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August 25, 2012

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/JFK RECORDS ACT REQUESTS

Susan Viscuso
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Certified Mail No..
7011 1570 0000 4518 4044

Re: Records Regarding CIA
Study of Plot to Assassinate Hitler

Dear Ms. Viscuso:

On behalf of the Assassination Archives and Research Center (“AARC”), I hereby request the following records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552, and the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (“JFK Records Act”), 44 U.S. 2107 note.

1. All records on or pertaining to the CIA’s study in 1963 of plots to assassinate Adolph Hitler. The CIA study of the plot against Hitler is mentioned in numbered Paragraph 13 of a September 25, 1963 Memorandum for the Record (“MFR”) Col. William M. Higgins, Jr., Office of the Special Assistant for Counterinsurgency and Special Activities, the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This MFR is reproduced as Research Identification Form (“RIF”) Number 20210001-10028 in the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992. A copy of this RIF and the MFR attached thereto are submitted herewith.

2. All records on or pertaining to communications by Allen Dulles regarding plots to assassinate Adolph Hitler during his service in the OSS or the Central Intelligence Agency. .

The AARC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which disseminates materials on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and other political assassinations to the public. The AARC maintains a web site, aarclibrary.org, which contains nearly a million pages of records it has obtained under the FOIA and the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 ("JFK Records Act"). Pursuant to the fee waiver provisions of both the FOIA, I request a waiver of copying and

search fees for these records. The AARC is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which collects, preserves, and disseminates information on political assassinations to the public. The AARC provides information to the news media, and they in turn disseminate it to the general public. The AARC also provides information directly to the public through radio, television and newspaper interviews, visits by researchers both to our hard copy archive and our website, aarclibrary.com.

In 2004 and 2005, the AARC 4 held public conferences in the Washington, D.C. area on the subject of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. These conferences attracted a national audience. As President of the AARC, I have been interviewed by many television programs and documentaries concerning the assassinations of President Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and related topics. I have also appeared on radio programs, including the Voice of America and the Larry King show (radio), and television programs, such as Good Morning America, the CBS Evening News, and CNN. An op-ed piece on the release of the records of the House Select Committee on Assassinations which originally appeared in the Washington Post was widely reprinted in other papers, as was an article on the AARC which was disseminated by the Associated Press.

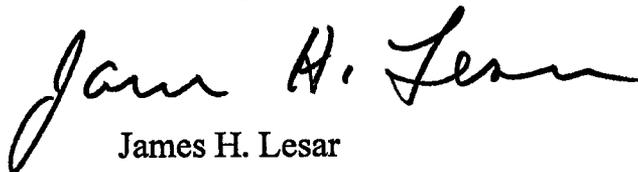
I have been quoted by Reuters, the Associated Press and other news agencies on matters pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy. On June 8, 1997, the Washington Post ran an article by me on the James Earl Ray/Martin Luther King case in its Outlook section. As President of the AARC, I testified to both house of Congress regarding legislation to require disclosure of records pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy.

This legislation was enacted as the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 ("JFK Records Act"). It established a citizen board which oversaw the identification and disclosure of Kennedy assassination records. During the four years that the Assassination Records Review Board was in existence, I testified before it several times.

Material on ZRTAFFY will shed light on the operations and activities of the government. It will show how the CIA ran this covert action project. Because the information the AARC seeks is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of such operations or activities, the AARC is entitled to a public interest fee waiver pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

Because the AARC is also a representative of the news media, it cannot be charged search fees.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James H. Lesar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

James H. Lesar

Date : 06/02/98
Page : 1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : JCS
RECORD NUMBER : 202-10001-10028
RECORDS SERIES : J-3
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : DOC 29

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : JCS
FROM : WALTER M. HIGGINS, JR.
TO : THE RECORD
TITLE : BRIEFING BY MR DESMOND FITZGERALD ON CIA CUBAN
OPERATIONS AND PLANNING
DATE : 09/25/63
PAGES : 4
SUBJECTS : CUBAN CONTINGENCY PLANNING

DOCUMENT TYPE : MEMORANDUM
CLASSIFICATION : TOP SECRET
RESTRICTIONS : OPEN IN FULL
CURRENT STATUS : OPEN
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 04/17/98
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : Memo from Higgins for the Record re: Briefing by
Desmond Fitzgerald on CIA Cuban Operations and
Planning.

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED



THE JOINT STAFF

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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR
COUNTERINSURGENCY AND SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

25 September 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Briefing by Mr. Desmond FitzGerald on
CIA Cuban Operations and Planning

1. At the JCS meeting at 1400 on 25 September, Mr. Desmond FitzGerald briefed the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

2. Except for General Taylor and Admiral McDonald, the Joint Chiefs were present, as were the Directors and Secretariat. Colonel Higgins from SACSA was the only other officer in attendance.

3. General LeMay opened the meeting by referring to papers recently discussed by the Joint Chiefs on policy and actions concerning military support of the CIA for operations against Cuba. General LeMay expressed the JCS position as had been reflected in the memoranda to Mr. Vance which in effect is that the Joint Chiefs do not believe that the operations to date are of a size and importance enough to justify the use of military support for protection.

