

## APPENDIX I

### SELECTED CHRONOLOGY (ASSUMPTIONS)

1. Where specific day dates cannot be authenticated, the first day of the month is used.
2. FIRST hyperlinks to organizations referenced are to the official web site of the organization where possible.
3. Some hyperlinks do not resolve properly from Microsoft Word in all browsers, particularly links to pages within government intelligence organizations' web sites. In that case, simply hover your mouse over the hyperlinked word, right click to select Edit hyperlink, Copy it, and then Paste it into your browser directly. WARNING: Simply click Cancel to leave Edit mode to avoid changing the hyperlink. Often right clicking and selecting Copy does not always work. The above procedure always works.
4. FIRST hyperlinks to persons who went on record with respect to an alternative assassination theory are to each person's direct testimony, be it under oath or not, and preferably in video or audio form over text, as long as the person's identity is unquestionably clear.
5. FIRST hyperlinks to persons who publicly agreed with or never disputed the Warren Commission's conclusions are to a mainstream source of biographical information (e.g., Time magazine obituary, undisputed Wikipedia article, etc.)
6. ALL SUBSEQUENT HYPERLINKS attached to a person, place, organization, event, etc. are selected for relevance to the date in question as first priority.
7. Unless otherwise noted, there are at least two corroborating sources for every dated entry in this Selected Chronology, most of which can be found in three well-researched, well-documented, and well-reviewed books:
  1. "[The Last Investigation](#)" (May 30, 2008) by [Gaeton Fonzi](#), the majority of the Selected Chronology is based on the HSCA investigation and this HSCA researcher's subsequent work. Formatted entries for #1 below follow "07/26/47—" dating convention.
  2. "[JFK And The Unspeakable: Why He Died And Why It Matters](#)" (October 19, 2010) by [James W. Douglas](#), directly endorsed by Gaeton Fonzi, who wrote, "With penetrating insight and unswerving integrity, Douglass probes the fundamental truths about JFK's assassination. If, he contends, humanity permits those truths to slip into history ignored and undefined it does so at its own peril. By far the most important book yet written on the subject." Formatted entries for #2 below follow "January 17, 1961:" dating convention.
  3. "[Someone Would Have Talked](#)" (November 1, 2010) by [Larry Hancock](#), also endorsed by Gaeton Fonzi, who wrote, "Among the most respected researchers of the JFK assassination, an awesomely comprehensive and impressive work of compelling validity. A must-read in the field." Formatted entries for #3 below follow "January 17, 1961—" dating convention.

## SELECTED CHRONOLOGY

07/26/47—[Congress](#) establishes the [National Security Agency](#) to advise the [President](#) on intelligence matters. It also creates the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) with a [director](#) “[subject to no supervision, control, restriction, or prohibition](#)” from the military [Joint Chiefs of Staff](#). The leadership of the new CIA is composed largely of former members of [World War II](#)’s [Office of Strategic Services](#).

03/10/52— [General Fulgencio Batista](#)’s military forces take the Columbian army camp in [Havana](#) at dawn and depose [Carlos Prío](#) from the presidency of [Cuba](#).

11/04/52—Having resigned as supreme commander in Europe, General [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) is elected president of the United States.

07/26/53—[Fidel Castro](#) opens his military challenge against Batista by personally leading the charge against the [Moncado army barracks in Santiago](#). It fails and he is captured, but the date goes down in modern Cuban history. At his trial Castro proclaims: “[History will absolve me!](#)”

01/14/54—At a meeting of President Eisenhower’s [National Security Council](#), it is agreed “[that the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency \[Allen Dulles\], in collaboration with other appropriate departments and agencies, should develop plans, as suggested by the Secretary of State \[John Foster Dulles\], for certain contingencies in Indochina.](#)” Subsequently the CIA created the [Saigon Military Mission](#) designed to expand its clandestine operations in Vietnam.

