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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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→ C/HRG/

File - JFK

Preliminary Review of Certain JFK Files (re Conyers rqst)

Boxes 40 to 48. It is my observation based on the one box that I reviewed (48) and conversations with the other reviewers that most of this group of files consists of Office of Security files on individuals. As such they are largely biographic and, in the case of the gangsters involved in Mongoose, heavily concerned with their legal problems. With some exceptions these files contain mostly tangential references to operational matters. They are not a gold mine of information on Castro Mongoose, and the Bay of Pigs. (Frank)

Box 40 contains OS files primarily on anti-Castro Cubans and individuals involved in the Garrison case who had Agency connections or contacts. Also contains several files on Agency employees involved with anti-Cuba and/or mafia activities. Most of the files contain bio/file check data on the individual with little or no information on activities. However, files on prominent individuals* in the CIA's anti-Castro/Cuba projects contain some substantive information on activities such as AMWORLD, JMATE, JMWAVE and recruitment plans.

*Manuel ARTIME - AMWORLD project leader
Bradley AYERS - former Agency/ leaks to Jack A. & book
Francisco BARTES - anti-Castro Cuban leader
Charlotte BUSTOS-Videla - Agency employee
David Christ - Agency employee
Viola June COBB - journalist close to Castro (Barry)

Box 41. Similar with less substantive information; most files individuals involved with Garrison case that had or claimed to have CIA connections. Box includes file on Fair Play for Cuba Comm. composed primarily of Congressional hearings. Also a file on Lucien Conein of Viet Nam fame.

Conclusion: OS files which are oriented toward individuals' personal life and security clearance requirements not a good starting point for substantive info on anti-Castro projects and Bay of Pigs. (Barry)

Box 42 and Box 43 are almost exclusively security bio files with little substantive information relevant to Castro, Mongoose, and the Bay of Pigs. There are five folders on Garrison alone but these are almost entirely open source material (Honey)

Boxes 44 & 45 contain bio folders which in turn contain various references as follows:

References to Castro, anti-Castro, and Bay of Pigs were found in various news clippings including Washington Post and NYTimes and in various memos to the Senate Select Committee on Assassination, (For the Record, blind memos, etc, re names on police requests). These references could be characterized as shallow. (Eileen W.)

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Box 46 contains 25 envelopes, essentially on individuals. Occasional pieces on links with Cuban exile groups.

Envelope 6 concerns Frank Sturgis - focus is Watergate but there is mention of anti-Castro training, etc.

Envelope 11 concerns Carlos TEDINO Gonzales, alleged CIA, and his link to two Cuban majors arrested in plot to kill Castro. No substantive info.

Envelope 15 concerns Manuel Antonia DE VARMEY Loreda, Cuban exile. File concerns anti-Castro activity in the US, including info on the Mafia link. (Chuck)

Box 47 contains no relevant official information: 12 envelopes or folders; envelopes 5-8 (over 1 linear foot) are nothing but newspaper clippings, some of which relate. (Chuck)

Box 48 is almost entirely security files on individuals involved with plans to assassinate Castro, but documents contain mostly their biographies and legal aspects of various cases against these individuals. Actual information on the plots is very limited. (Frank)

Microfilm Reels. The three reels mentioned as possible sources of information on Cuebela do contain portions of his 201. Reel 51A probably has the most relevant information, containing quite a bit on AMLASH, AMWHIP, and AMTRUNK. We also looked at reel 51 which also has information on Cuebela. (Eileen S.) ✓

FRANK

(Note on FOIAs on following page).

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FOIA 1648: "What Would Castro Have Known", a 13 page outline of the various schemes to assassinate Castro with some reference to possibility of knowledge of these plans having reached Castro. File also includes a 16 page memo from John Blake to John Shattuck, Natl Staff Counsel, ACLU, setting forth justification for withholding in whole or part some 74 documents.

FOIA 1644. A memo from Hank Knoche to David Belin entitled, Review of Selected Items in the Lee Harvey Oswald File Regarding Allegations of Castro Cuban Involvement in the JFK Assassination. Pages 1 to 7 covered comments by Castro in an interview by AP correspondent Daniel Harker plus press follow-up articles. Balance of memo covered testimony of Oswald's Marine colleague on Oswald's Cuban contacts; threats by Cuban Third secretary at the Hague; the Alvarado story (Nicaraguan informant); comments by a woman who had been at a party in Mexico with Oswald present; the claimed encounter with Oswald at a student group meeting by a Mexican journalist in Tampico.

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