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**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM**

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY: FBI  
RECORD NUMBER: 124-10285-10183  
RECORD SERIES: HO  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER: CR 65-69402-24

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR: FBI  
FROM: SAC. MM  
TO: DIRECTOR. FBI  
TITLE:

DATE: 06/23/1965

PAGES: 7

SUBJECT: LB, EMP, ACA, REL, BKG, DESCR, RES, BOMB, ESPIONAGE ACT, EVID, LTR, FPT, TYW, SUSP, BENAVIDES, ELIO GONZALEZ

DOCUMENT TYPE: PAPER. TEXTUAL DOCUMENT

ORIGINAL  
CLASSIFICATION: Secret

NEW  
CLASSIFICATION:

REVIEW DATE: 07/02/1998

UPDATE DATE:

STATUS: Redact

RESTRICTIONS:

**JFK Act 6 (1)(B)**

**JFK Act 6 (1)(C)**

**JFK Act 6 (4)**

COMMENTS: INC LAB WORK SHEET

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

**SECRET**

*[Handwritten signature]*

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (65-69402) DATE: 6/23/65

(Attention: FBI Laboratory)

FROM : SAC, MIAMI (65-3066) (P)

SUBJECT: **CHANGED UNKNOWN SUBJECT, aka Armando Blanco, (FNU) Benavides; ET AL ESPIONAGE - CUBA (OO: New York)**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~5668 SLD/GOE~~  
~~34488 - JFK~~

CLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSR  
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1, 6

11-15-84  
Classified by SP8 mac/mde  
Declassify on: OADR (JFK) 482664 (JFK)

Title is changed to add the aka (FNU) Benavides, which aka was determined as a result of investigation.

ReBulet to New York 6/4/65.

Enclosed for the Laboratory is airmail envelope (name and address of sender and receiver torn from envelope) and two mimeographed pages beginning, "New York, 1965, Estimado amigo :" and ending, "Un compatriota.", which letter was enclosed in mentioned envelope.

### REQUEST OF LABORATORY

The Laboratory is requested to process enclosures for latent fingerprints. It is also requested that the typewriting appearing on the mimeographed letter, as well as the typewriting set out near the bottom of the first page of the letter, be compared with other available specimens from any espionage or double agent sources. In this regard, the mimeographed letter appears to be identical with letters previously submitted to the Bureau (Attention: FBI Laboratory), including a letter furnished to the Bureau on April 16, 1965, in the case entitled, "MARIO BLANCO, ESPIONAGE, CUBA," except for the accommodation address in Cuba.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc-2) (RM)
- 2 - New York (65-23630) (RM)
- 5 - Miami

- (1 - 134-1136, [redacted])
- (1 - 105-1998, Cuban Intelligence Activities in U.S.)
- (1 - 105-8749, Double Agent Operations - Cuba)
- (1 - 65-2959, JOE SURVEY)

MFF:sll  
(10)

MCT-10 65-61402  
REC-42

16 JUN 25 1965

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

OTHER 4

*[Vertical handwritten notes:]*  
Specimens returned in Feb.  
4/21/65  
LCA 57992

INDEX LAB FILES

51 JUL 21 1965

and 7-14-65  
REW: Ylen

HSCA  
11/20/83

SECRET

CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING RECEIPT OF LETTER

On May 20, 1965, <sup>F.L.H.</sup>VICTOR BALBUENA, 1158A S.W. 6th Street, Miami, appeared at the Miami Office of the FBI and made available the enclosures. He stated that his sister-in-law, [redacted] the wife of LUIS BALBUENA CALZADILLA, received the letter at her residence on May 19, 1965. She became very upset upon receiving the letter and requested VICTOR BALBUENA to turn it over to the FBI. \*The letter has been handled by [redacted] VICTOR BALBUENA and one ALDO ENRICH, a friend of [redacted] husband, LUIS BALBUENA. (u)

OTHER 4

OTHER 4

INTERVIEW OF [redacted]

OTHER 4

[redacted] furnished the following to SAs MAURICE F. FARABEE and CLARENCE P. GRAHAM on May 27, 1965.

[redacted] received the enclosure at her residence, 418 S.W. 10th Street, Miami, Florida, on May 19, 1965. It was addressed to Mrs. [redacted], 418 S.W. 10th Street. She became frightened and fearful that in some way the receipt of her letter would jeopardize her chances of getting her two children out of Cuba to the United States. As a result, she tore off the front of the envelope bearing the sender's name and address and threw it away. She recalls, however, the sender had the surname BENAVIDES (first name not recalled) and a New York City address. The letter was postmarked May 18, 1965, in New York City. [redacted] disclaimed any knowledge of the sender of the letter.

