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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25. D.C.

2 2 MAY 1964

Commission No.

971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT:

Anonymous Telephone Calls to United States Embassy in Canberra, Australia, Relative to Planned Assassination of President Kennedy

- 1. I refer again to paragraph two of your memorandum, dated 12 February 1964, relative to disseminations to the Secret Service made by CIA.
- 2. On 24 November 1963, CIA received from the Department of the Navy a copy of a cable from the Naval Attache in Canberra, Australia (IN 67327, Top Secret, later downgraded to Secret), reporting a telephone conversation the previous day with an anonymous individual who had described himself as a Polish chauffeur for the Soviet Embassy in that city. This individual, while discussing several matters of intelligence interest, touched on the possibility that the Soviet Government had financed the assassination of President Kennedy. Reference was made in this cable to the receipt of a similar anonymous telephone call on 15 October 1962.
- 3. Upon receipt of this cable from Navy CIA took the following action:
 - a. Cabled to Canberra asking full details of the telephone conversation of 23 November and the call made on 15 October 1962. It should be noted that CIA had not previously known of the 1962 telephone call.

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b. The CIA	on 27 November, furnished
	n the 1962 telephone call. It appears
	on stated that "Iron Curtain Countries"
	nousand dollars for the assassination
of President Kennedy.	loadana dollaro tor buo abbabbliation
of I lesident Heiniedy.	
c. On 27 November,	the CIA also furnished
· 	nymous telephone call of 23 November 1963.
d On 20 November	CIA disseminated this information, as
supplied by its	to the White House, Department
	au of Investigation, with a copy to the
•	this dissemination in its exact text
is attached to this memora	
is attached to this memora	num.
4. The CIA	arranged for discussion of the
calls with the Australian secur	ity service. In the opinion of the
•	er was a crank. In any event, they
	olish employee of the Soviet Embassy,
•	e caller as the one he drove, or the
-	nim. No further information on this
	ble evidence would tend to show that
the caller was some type of cra	ank. This conclusion, however, cannot
be confirmed.	
5 Diagon water that the con-	
	ture of the information in this
indicator.	at requires the use of a sensitivity
•	1

Attachment

-2-SFCRF GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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Richard Helms Deputy Director for Plans

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1995 CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM



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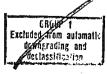
Commission No.

971a

OUT Teletype No. 85691, dated 29 November 1963, filed at 1117 hours, to the White House, Department of State and Federal Bureau of Investigation, with a copy to the Secret Service

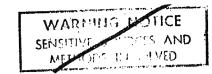
- 1. Your attention is called to a series of anonymous telephone calls made to the office of the U.S. Naval Attache in Canberra, Australia, by a man claiming to have had knowledge about a Soviet plot to assassinate the late President Kennedy. Our first record of this matter is a Naval Attache cable from Canberra sent on 24 November 1963.
- 2. It appears that the caller, who professes to be the Polish chauffeur of a Soviet Embassy car in Canberra, first phoned in over a year ago, on 15 October 1962 repeat 1962. At that time he told a story about five Soviet submarines carrying 400 to 500 Soviet soldiers on their way to Cuba. One purpose of this troop movement, he said, was to support the Governor of Mississippi. He added that there was a plot to pay one hundred thousand dollars to 'cill President Kennedy. Behind the plot, he said, were the "Iron Curtain Countries," and "Communist men in England, Hong Kong and probably some other countries."
- 3. On 23 November 1963 repeat 1963, the day after the assassination of President Kennedy and over a year after the first telephone call, a man believed to be the same person phoned the Embassy again and spoke to the assistant Naval Attache. The caller referred to his call a year back and stated he had said that the USSR had put up 100,000 dollars for the assassination of President Kennedy.
- 4. Giving what he claimed were further details about the assassination, the caller said that about two weeks before (which would have been in early November 1963) he was present when an Australian man, 35 to 40 years old, and tall, was dispatched by the Soviets to the United States carrying a case about 35 to 40 centimeters long, 50 centimeters high, and 8.5 centimeters wide. The name Vasyl Two was used in some connection with this man. He was put on a plane in Sydney and while the caller drove the two Soviet escorts back to Canberra, their shortwave radio in the car was going constantly. A shortwave radio was going in the Embassy





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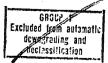




also when they arrived there. Over these radios, one of these Soviets transmitted numbers and "points." They remained in the Embassy, and that morning (apparently 23 November 1963), a message came through and toasts were drunk in Russian Vodka and the Russians present said, "we have achieved what we want."

- 5. The caller then gave "information" about the Soviet role in sinking a U.S. Navy nuclear submarine and on Soviet subversion in Indonesia. He would not identify himself, and when he described the car he drives (as a navy blue 1952 Buick, license plate New South Wales CCC 0122) he added they often change plates, have fifty sets in reserve, and can change them in five seconds.
- 6. The caller added some vague information about a woman employee of the American Embassy he things works for the Soviets. The conversation concluded with the caller promising to write a letter to the Naval Attache at the American Embassy.
- 7. The caller spoke good English and his accent and voice did not change throughout the conversation, so it was assumed that he was not disguising his voice.
- 8. Australian authorities working on this case consider the caller to be a crank. They state that Soviet offices in Australia do not use anything but Soviet chauffeurs; they have no record of their using a Polish chauffeur. They are continuing their investigation.





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