Navarrete that Navarrete participated in two meetings in Caracas at which plans to bomb a Cubana airliner were discussed. Navarrete also related that if Luis Posada, one of the persons arrested in connection with the bomb plot, were to talk then he (Navarrete) and others would go "down the tube" in a Venezuelan styled Watergate. Navarrete became an embarrassment to the Venezuelan Government after forcing three American journalists to leave Venezuela on 10/21/76. Venezuela now denies the existence of Navarrete and Navarrete is reported to have called his Miami, Florida, girlfriend and told her not to call as "he does not exist."(\$) u)

By teletype 11/4/76, Legat, Caracas, advised that . Navarrete desired to meet with Legat on 11/4/76, but was unable to keep the appointment indicating that he was being held against his will. In a cryptic telephone conversation Navarrete indicated

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that he had a lot to tell Legat but could not talk over the phone and that he was "going across the border." Navarrete volunteered that one person was "behind everything" and gave the name "Remberto." (\mathcal{M})

Remberto Uzcatequi was the Director of DISIP during period that Posada was a member of that organization. Legat did not know what cryptic comments of Navarrete meant but no elaboration was offered by Navarrete and conversation was terminated.

Legat believed Navarrete is being kept in seclusion, and that he may be forced to leave Venezuela possibly going to Miami, Florida. (*)

Legat speculated that if Navarrete returns to the United States he may be able to shed light on Cubana bombing and Letelier's assassination.

In another development Raul Diaz, supra, received a telephone call from Navarrete late on 11/3/76. In this call Navarrete alleged "that the CORU meeting in the Dominican Republic was sponsored by the CIA." CORU is an anti-Castro terrorist group which has taken credit for numerous terrorist acts throughout the Caribbean since June, 1976. CORU was formed as an umbrella organization at a June, 1976, meeting in the Dominican Republic attended by five anti-Castro terrorist groups. It is believed that Navarrete was referring to this meeting.

In this telephone call Navarrete also told Diaz that if George Gomez, Alfredo Chumaceiro and Armand Santana were out of jail at the time of the Letelier bombing them they were responsible for it. If these men were in jail, according to Navarrete, then two of their associates perpetrated the Letelier bombing.

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Gomez, Chumaceiro and Santana were arrested by New York City police on 7/24/76 while they were attempting to place a pipe bomb at the Academy of Music, New York City. Navarrete also alleged that Mercedes Rosello, a controversial Cuban who associates with persons involved in anti-Castro activities transported some "items" for the Cubana airlines bombing from Miami to Venezuela. Rosello resides in Miami

Diaz advised he does not knownwhether Navarrete is furnishing reliable information or whether he is furnishing this information as part of the plan by him or the Venezuelan Government to place the blame on the U. S. Government for acts of terrorism conducted by anti-Castro organizations.

OBSERVATION: Navarrete's attempts to discredit the CIA, FBI and U. S. Government never gathered steam. He is currently on the "outs" with the Venezuelan Government who may be contemplating his elimination through deportation or otherwise. Navarrete, in furnishing this recent information, may be attempting to ingratiate himself with U. S. law enforcement who may be asked to provide a haven for him should he reach our shores.

Dissemination has been made of above information to the Department of Justice, Department of State, Central Intelligence Agency and U. S. Secret Service.

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