Date:08/15/92 Page:1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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OPERATION MONGOOSE

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

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PER	SONS/E	TITM	IES:
Jake	Este	+ li	ni

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

March-July

1960

Cuba

OCCURRENCE:

CARD 2 of 2

J. D. (JAKE) ESTERLINE, who was head of the Cuba Task Force in pre-BAY OF PIGS days, was regarded by the IG Report as probably the most reliable witness on general timing of these schemes because "he seems at least to have known of all of them." (9).

The IG Report was: "unable to establish even a tentative sequence among the schemes; they may, in fact, have been under consideration simultaneously." (9)

SOURCE:

16 Report 67

STAFF:

Paron

FILE:

DATE: 7/3

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED BY NOV B

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:



March-July 1960 CUBA (Miscellaneous Schemes)

OCCURRENCE:

Depilatory: A chemical depilatory (Thallium Salts) was procured and tested for surreptious use on CASTRO. The plan was to "dust Thallium powder into CASTRO's shoes when they were put out at night to be shined" (13) on a trip outside CUBA; the powder would be absorbed into his skin causing his beard to fall out and thereby destroying CASTRO's image. (13).

Rey Tradellar recalls this scheme; Barry Borras recalls something about Thallium Salts.

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF: Baron

FILE:



DATE: 7/3/75

RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

PERSONS/ENTITIES: DATES: CATEGORIES: CUBA (Misc. Schemes) March-July 60 TSD ESTERLINE, Jake

OCCURRENCE: Aerosol attack on radio station: A scheme was discussed at CIA to "contaminate the air of the radio station where CASTRO broadcast his speeches with an aerosol spray of a chemical that produces reactions similar to those of Lysergic Acid (LSD)." (10) "Nothing came of the idea." (10) Telephone, of TSD, remembers the discussion and discouraged the scheme "because the chemical could not be relied upon to be effective." (10) Others who may be knowledgeable: 1. * Heary Bortrey (TSD) recalls general experimentation with psychic energizers.

2. Jake Esterline.

STAFF: Baron 7/3/75

FILE:

DATE:

SOURCE: IG Report, 1967 TOP SECRET

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

GUNN, Dr. Edward TREICHER.

TSD

CATEGORIES:

August 16, 1960

(Lethal Cigars)

OCCURRENCE:

CARD 1 of 2

DR. EDWARD GUNN, Chief, Operations Division, Office of Medical Services, has a notation that on 16 August 1960, he received a box of Cuban cigars to be treated with a lethal material. (21). He understood them to be CASTRO's favorite brand. (21). GUNN's notes show that within the next month he contacted Rev 230 5. of TSD, (Sept. 6, 1960) and gave him the box of cigars (21). Trescaler.

recalls "that he did contaminate a full box of 50 cigars. with Botulinum Toxin, a virulent poison," (21) which would kill the intended victim upon merely putting it in the mouth. " showed delivery of the box on February 13, 1961, although they do not indicate to whom. (22).

16 Report 61

CIA HAS NO DEJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION WITTON RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED 19 NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

TSD

le -Arigust

CATEGORIES:

CUBA (Leads)

OCCURRENCE:

FAOS: Shouldn'we we call represent as a witness, at least for single senator testimony. He was in TSD and has knowledge of several pre-August 1960 schemes, at least.

13 Non

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 7/3/75

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CIA I MO NO DEJECTION 100
DESTACOSTICATION ASSOCIATION
PROFESSE OF THIS DOCUMENT
ASSOCIATION
19 Nov 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Helms, Richard Harvey, Mr. DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Castro:

OCCURRENCE: Helms testified that he does not recall whether he selected Harvey to head the Cuban operation, but that he did certainly approve Harvey's selection. Prior to receiving the commitment Harvey had been in charge of a staff in the foreign intelligence staff whose function was to mount operations against Embassies and installations of foreign twenty to acquire socios.

And Committees by supported that he does not recall whether he selected Harvey to head the commitment Harvey had been in charge of a staff in the foreign intelligence staff whose function was to mount operations against Embassies and installations of foreign towards to acquire socios.