06/01/54—To protect the interests of the [United Fruit Company](#), the CIA succeeds in disposing of democratically elected President [Jacobo Arbenz](#) in Guatemala. [David Atlee Phillips](#) and [E. Howard Hunt](#) are Allen Dulles’s key operatives in running the Agency’s psych warfare and psychological campaigns. One of Phillips’s covert operatives is [David Sanchez Morales](#).<sup>83</sup>

07/01/55—Lee Harvey Oswald, fifteen, joins the New Orleans Civil Air Patrol commanded by David Ferrie, an Eastern Airlines pilot and former seminarian who, in 1961, would be twice arrested for “indecent behavior” with juveniles. He would later become an investigator for former FBI agent Guy Banister, with offices at 544 Camp Street.

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<sup>83</sup> David Morales was officially an Army NCO and a State Department employee. He had worked out of the U.S. Embassy in Havana (while David Phillips was working as an under cover contract employee for the CIA in Havana), and had earlier participated in the highly successful CIA PB/SUCCESS operation (along with David Phillips), which deposed a leftist leaning Guatemalan leader. After Havana, Morales assumed the responsibility for training and organizing an exile intelligence/security operation in support of the 1962 effort against Castro. Following the Bay of Pigs disaster, he was placed in charge of “secret war” operations run out of the JM/WAVE complex in Miami, reporting to Theodore Shackley. All operational penetration teams were under his supervision, and one of his major penetration leaders was Rip Robertson, who had also worked in the Guatemalan coup. David Morales also provided operational support for the Task Force W assassination operations conducted by William Harvey and Johnny Roselli.

11/01/55—CIA agent David Sanchez Morales is assigned to work undercover as a State Department political officer at the American embassy in Caracas, Venezuela.

10/26/56—Lee Harvey Oswald reports for duty at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California.

01/20/57—Eisenhower is sworn in to his second term as president.

09/12/57—Oswald arrives at the U-2 spy airplane base at Atsugi, Japan, and is assigned as a radar operator.

01/01/58—David Atlee Phillips establishes a public relations business in Havana as a front for covert CIA operations.<sup>84</sup>

05/01/58—David Sanchez Morales is assigned to the American embassy in Havana and, according to the embassy's U.S. Information Agency rep, Paul Bethel, is in charge of the CIA's "dirty tricks" section.

11/02/58—At the end of a thirteen-month tour of duty in Japan, Oswald heads back to the U.S. and is assigned to Marine Air Control Squadron Nine in Santa Ana, California.

01/01/59—Military dictator Fulgencio Batista flees Cuba under the pressure of rebel forces of the 26th of July Movement, led by a young attorney named Fidel Castro, sweeping down on Havana.

02/01/59—Nineteen-year-old Marita Lorenz, a captain's daughter, meets Fidel Castro when he welcomes her father's German cruise ship as it anchors in Havana harbor. She later becomes Castro's mistress and then is recruited by Frank Sturgis in a plan to kill Castro with poison pills.

02/25/59—Oswald takes a Marine Corps proficiency examination in the Russian language. He scores well enough to indicate he had to have begun studying while still in

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<sup>84</sup> David Phillips began his career as a CIA officer as a contract employee, and spent virtually his entire career assigned to combat communist influences and oppose Fidel Castro throughout the hemisphere. Phillips worked covertly for the CIA in Havana in 1959. Later, he was attached to the Cuba Task Force in support of the Bay of Pigs operation, charged with propaganda and media relations for the Cuban Revolutionary Council. Afterwards, he was moved to Mexico City and placed in charge of covert operations and counter-intelligence for the CIA station there. He advanced rapidly in this position, receiving a promotion in the fall of 1963, eventually becoming Chief of Cuban Operations, and finally Chief of Western Hemisphere. At that time he held the rank of CS 18, the highest position in the CIA not requiring executive appointment. At that rank and before retirement age, David Phillips chose early retirement. Shortly thereafter, he became involved in founding an association of retired intelligence professionals devoted to opposing media coverage, articles, books, and other vehicles which were negative towards the CIA. Eventually, Phillips wrote his own autobiography, *The Night Watch*, as well as other books including one titled, *The Caries Contract*, dealing with a contract political assassin. One of the major characters in the latter book was clearly patterned on Phillips' long time co-worker and associate, David Morales.

Japan, but none of his Marine friends ever saw him learning the language.

03/19/59—Oswald, soon to be discharged from the Marines, applies to the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland. He claims a proficiency in Russian.

