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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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"OPERATION ALPHA 66"

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In San Juan, PR, approx. in Jan 62, a group of technical + professional Cubans founded a group, without any political interest, according to their own claim. They named the group "Operación Alpha 66" with the stated objective of effecting various guerrilla and sabotage actions, by commando raids on the territory of Communist Cuba.

The group consists of 66 "action" men ^(in addition to support persons) whose names are kept secret, and who are dedicated to fight for the freedom of Cuba. These men have been duly trained at undisclosed sites in the Caribbean and apparently have their headquarters in Puerto Rico.

Alpha 66 has been soliciting and continue receiving money from private sources from ~~different~~ ^{various} cities in North, Central and South America.

Dr. Jose Manuel GUTIERREZ, Rotarian and ex-Habana University Professor, now residing at 1931 NW 32nd Street, Miami, telephone NE. 5-5863, has been collecting money for the organization, locally. On 9 Oct 62 he appeared on a Miami TV program for propaganda purposes. [SUBJECT is an acquaintance of ROCA (P), DUJ 316.]

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Antonio VEGIANA, residing in Puerto Rico, is acting as spokesman and visible head of Alpha 66. He has announced ~~of~~ various military actions in Cuba.

The ~~handling~~^{collection} and accountability of monies for this organization is handled by the "Association of Public ~~Accountants~~ and Private Accountants of Cuba in Exile", Box 7115, Bo. Obrero Station, Santurce, P. R. The cash is deposited in the Banco Popular de P. R. under the name "Operacion Alpha 66" and the cash balance as of 31 Aug 62 was \$167.71.

During the early morning of 10 Sep 62, Alpha 66 initiated the action named "Ponce" which was a naval attack on Cayo Frances, Caibarien Port, northern coast of Las Villas Province, Cuba. There they machine-gunned the British merchant vessel "New Lane" which was in that port, causing - according to Alpha 66 - great damage. Also in the port, the action personnel boarded, set dynamite in the ship, and machine-gunned the Cuban ship "San Pascual". Castro's planes followed the commandos ~~for~~ forty (40) miles from the Cuban coast but without catching them. The commandos returned to Miami.

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8 Oct 62, Alpha 66 attacked the town of Osabela de Sagua, Las Villas, killing approx. 20 men, including Russians + Militiamen. They also captured weapons, ammunition and Soviet flags. Some of the attackers were wounded.

At approx. 0200 hours, 13 Oct 62, six (6) Exiled Cubans, possibly of Alpha 66, left their base at Cayo Sal (north of Varadero, Matanzas) in a PT-type launch, 22 feet in length, which had a 90 HP motor. They entered the Bahía de Cardenas, Matanzas, with the apparent objective of dynamiting the Arrechabala Distillery (rum, alcohol and sugar processing). However they were surprised by a Cuban patrol launch. A gun fight ended in the attackers fleeing ~~the~~ from the patrol launch which had a 20 mm. cannon. The attackers did obtain 2 prisoners who were in the water and wounded: Corporal Cas MANDINA and Sergeant SUAREZ Lima. These two latter men were taken to Cayo Sal, British Bahamas (30 miles north of Varadero), and from there they were transported by helicopter to Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami. The attackers were detained by the US Coast Guard, and then taken to Opa-locka. One of the command, one Manuel CASANOVA, Movietone News cinema-

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tegrapher had movie film of the engagement. The FBI confiscated it. The six (6) commandos are the ~~the~~ following:

~~Roberto~~ Roberto GUIZA

Mmanuel PEARSON

Edly MORE

Jorge ESPINOZA

(fmr) RODRIGUEZ

Mmanuel CASANOVA

SOURCE: ROCA (A), DUJ 316, fr Jose Mmanuel GUTIERREZ, Alpha 66 Miami Representative, and William MORALES, active US-Cuban lawyer.