(1)(B) 93 19 Nov 93

SOURCE:

Helms 6/13/75

STAFF:

Rhea

FILE:

DATE:

6/28/75

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATIO DECLASSIFICATIO RELEASE OF THIS DUCUMENT AS SANITIZED AS SANITIZED 19 NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

BISSELL, Richard

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

TOP SECRET

GENERAL THEMES

(A) 19 NOV 93

KGB

OCCURRENCE:

In response to a question from SENATOR GOLDWATER, BISSELL said that he shared GOLDWATER'S opinion that actions such as assassination are practiced by every intelligence organization. This includes the state of the KGB, although BISSELL could not cite a specific assassination carried out by either one (61).

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: BISSELL, II

STAFF: Baron

FILE:

DATE:

28.6.75

19 NOV 93

VON PJ.

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

MOSS, Edward K.



DATES:

CATEGORIES:

CUBA (Leads)

OCCURRENCE:

BURT WIDES

The IG Report of 1967 indicates that EDWARD K. MOSS, Washington public relations counsellor, was used ro<u>e tretigions e</u>

Do you already know about this proj

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 7/3/75

IG REPORT, 1967

DECLASSIFICATION RELEASE OF THIS DUCUMENT AS SANITIZED 20 Nov 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Lansdale Harvey

Colby NSC

Castro 4 Mongoose SGA^{*}

-NSC

OCCURRENCE:

Colby testifies that Gen. Lansdale was Assistant to Secretary of Defense at time of Marvey Aug. 14, 1962 memo 25 to 35. Landale became assistant to U. S. Ambassador in Vietnam where Colby & CIA "were associated with him but he was not a CIA officer at that time." (Tr. 28)

SOURCE:

Testimony of Wm. Colby 5/23/75

STAFF:

John Bayly

FILE:

DATE:

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AS SANITIZED

19 NOV 93

(1)(B) 19 NOW 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
James P. O'Connell Nieschos Maheu Onassis	* 54	Castro

OCCURRENCE:

O'Connell testified that Maheu furnished CIA with information about Onassis derived by non-technical means from Maheu's work for his private client, Rieses, in re oil rights. (Tr. 14-15, 111)

SOURCE:

Testimony of James P. O'Connell 5/30/75

FILE:

STAFF:

John Bayly

DATE:

6/30/75

FILE:

DATE:

NW 50955

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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AS SANITIZED
19 NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

O'Connell Maheu Edwards

DATES: /59-/65

CATEGORIES:

Castro

OCCURRENCE:

Request came to O'Connell from Edwards. The Box of Secretary Results of the Resul

SOURCE: Testimony of James O'Connell, 5/30/75

FILE:

DATE: 6/30/75

CIA HAS NO CELECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMEN AS SANITIZED NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

CATEGORIES:

TSD

TRECTIA: Reviewd

EDWARDS, Sheffield
O'CONNELL

GIANCANA

Late January 1961

DATES:

CUBA (Syndicate/Phase I)

OCCURRENCE:

TSD prepared poison pills (of Botulin) rather than liquid poison. (24).

Treichler remembers meeting with EDWARDS and O'CONNELL in EDWARDS' office to discuss the requirement "(24) for poison pills, which had initially been the preference of GIANCANA.

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF: Baron

FILE:

DATE: 7/3/75

AS SANITIZED 29 NOV B

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

ISSELL, Richard

GOTTLIEB, Sidney

HARVEY

WHITE HOUSE

DATES:

February 1961 (HARVEY's rough estimate)

CATEGORIES:

TOP SECRET

LUNGO CONGO

OCCURRENCE:

the

BISSELL assigns to HARVEY / developing of "an EXECUTIVE ACTION capability; a general stand-by capability to carry out assassinations when required."

i.e.,

"HARVEY's notes quote BISSELL as saying, 'The WHITE HOUSE has twice urged me to create such a capability.' BISSELL recalls discussing the question of developing a general capability with HARVEY." (37)

MI HARVEY says that BISSELL had already discussed certain aspects of the problem with and with SIDNEY GOTTLIEB." (37-38).