4. Mr. FitzGerald then discussed his personal feeling as to changed conditions in Cuba. Essentially, he believes that Castro's hold in Cuba has been seriously weakened since last July. He believes that the minor raids conducted by the CIA have contributed to this deterioration in Castro's influence and stability. He is firmly convinced that Castro will fall at some future, not too distant, date, and that such actions as the CIA are conducting, as well as those of exiles, are contributing to unrest and unsettlement.

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5. Mr. Fitzgerald, in commenting upon criteria as to when the military support should be provided, offered the following. The greatest danger from his point of view is that the mother ships may be captured rather than be sunk. This will result in the capture of crewmen who have too much information and which could result in dangerous publicity for the United States. The location of these raids contributes to the possibility of capture. Hence, only when the raids are conducted in the more vulnerable areas from that point of view, is it likely that the CIA will request military support. He further stated that CIA has no intention of requesting aid for the coming raid.

6. General LeMay questioned the danger of capture in view of the capabilities of Cubans and ridiculed the idea that small motor boats should have the capability of capturing such a ship.

7. General LeMay and others gave opinions concerning such technicalities as the capability of radar both on land and in the air, capability of ship radar of the U.S. and Cuba, the speed of the mother ship, which was cited as 10 to 12 knots, and other related items.

8. Mr. Fitzgerald made much of the Cuban volatile nature. He cited that many Cubans are now walking with their heads up and alert because of the realization that there are possibilities of raids and other outside supports, such as the light aircraft raids. He voiced the opinion that Castro would probably take desperate measures as his situation further deteriorated and would turn to creating revolutions in Latin America. He stated that even though his operations may be considered as only minor, he thought they were doing about as much as could be done under the present policies. One of his problems was that he felt there was only a total of 50 logical targets and if he conducted as many as 10 raids a month, he would soon run out of favorable targets, and would be unable to sustain the build-up of Cuban hopes. He further stated that there were times when certain types of raids were more favorable than others; for instance, on sugar centrals.

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9. In responding to the question concerning the non-attributability of U.S. equipment, he stated that all equipment they use could be bought on the open market in many countries, even though it was of American origin. He stated that intelligence was not as good yet as they would like to have; however, they are having greater success in having agents enter and depart Cuba.

10. General Wheeler injected that he sympathizes with such planners as Mr. FitzGerald because he realized that many good ideas are never accepted by the cautious policy makers. However, Mr. FitzGerald reported that he believed he had a clearer go-ahead on these operations than he has ever had in his past experience.

11. Mr. FitzGerald said that over the next two or three months his plans include critical targets of three classes: electrical systems, sugar centrals, and oil. He cited that electrical systems, although a top priority and a key to the economy, were very difficult targets. The sugar centrals are only of a seasonal nature because unless hit at the peak season, they could be repaired without difficulty or loss of time. In regard to oil, the refineries are most important but were also the toughest to hit.

12. In response to a comment by General Shoup regarding the sabotage by mines Mr. FitzGerald said there had been a recent case of internal sabotage to a mine. He then explained how the success of his operations can only be measured when internal sabotage is increased. In response to a question, he admitted that there was not any coordination as yet with the internal sabotage program.

13. He commented that there was nothing new in the propaganda field. However, he felt that there had been great success in getting closer to military personnel who might break with Castro, and stated that there were at least ten high-level military personnel who are talking with CIA but as yet are not talking to each other, since that degree of confidence has not yet developed. He considers it as a parallel in history; i.e., the plot to kill Hitler; and this plot is being studied in detail to develop an approach.

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broadcasts. He stated that an Air Force officer named McElroy was available to talk to Mr. Fitzgerald on this matter, and Mr. Fitzgerald accepted this offer.

15. The conference closed with General LeMay directing that Mr. Fitzgerald's planners meet with General Krulak's people and work out the details as to how the military can assist in supporting these operations. After Mr. Fitzgerald departed, General LeMay gave added directions to Colonel Higgins to initiate necessary steps for planning.

16. After the JCS meeting Admiral Riley called Colonel Higgins into his office and read a letter from Mr. McGeorge Bundy which discussed secrecy measures necessary related to Cuba CIA operations. Admiral Riley directed Colonel Higgins to have the nature of this letter put out through SACSA control to SACSA contact points to insure an adequate system for secrecy within the military services. Admiral Riley stated he was returning the letter to Mr. Gilpatric as he did not want written communication by SACSA, but to put this out orally. This was transmitted to Colonel Wyman who will take the action to prepare an appropriate memorandum for the record to be filed with General Ingelido in accordance with further directions by Admiral Riley.

17. General Wheeler, Chief of Staff of the Army, called and questioned us concerning SACSA's access list for the knowledge of such operations as mentioned in the McGeorge Bundy letter. I advised him that our Pendulum system was in being but that I would look into it in greater detail to determine that it met the letter as well as the spirit of the memorandum. I stated I believed this was so but had not had reason to do it until this date and therefore did not give him a positive answer at that time.

W.M.H.

WALTER M. HIGGINS, JR.
Colonel, USA

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