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W. Anthony Marsh
 10 Webster Avenue Apt. 1-2
 Somerville, MA 02143

21 MAR 1989

Reference: F80-0874

Dear Mr. Marsh:

In the course of their processing your 27 February 1980 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the Department of Justice located 16 CIA documents and referred them to us for our review and direct response to you.

We have completed our review of the documents and have determined that 13 of the documents listed below may be released to you in segregable form. The appropriate FOIA exemptions are cited below as well. Copies of these documents and an explanation of exemptions are enclosed.

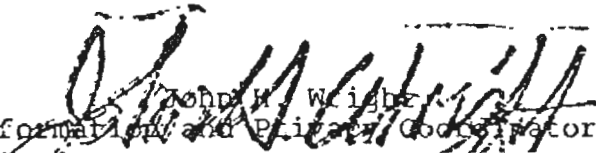
<u>Documents</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>
1. Memorandum w/attachment, 14 May 1962	(b)(3) (b)(6)
2. Memorandum w/attachment, 1 June 1967	(b)(1) (b)(3)
3. Memorandum, 14 June 1967.	(b)(2) (b)(3)
4. Memorandum, 19 June 1967.	(b)(3)
5. Memorandum, 20 June 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3)
6. Memorandum, with attachment 7 August 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3) (b)(6)
7. Memorandum, 7 September 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3)
8. Memorandum, 13 September 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3)
9. Memorandum, 28 September 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3)
10. Memorandum, 29 September 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3)
11. Memorandum, 3 October 1967.	(b)(1) (b)(3) (b)(7)(C)

- 12. Letter, 20 October 1967. (b)(1) (b)(3)
- 13. Memorandum, 31 January 1969. (b)(1) (b)(3)

We have further determined that three documents, memoranda dated 15 September 1967 (Document No. 14) and 22 September 1967 (Document No. 15) and a cable dated 13 December 1967 (Document No. 16), must be withheld in their entirety pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). FOIA exemption (b)(5) also applies in the case of Document No. 15.

The official responsible for these determinations is Lee E. Carle, Information Review Officer, Directorate of Operations. You have the right to appeal these decisions by addressing your appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee, in my care. Should you decide to do this, please explain the basis of your appeal.

Sincerely,


John H. Wright
Information and Privacy Coordinator

21 MAR 1989

L. Jeffrey Ross
Chief, Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Unit
Office of Enforcement Operations, Criminal Division
Department of Justice
Room 3126
1400 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Reference: F80-0874/DOJ No. 5821 - W. Anthony Marsh for
information pertaining to John F. Kennedy
Assassination

Dear Mr. Ross:

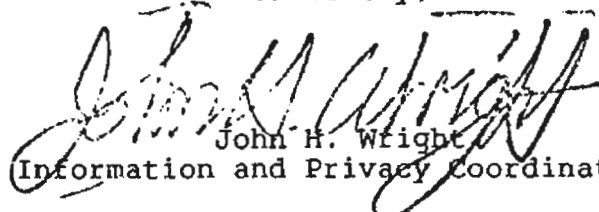
This is in response to your three memoranda dated 27 August 1980, 4 June 1982 and 8 September 1982 (Tab A) wherein you referred a total of sixteen CIA documents and one Department of Justice (DOJ) document for our review. Please note that three documents forwarded under your first letter dated 28 August 1980 were also forwarded to us under your 9 September 1982 letter and have only been treated once. These are identified in our letter to the requester (Tab C) as Document Nos. 9, 12 and 14.

We have reviewed the DOJ document, a memorandum dated 13 December 1967, and have determined that the CIA information may be released in segregable form pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3). The deleted CIA information is unclassified. A copy of the document as sanitized is enclosed at Tab B.

A copy of our letter to the requester regarding the 16 CIA documents referred by you is enclosed at Tab C. Also enclosed at Tab C are copies of 13 of the CIA documents as released to the requester. Please note that Document No. 1 has been downgraded to CONFIDENTIAL.

Please accept our apology for our inordinate delay in responding to your referral. If you have any questions, please call Frieda, 351-2083.

Sincerely,


John H. Wright
Information and Privacy Coordinator

MEMORANDUM FOR The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
The Attorney General
Washington 25, D. C.

In accordance with your request of 11 May 1962, I am forwarding herewith, in the attached sealed envelope, a Top Secret memorandum by Colonel Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security, setting forth the facts on which we briefed you on 7 May 1962.

Encl.

W. R. Houston

82-416-5

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECORDS BRANCH
JUN 27 1962

WRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel
CIA

(DATE)
15 MAY 1962

FORM 101 SUBJECTS COVERED BY THIS BRANCH MAY BE USED.