(continued)

challet 2

SOURCE: I.G. REPORT 1967, pp. 37-38 STAFF: Baron

DATE: 28.6.75

. JUSJJ - DOCIA: 32281844 - Page 16

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

HELMS, Richard

CARD 2 of 2

DATES:

feb 61

CATEGORIES: TOP SECRET

OCCURRENCE: (continued from card 1)

HARVEY used in developing the EXECUTIVE ACTION capability (38).

Sometime shortly after this initial meeting, and while HARVEY was still discussing the development of EXECUTIVE ACTION with BISSELL, "he briefed Mr. HELMS fully on the general concept but without mention of the then on-going plan to assassinate CASTRO." (38)

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: I.G. REPORT 1967, pp. 37-38

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 28.6.75

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

(See the 13 names listed below)

FEB. 1961 (APPROXIMATE) CATEGORIES: TOP SECRET

The I.G. REPORT identified the following persons who knew, in late 1960 or early 1961, of the PHASE I plan to assassinate CASTRO:

- ALLEN DULLES, DCI
- GEN. C. P. CABELL, DDCI
- RICHARD BISSELL, DD/P
- SHEFFIELD EDWARDS, D/Security
- JAMES O'CONNELL, Office of Security, the case officer
- J. D. ESTERLINE, Chief, WH/4
- CORNELIUS ROOSEVELT, Chief, TSD
- 8. RAY TRACE Chemical Division, TSD
 - EDWARD GUNN, Chief, Operations Division, Medical Services

- 10. WILLIAM HARVEY, Chief, FI/D
- 11. SIDNEY GOTTLIEB, Special Assistant to the DD/P (GOTTLIEB's name was encountered repeatedly in this inquiry, but he denies knowing of the operation in 1960-61.)
- 12. ROBERT BANNERMAN, DD/Security
- 13. J. C. KING, Chief, WH Division (He too denies knowing of the operation at the time.)

I.G. REPORT 1967, pp. 34-35

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 28.6.75

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

20 30 NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

AMLASH

STEWART, FROM

March 9, 1961

CASTRO V

10/2

OCCURRENCE:

Mexico City with a high officer in the Cuban armed forces who was subsequently to become a CIA asset known as A.M. LASH-1.* Secure met with A.M. LASH to sound out his views on the Cuban situation. A.M. LASH was in Mexico City to attend a "leftist-sponsored" conference. (78).

The March 1961 meeting was inconclusive, but it led to other meetings out of which Project A.M.LASH was created. A.M. LASH-1 "repeatedly insisted that the essential first step in overthrowing the regime was the elimination of CASTRO himself, which $/\overline{\Lambda}$.M. LASH-17 claimed he was prepared to accomplish. He repeatedly requested that we $/\overline{C}I\Lambda\overline{J}$ furnish him the special equipment or material needed to do the job." (79).

The IG REPORT concludes that "The Agency offered both direct and indirect support for /A.M. LASH's fortilizad" (200) / (100) for the card)

SOURCE:

IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF:

Baron

FILE:

DATE: 7/2/75

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED 30 Nov 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:				
Verona Oft	line late March-	Maka				
	ethian April 1961	(Signalucate //hase I)				

whom ROSELLI deal with under pseudonym (32).

EDWARDS recalls that VERONA's contact worked in a restaurant frequented by CASTRO and was to put the pills into CASTRO's food or drink (32). "EDWARDS believes that the scheme failed because CASTRO ceased to visit that particular restaurant." (32).

* Dr. Manuel Antonio d'Verona e Loredo, head of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, a CIA supported group which was part of the larger Cuba operation (29).

SOURCE: IG RE

IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF: Baron

FILE:

DATE: 7/3/75

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMEN AS SANITIZED NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

· DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Maheu Edwards Rosselli

Giancana

Trafficante
Brockmandge

3 or 4-61

Castro

OCCURRENCE:

that was

Breckinridge testified Maheu on retainer to CIA "in the early days" (Tr. 99) ('50's?) and or one occasion he obtained a female companion for an important of the contacted Maheu who contacted Roselli who contacted Giancana who contacted Trafficante, who "travelled to and from Cuba," (Tr. 100) and who "had a source inside Cuba (who) ...was believed to have access to Castro and a poison pill was developed that he was to insert into Castro's food." (Tr. 101)

SOURCE:

timony of Wm. Colby, 5/23/75

STAFF:

John Bayly

DATE:

7/2/75

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND OR HELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

30 NOV 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

(See list of names below.)