OTHER 4

[redacted], a doctor of pharmacy, owned a drugstore in Guantanamo, Cuba, in the years prior to the ascension to power of FIDEL CASTRO. Her husband, LUIS BALBUENA, was a long-time employee of the U. S. Government at Guantanamo Base. He actively participated in anti-CASTRO activities while employed by the U. S. Government on the naval base at Guantanamo. Because of his anti-CASTRO activities, it became necessary for [redacted] to flee to the United States, which she did with her infant

OTHER 4

SECRET

SECRET

child, LUISA BALBUNA, having arrived on a visa waiver at Miami on July 6, 1962. She has two other children, NORA BALBUENA, age 11, and FRANCIS BALBUENA, age 10, which she was unable to secure visa waivers for, and left them behind with her mother and father, MERCEDES and SAEVADOR MORENO, in Guantanamo. They were to secure visa waivers for the two children and send them to the United States to be with [redacted]. However, to date, [redacted] [redacted] has been unsuccessful in getting them to the United States. Her husband, LUIS BALBUENA, was subsequently brought to the United States by the U. S. Navy. [redacted] had written many letters to her parents in Guantanamo expressing her homesickness and her desire to see the children, as well as get them to the United States, but she has never indicated a desire or interest in returning to Cuba. She has paid approximately \$200 to several persons in the Miami area in an effort to get visas for them to come to the United States but on each occasion, the persons were unsuccessful. Recently, [redacted] has been sending money to a priest in Spain in an effort to get visas for her daughters, to get to that country.

OTHER 4

On or about May 7, 1965, [redacted] called her father in Guantanamo, Cuba. He told her he had recently been to the Immigration Service at Santiago de Cuba concerning the daughters and the Immigration authority informed him that for the daughters to leave Cuba, all the property belonging to the parents would have to be turned over to the Cuban Government. The grandfather explained to the Immigration authorities that all the parents' property had previously been confiscated. The Cuban Immigration official then informed [redacted] father that it might be possible for the daughters to obtain a departure permit in the latter part of May, 1965.

OTHER 4

[redacted] has a distant relative named OSMEL FRANCIS, who was associated with the Cuban Government and has been a Communist for many years. When she left Cuba in 1962, he was an international attorney employed at the Rancho Boyeros Airport in Cuba. Prior to her departure, she went to see him for assistance and at that time, he refused and stated that if it became necessary, he would kill MARIA BALBUENA's husband in order to protect the Cuban Government.

OTHER 4

SECRET

SECRET

OTHER

[redacted] stated she intends to take no action concerning the matter out of fear of jeopardizing her chances of getting her daughters to this country. However, should she receive any subsequent letters, she will immediately advise the FBI. She furnished the following background data concerning herself:

Name	[redacted]
Date of birth	August 10, 1929
Place of birth	Guantanamo, Cuba
Height	5'4"
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Black
Complexion	Dark
INS Number	A12 838 737
U.S. Entry	July 6, 1962, Miami, Florida, on visa waiver
Cuban address	Calle Luz Caballero #1051, Guantanamo, Cuba
U.S. Address	418 S.W. 10th Street, Miami, Florida
Mother	MERCEDES <del>MERCANTITY</del> <del>HECHEVARRIA</del> <sup>X MORENO</sup> <i>MERCEDES MORENO B. APPROX 1907</i>
Father	SALVADOR <del>MORENO</del> <del>CASTILLO</del> , age 61, residing with wife <i>B. APPROX 1904</i>
Brothers	None
Sisters	None
Husband	LUIS <del>BALBUENA</del> <del>CALZADILLA</del> , residing at 418 S.W. 10th Street, Miami, Florida <sup>CUBA</sup>
Children	NORA <del>BALBUENA</del> <del>MORENO</del> , age 11, <i>B. APPROX 1951</i> residing with grandparents; FRANCIS <del>BALBUENA</del> <del>MORENO</del> , age 10, <i>B. APPROX 1951</i> residing with grandparents; LUISA <del>BALBUENA</del> <del>MORENO</del> , age 3½, <i>B. APPROX 1961</i> residing with parents

CALLE LUZ CABALLERO #1051  
GUANTANAMO, CUBA

*CUBA 418 S.W. 10th Street, MIAMI, FLA.*

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The enclosed mimeographed letter, which is identical to previous letters submitted to the Bureau in similar cases, (u)

SECRET

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except for the accommodation address in Cuba, attempts to solicit the recipients' assistance in furnishing information of an intelligence nature to the Cuban Government. It also instructs in the use of secret ink by combining lemon juice and water. The accommodation address furnished is ELIO GONZALEZ BENAVIDES, Campanario #709, Bajos, between Maloja and Estrella, Havana, Cuba. Since the content of the letter is the same as previous letters submitted to the Bureau, English translation of enclosure is not furnished.

[redacted] stated she does not want to furnish information to the Cuban Government as requested in the enclosure out of fear of jeopardizing her daughters' chances of coming to this country. She stated, however, were it not for her daughters, she would gladly write a letter to the accommodation address in Cuba. She said she would immediately advise the FBI should she receive further correspondence from the Cuban Government. In view of this, it appears [redacted] has only a limited use as a PSI; however, Bureau authority is requested to maintain contact with her in the event she should receive subsequent correspondence from the Cuban Government.

It is noted [redacted] husband, LUIS BALBUENA CALZADILLA, was a former source of the Miami Office concerning anti-CASTRO activities and is the subject of Miami file 134-903. [redacted] is the subject of Miami file 157-781 in case entitled, "UNSUB; Bombing of Residence of [redacted], 912 S.W. 5th Avenue, Miami, Florida, March 31, 1963 - BOMBING MATTERS." This file reveals that shortly prior to midnight on March 31, 1963, the front door of the residence of [redacted] as well as the windows of the house, were destroyed, as a result of a bomb explosion. No one was injured and investigation in the matter was conducted by the Miami Police Department.

- LEADS -

NEW YORKAT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will search indices of the New York Office for pertinent information regarding (FNU) BENAVIDES. As a

- 5 - SECRET

OTHER 4

OTHER 4