(47)

JAN 1969

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.**

**FILE
H. B.**

14 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

**SUBJECT: Arthur James Balletti et al - Unauthorized Publication
or Use of Communications**

1. This memorandum for the record is prepared at the request of the Attorney General of the United States following a complete oral briefing of him relative to a sensitive CIA operation conducted during the period approximately August 1960 to May 1961. In August 1960 the undersigned was approached by Mr. Richard Bissell then Deputy Director for Plans of CIA to explore the possibility of mounting this sensitive operation against Fidel Castro. It was thought that certain gambling interests which had formerly been active in Cuba might be willing and able to assist and further, might have both intelligence assets in Cuba and communications between Miami, Florida and Cuba. Accordingly, Mr. Robert Maheu, a private investigator of the firm of Maheu and King was approached by the undersigned and asked to establish contact with a member or members of the gambling syndicate to explore their capabilities. Mr. Maheu was known to have accounts with several prominent business men and organizations in the United States. Maheu was to make his approach to the syndicate as appearing to represent big business organizations which wished to protect their interests in Cuba. Mr. Maheu accordingly met and established contact with one John Rosselli of Los Angeles. Mr. Rosselli showed interest in the possibility and indicated he had some contacts in Miami that he might use. Maheu reported that John Rosselli said he was not interested in any remuneration but would seek to establish capabilities in Cuba to perform the desired project. Towards the end of September Mr. Maheu and Mr. Rosselli proceeded to Miami where, as reported, Maheu was introduced to Sam Giancana of Chicago. Sam Giancana arranged for Maheu and Rosselli to meet with a "courier" who was going back

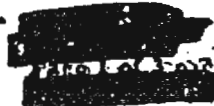
**FILE
H. B.**

**FILE
H. B.**

9A

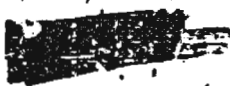


**FILE
H. B.**



82-46-5
22 JUN 27 1962
RECORDS BRANCH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Copy No. of



[REDACTED]

and forth to Havana. From information received back by the courier the proposed operation appeared to be feasible and it was decided to obtain an official Agency approval in this regard. A figure of one hundred fifty thousand dollars was set by the Agency as a payment to be made on completion of the operation and to be paid only to the principal or principals who would conduct the operation in Cuba. Maheu reported that Rosselli and Giancana emphatically stated that they wished no part of any payment. The undersigned then briefed the proper senior officials of this Agency on the proposal. Knowledge of this project during its life was kept to a total of six persons and never became a part of the project current at the time for the invasion of Cuba and there were no memoranda on the project nor were there other written documents or agreements. The project was duly orally approved by the said senior officials of the Agency.

2. Rosselli and Maheu spent considerable time in Miami talking with the courier. Sam Giancana was present during parts of these meetings. Several months after this period Maheu told me that Sam Giancana had asked him to put a listening device in the room of [REDACTED]

At that time it was reported to me that Maheu passed the matter over to one Edward Du Boise, another private investigator. It appears that Arthur James Balletti was discovered in the act of installing the listening device and was arrested by the Sheriff in Las Vegas, Nevada. Maheu reported to me that he had referred the matter to Edward Du Boise on behalf of Sam Giancana. At the time of the incident neither this Agency nor the undersigned knew of the proposed technical installation. Maheu stated that Sam Giancana thought that [REDACTED] might know of the proposed operation and might pass on the information to [REDACTED]

At the time that Maheu reported this to the undersigned he reported he was under surveillance by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who, he thought, were exploring his association with John Rosselli and Sam Giancana incident to the project. I told Maheu that if he was formally approached by the FBI, he could refer them to me to be briefed that he was engaged in an intelligence operation directed at Cuba.

3. During the period from September on through April efforts were continued by Rosselli and Maheu to proceed with the operation. The first principal in Cuba withdrew and another principal

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

was selected as has been briefed to The Attorney General. Ten thousand dollars was passed for expenses to the second principal. He was further furnished with approximately one thousand dollars worth of communications equipment to establish communications between his headquarters in Miami and assets in Cuba. No monies were ever paid to Rosselli and Giancana. Maheu was paid part of his expense money during the periods that he was in Miami. After the failure of the invasion of Cuba word was sent through Maheu to Rosselli to call off the operation and Rosselli was told to tell his principal that the proposal to pay one hundred fifty thousand dollars for completion of the operation had been definitely withdrawn.

4. In all this period it has been definitely established from other sources that the Cuban principals involved never discovered or believed that there was other than business and syndicate interest in the project. To the knowledge of the undersigned there were no "leaks" of any information concerning the project in the Cuban community in Miami or in Cuba.

5. I have no proof but it is my conclusion that Rosselli and Giancana guessed or assumed that CIA was behind the project. I never met either of them.

6. Throughout the entire period of the project John Rosselli was the dominant figure in directing action to the Cuban principals. Reasonable monitoring of his activities indicated that he gave his best efforts to carrying out the project without requiring any commitments for himself, financial or otherwise.

7. In view of the extreme sensitivity of the information set forth above, only one additional copy of this memorandum has been made and will be retained by the Agency.

[REDACTED]
Suzanne Edwards

[REDACTED]
Page 3 of 3 pages

[REDACTED]
Copy No. 1 of 2

[REDACTED]