DATES:

Apr 17, 61-

CATEGORIES: TOP SECRET

CASTRO

CUBA - SYNDICATE/PHASE II --KNOWLEDGE OF PHASE II

CARD 1 of 3

OCCURRENCE: The list of persons with knowledge of PHASE II of the CASTRO ASSASSINATION OPERATION differs from those who knew of PHASE I. Those with knowledge of PHASE II are:

- 1. RICHARD HELMS, DD/P
- 2. WILLIAM HARVEY, Chief, Task Force W
- 3. JAMES O'CONNELL, Office of Security (He knows that Harvey took over the operation and delivered pills, arms, and equipment in April 1962. He does not know of developments after May 1962.)
 4. SHEFFIELD EDWARDS, D/Security (He knows of the fact of the turnover to
- 4. SHEFFIELD EDWARDS, D/Security (He knows of the fact of the turnover to HARVEY, but states he knows nothing of developments thereafter.)
- 5. J. C. KING, Chief, WH Division (He stated in our interview with him that he knew that HARVEY was having meetings with members of the gambling syndicate in 1962.)
- 6. BRUCE CHEVER, HARVEY's deputy in 1962 (CHEEVER knows that HARVEY was meeting with gansters in Reno (sic) in the winter of 1962.)
 7. TED SHACKLEY, Chief, JMWAVE (He assisted HARVEY in the delivery of arms and equipment to VARONA in April 1962, but presumably did not know the identities of the recipients nor (con't.)

SOURCE:

I.G. REPORT 196

GEORET

STAFF:

Baron

FILE:

DATE: 28.6.75

I ENOUND/ENTITLES:

(Same instruction as card 1.)

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Apr 17, '61

CARD 2 of 3

OCCURRENCE:

SHACKLEY, cont: the purpose for which the material was to be used.)

- 8. RAY TREISCHLER, TSD (TREISCHLER's participation was limited to furnishing the pills to O'CONNELL on 18 April 1962.)
- 9. ANTONIO VARONA, the Cuban exile leader (He presumably was not aware of government sponsorship.)
- 10. VARONA'S SON-IN-LAW (He too was presumably not aware of government's role.)

11. MACEO, ROSELLI'S "Man" (MACEO probably knew there was a government connection, but may not have identified CIA as the agency.)



(con't.)

SOURCE:

STAFF:

FILE:

DATE:

W 50955 DocId:32281844 Page

81844 Page

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Sam Gold

Dr. Edward Gunn

September 25, 1961

Castro ~

Cornelius Roosevelt

OCCURRENCE: In discussing the possible methods of accomplishing the mission, Sam Gold suggested that they not resort to firearms, but that if he could be furnished with some type of potent pill that could be placed in Castro's food or drink. Sam indicated that he had a prospective nominee in the person of Juan Orta, a Cuban official, who had been receiving back payments from the gambling interests who still had access to Castro, and was in a financial bind. Cornelius Roosevelt, Chief, TSD was consulted and assigned Discreption of Treichler to develop a pill that had the elements of rapid solubility, high lethal content, and little or no traceability. Six of these items were produced and after being checked out for their effectiveness by Dr. Edward M. Gunn, three pills were ultimately turned over to Sam for the mission. Neither TSD nor Dr. Gunn was briefed on the ultimate use of the pills.

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: CIA Justice File R-153 Memorandum by Howard J. Osborn to Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, Subj: Robert A. Maheu dated June 24, 1966.

STAFF:

Rhea

DATE: July 1, 1975

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Logbey Harvey Bissell

Kennedy, Pobert
HALPERN

October.

