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DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System
Identification Form

Date: 4/10/201

Agency Information

AGENCY: FBI
RECORD NUMBER: 124-10318-10063

RECORD SERIES: HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER: CR 67-383675-839

Document Information

ORIGINATOR: FBI
FROM: MX
TO: HQ

TITLE:

DATE: 10/25/1963
PAGES: 17

SUBJECTS:

JFK

DOCUMENT TYPE: PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION: Secret
RESTRICTIONS: 1B
CURRENT STATUS: Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/09/1998

OPENING CRITERIA: INDEFINITE

COMMENTS:

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: October 25, 1963

FROM : Legat, Mexico City, (66-300)

SUBJECT: PERSONNEL COMPLEMENT
MEXICO CITY OFFICE

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In accordance with the instructions received in conversations with Bureau Officials and Supervisors during the time the writer was at the Seat of Government, analyses and evaluations with regard to the present personnel complement of the Mexico City Office have been made. The following is submitted in connection with the Director's desires to make sure that full value is being received in connection with our foreign operations and to recall personnel wherever possible in order to cut down on the U. S. Government's dollar drain.

In order to assist the Bureau in reaching a decision concerning the personnel complement in the Mexico City Office, certain background is being set forth:

MEXICO CITY TERRITORY

Mexico has a total land area of 760,373 square miles, this being slightly over one-fifth of the size of the United States. The 1960 census showed Mexico to have 34,938,000 inhabitants. Due to the rapid increase in population, official estimates place the total population of Mexico at the present time at more than 37,000,000.

Mexico is divided into 29 States, 2 Federal Territories, and the Federal District where the capital city is located. The following is a breakdown of the territory covered by the Mexico City Office and the Resident Agencies located at Monterrey, Guadalajara and Mazatlan:

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 1) — 1 detached + 2 in Mexico City
- (1 - Liaison Section)
- 1 - Mexico City

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assignment in Mexico in November, 1960.

In the Resident Agencies, all Agents handle both criminal and security matters.

PRINCIPAL TYPES OF CASES HANDLED

The Mexico City Office handles practically every type of case found in the domestic field. Most of the cases fall into the following general fields:

Criminal cases, the great majority of which have to do with Bureau fugitives, Selective Service violators and automobiles and other property stolen in the United States and brought to either Mexico or Central American countries. Also included in this category are police checks made for the Embassy and other U. S. Government agencies. These are handled as a gesture of cooperation with the Embassy and to avoid interference by representatives of other Government agencies in our dominant control of the police liaison in Mexico.

American communists, including a number of Security Index subjects who either reside in or visit Mexico.

Border coverage (BOCOV).

Mexican subversive organizations, whose activities have a direct bearing on the internal security of the United States.

Cuban matters, including travel to and from Cuba of U. S. citizens and intelligence concerning Cuban activities.

Espionage matters. Due to the presence of a large Soviet diplomatic establishment in Mexico City, as well as several satellite diplomatic establishments, this is considered one of the most important phases of our work here. It has been clearly established through such cases as LOXBLOOD, LAROB, [OVERLAND] TUMBLEWEED and most recently the GREASER (S) case, that the Soviets are carrying on a large scale third country operation against the United States from Mexico.

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appears to be getting any good, hard intelligence concerning the Cuban internal situation on a current basis. He instructed me that the Mexico City Office should intensify its coverage on Cuban matters, and this is being done. At the present time three Agents in the headquarters city spend about one-half of their time on Cuban matters. One of these three Agents dedicates the major portion of his remaining time to following related Latin American matters and to handling physical security checks of the telephones in the headquarters and Resident Agent offices and in the homes of personnel. The major portion of the remaining time of the second Agent is dedicated to the handling of the activities of a portion of the national subversive organizations in Mexico and Chinese Communist matters, as well as replying to name check requests name by various Embassy offices. The third Agent handling Cuban matters in addition handles the major portion of the Espionage investigations in the office, including the very important [LARO] and [OXBLOOD] double agent cases, and follows (S) the activities of Soviet and satellite diplomatic establishments in Mexico City.

4. Almost the entire time of one Agent is spent on following, through informants, the activities of American Communists, including a number of Security Index subjects, who either reside in or visit Mexico. It is felt that this coverage has a vital direct bearing on the internal security of the United States and should be continued. Through this coverage it has been possible recently to come up with some highly valuable information concerning a clandestine leadership branch of the Mexican Communist Party. The activities of this group, which activities are apparently unknown to the rank and file of the regular Mexican Communist Party, are pointed toward the take over of the Mexican Government from within in the next five to ten years. The effect of such a take over in terms of Mexican-U.S. relations and on the internal security of the United States is obvious. So far as is known, neither [the CIA nor any other U. S. Government intelligence agency] here had received any information on this clandestine leadership branch of the Mexican Communist Party. (S) (u)

5. As was pointed out above, three Agents are assigned full time to criminal matters and to maintaining open liaison with official government agencies, and the Number One Man supervises all criminal cases and handles a substantial caseload in the criminal field. It is felt that the statistics set forth

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