

SECRET

LA/CO/266-77

DD/O 17-10014

11 NOV 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of the Legislative Counsel

VIA: SA/ADDO

FROM: Raymond A. Warren
Chief, Latin America Division

SUBJECT: Allegation by a Senior Cuban Diplomat
Concerning the Role of Cuban Exiles in
the Assassination of President Kennedy

REFERENCE: LA/CO/258-77 Dated 3 November 1977

1. Reference is made to the referent memorandum which reported a statement made by a senior Cuban diplomat abroad alleging that "Cuban exiles such as DIAZ Lanz (fnu) (sic) and others had been involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy." We have received nothing further to date to supplement this information.

2. DDO records indicate that Pedro DIAZ Lanz, and his brother Marcos DIAZ Lanz, formerly Chief and Deputy Chief, respectively, of the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force, entered the U.S. from Cuba as exiles in mid-1959. Since that time both DIAZ Lanz brothers reportedly have been closely associated with, and involved in numerous activities with, Frank SIURGIS (aka FIORINI) of Watergate fame. Although the individual allegedly involved in the assassination of President Kennedy could be either of the DIAZ Lanz brothers, it is noted that the name Pedro DIAZ Lanz had been cited in recent newspaper items in this connection. We refer specifically to the New York Daily News article of 20 September 1977 entitled "Ex-Spy Says She Drove to Dallas With Oswald & Kennedy 'Assassin Squad'," a copy of which is attached. The Agency assisted in the evacuation of Marcos from Cuba to Miami, and Pedro entered the U.S. on his own. Although both were debriefed by the Agency, there is no indication that they were ever considered Agency assets.

Signed
Raymond A. Warren
Raymond A. Warren

Attachment:
Newspaper Article

cc: IG Staff

201-259716

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EX-100

SECRET

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DDO/LA/CO/C.Hopkins:gm 10 November 1977 x1491

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BASED ON: ²¹⁻⁵ [KINGSTON] 22950 (IN 416072), 28 September 1977
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[KINGSTON] 22974 (IN 421984), 1 October 1977
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SECRET

21/8

THE NEW YORK TIMES
October 1963

Ex-Spy Says She Drove To Dallas With Oswald & Kennedy 'Assassin Squad'

By PAUL MESKIL

A former spy says that she accompanied Lee Harvey Oswald and an "assassin squad" to Dallas a few days before President Kennedy was murdered there Nov. 22, 1963. The House Assassinations Committee is investigating her story.

Marina Lorenz, former undercover operative for the CIA and FBI, told The News that her companions on the car trip from Miami to Dallas were Oswald, CIA contact agent Frank Sturgis, Cuban exile leaders Orlando Bosch and Pedro Diaz Lanz, and two Cubans both of whose names she does not know.

She said they were all members of Operation 40, a secret guerrilla group originally formed by the CIA in 1959 in preparation for the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Statements she made to The News and to a federal agent were reported by Robert Blater, chief counsel of the Assassinations Committee. He has assigned one of his top investigators to interview her.

Ms. Lorenz described Operation 40 as an "assassin squad" consisting of about 30 anti-Castro Cubans and their American advisers. She claimed the group conspired to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castro and President Kennedy, whom it blamed for the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

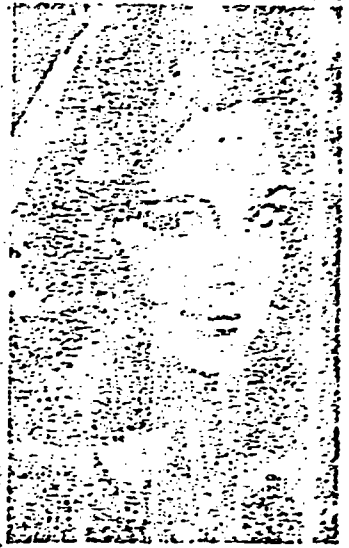
Admitted Taking Part

Sturgis admitted in an interview two years ago that he took part in Operation 40. "There are reports that Operation 40 had an assassination squad," he said. "I'm not saying that personally, but they would kill if they had to."

Except for Oswald, who was accused of murdering Kennedy, none of the men named by Ms. Lorenz has been linked to the President's death.

Ms. Lorenz said she first met Oswald, whom she knew only as "Oswald," when he called at an Operation 40 "house" in Miami's Little Havana section in the summer or early fall of 1961. She said she asked Sturgis who the stranger was and he replied, "It's OK. He's one of us."

She said Oswald later visited in Operation 40 training camp in the Florida Everglades. The next time she saw him, Ms. Lorenz said, was at an intimate meeting in the Miami home of Orlando Bosch, who is now in a Venezuelan



Marina Lorenz
Former CIA agent

prison on murder charges in connection with the explosion and crash of a Cuban jetliner that killed 73 persons last year.

Ms. Lorenz denied that the meeting was attended by Sturgis, Oswald, Bosch and Diaz Lanz, former chief of the Cuban Air Force. She said the men spread their street names on a table and studied them.

"I thought they were planning to pull an arsenal or some other place where weapons were stored," she said. "I wasn't too interested. There were so many cars trip here and there around the country that our mere trip didn't mean much to me."

She said they left for Dallas two

...I told them all that I had nothing
commission that investigated the CIA.
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Assassination Committee and former
and Intelligence Committee, the House
Senate Intelligence Committee, the Sen-
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Shirley had he had been questioned
thing on TV.
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It, he said, I was born in Miami with
the time Kennedy was killed. On that
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Dallas several times before the assassi-
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He said he has known Bosch and
my knowledge, I never met Oswald.
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been shot in Dallas, she said.
announced that President Kennedy had
phone in New York when the cop-
"And two days later I was on a
to Miami the next day."
Mr. Lorenz continued, "As I flew back
Cubans didn't want a woman on the job,
they all checked into a hotel. The
When they reached Dallas, she said,
"Stiles and Joyce" — in the car.
added that they carried a camera —
said the trip took about two days. She
turns during she said and the 1960
cars soon after the shooting, they took

to do with a conspiracy to kill Kennedy
and a conspiracy to take his life.
He added that he had given the con-
sultants evidence that there was
conspiracy to kill Kennedy and in-
clude the former and certain
American newspapers.
Starns reported received in
Lorenz for the CIA in 1960 while he
was living with Oswald in Havana, St.
later that Oswald was married on the
secret missions. The date was 1960.
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