Castro 🗸

OCCURRENCE:

Halpern testified that in the fall of 1961 he attended a meeting with Bissell and the Good of Cote of 1961. Bissell stated at the meeting occured in the middle of Octo of 1961. Bissell stated at the meeting that he had recently "been chewed out in the cabinet room of the White House by both the President and the Attorney General form as he put it, sitting on his ass and not doing anything about getting rid of Castro and the Castro regime. His orders to both the Top and to me to plan an operation to accomplish that end." (3) Halpern testified that no limitations were put on the term "get rid of". Nothing was forbidden (3). The meeting involved only general discussions and not tactics.

SOURCE:

Halpern 6/18/75

Rhea

7/1/75

E:

DATE:

STAFF:

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DEGLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF TING DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED AS SANITIZED (1) (A)

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DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Gen Lansdale Oct 1961

Castro •

OCCURRENCE:

Halpern Bissell

Shortly after has meeting with Bissell Hapern, and Zegbey were introduced to Gen Lansdale who was the new Chief of Operations for an effort to remove in the Castro regime. The initial meeting was concerned with only organizational matters.

TOP SECRET

SOURCE:

Halpern 6/18/75

STAFF: Phea

FILE:

DATE:

7/1/75

RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Harvey

Dec 1961

Castro

lial pern Helms

MCCONE

OCCURRENCE:

Zocion sometime in Dec of 1961, described to Ualpern a meeting at the director's office in which McCone had stated that Melms would henceforth "be his man on Cuba." (13) Zericy told Malporn that Melms had no inkling that he Swould be appointed head of the Cuban operations before this meeting (13). Sometime after the meeting Melms came to Zericy's office, chekeed into the organization of Zericy's operations and directed that Cuba would be a separate activity and no longer part of the WH Division (14). NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Genewed by NSA on 1/10/94 R9M77 Gelease in Part CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

Feb. 1, 1962

CATEGORIES:

Special Group Augmented MONGOOSE

OCCURRENCE: Memo for Richard Helms from Gen. Lansdale concerning NSA cover. The memo alludes to a conversation on the previous day, Jan. 31, 1962, about NSA cover for the Cuba Project. It indicates that Cuba cover is top priority. It indicated that this was not possibly known to the members of the United States Intelligence Board. The problem seemed to be to be able to decide how much of NSA (National Security Agency) assets were needed to provide cover for the Cuban project.

See 6(1)(e)

TOP SEGRET

SOURCE: Memorandum for Richard Helms from Brig. Gen. Lansdale, dated Feb. 1, 1962 (00122)

di Genova

STAFF:

FILE:

DATE: June 29, 1975

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT 1/0 23/2/98

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9 8 Feb 94 (1)(A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Halpern Harvey 1961

(Harvey biographical)

OCCURRENCE:

Samuel Halpern was executive assistant to Harvey who was in charge of the Cuban operation. (Prior to 1961 Halpern was in the Par Fastern Service of the Western Hemisphere including Cuba and other Caribbean Islands.

TOP SECTION

SOURCE:

FILE:

Halpern 6/18/75

STAFF: Rhea

DATE:

7/1/75

DocId: 32281844

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

161-62 Breckinridge 162

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Castro ZR Rifle

OCCURRENCE:

Helms

Breckinridge testified that 'Mr. Helms was the person who formally approved ZR Rifle...(which) had a dual purpose. (to steal codes) and to provide lethal executive action capability. (Tr. 67, 69-70) RIFLE INFAMT rifle (gun) and rifle (rummage through files). [1467]

SOURCE:

Testimony of Nm. Colby, 5/23/75

FILE:

STAFF:

John Bayly

DATE: 7/2/75

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8 Feb 94.

PERSONS/ENTITIES: BRECKINRIDGE, SCOTT

HARVEY, WILLIAM

DATES: 2/61

CATEGORIES:

CASTRO V

EXECUTIVE ACTION/ZRRIFLE

OCCURRENCE: Breckinridge testified that from his review of the files of Project ZRRIFLE, the "controlling character" (80) of the Project was to steal codes trather than to develop the capability for assassination. (30)

Breckeinridge testified that on the face of the documents relating to Project ZRRIFLE, the Project was only directed at Scealing codes. The fact that it related to developing the capability to assassinate came out in interviews with William

Harvey. (81)

BRECKINRIDGE testimony, 6/2/75

STAFF: WALLACH

DATE:

7/5/75