09/11/59—Oswald is released from the Marine Corps after requesting a hardship discharge on the claim that his mother needs his support.

10/16/59—After leaving New Orleans on September 20, and traveling by way of London, Le Havre, and Helsinki, Oswald arrives in Russia and tells an Intourist guide that he intends to become a Russian citizen.

11/01/59—The “Movimiento de Recuperacion,” led by [Dr. Manuel Artime](#) (AM/BIDDY-1)<sup>85</sup>, becomes the first [anti-Castro action group](#) to widely organize elements in Cuba.<sup>86</sup>

12/11/59—CIA Director Allen Dulles approves “thorough consideration be given to the elimination of Fidel Castro.”

01/18/60—Richard Bissell, Deputy Director for Plans of the CIA and developer of the U-2 spy plane, meets with top-ranking Agency colleagues and announces that CIA boss Allen Dulles has appointed him to organize a “typical Latin political upheaval” in Cuba. It will be based on the “Guatemala model,” the CIA’s first successful military intervention scheme. Bissell selects E. Howard Hunt and David Atlee Phillips to be among his top field operatives.

03/17/60—President Eisenhower authorizes the CIA to organize, train, and equip Cuban refugees as a guerrilla force to overthrow Castro.

05/01/60—Francis Gary Powers’s U-2 spy plane is shot down over the U.S.S.R. The incident plays a major role in sabotaging Eisenhower’s efforts to begin a peace initiative

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85 Manuel Artime, also known as AM/BIDDY-1, was one of the early counter-revolutionary leaders (MRR party - Movement for the Recovery of the Revolution) inside Cuba. After fleeing to the U.S., he became one of the exile leaders playing a major role in successive U.S. organized exile movements. Artime and other leaders including Tony Varona, Aureliano Arango, and Jose Cardona met with Senator John Kennedy as early as the Democratic National Convention in 1960. In 1963, Artime was sanctioned, along with Harry Ruiz Williams, to be a major leader of a new Kennedy Administration’s autonomous group offensive against Fidel Castro. The CIA crypt for the Artime focused project was AM/WORLD. Artime was given far more autonomy than had been previously associated with U.S. backed efforts; in return his charter was to operate totally outside the continental U.S. and to engage in a wide variety of public activities which would make his U.S. sponsorship totally deniable. Newly released CIA documents show that the Artime effort was highly compartmentalized and isolated, even from other “secret war” operations within the CIA.

86 This CIA autonomous group project was part of a larger Kennedy Administration multi-agency effort to produce a coup within Cuba, which would internally remove Fidel and Raul Castro, replacing them with a new provisional government in which exile leaders would play a key role. The CIA was not in charge of this effort, but was limited to supporting Artime’s military build-up off shore and other related political actions, including helping him establish contacts and infrastructure in a number of Latin American countries. CIA officers playing key roles in this project included Henry Hecksher and Carl Jenkins.

with Khrushchev. There's speculation that Oswald may have provided the Russians with information enabling it to bring down the U-2.

06/03/60—J. Edgar Hoover sends a memo to the State Department reporting that an imposter may be using Oswald's birth certificate in Russia.

08/01/60—Antonio Veciana, comptroller in Havana's Banco Financiero, is approached by deep-cover CIA agent "Maurice Bishop" to work with him in anti-Castro activity.<sup>87</sup>

09/24/60—CIA Operational Support Chief James O'Connell meets with asset Robert Maheu, a former FBI and CIA agent working for millionaire Howard Hughes, and Mob representative John Rosselli<sup>88</sup> to discuss involvement of organized crime in attempts to assassinate Castro. Later, O'Connell would be introduced to Mob bosses Sam Giancana and Santos Trafficante who would recruit Miami Cubans for the operation.

10/25/60—U. S. State Department sends a list of defectors to the CIA and requests any information it may have. The name of Lee Harvey Oswald is on the list.

12/09/60—CIA opens a 201-file on Oswald. Agency later tells Warren Commission it was opened as a result of the State Department's request of October 25.

01/01/61—The U.S. embassy in Havana is closed.

01/01/61—Dallas petroleum engineer and CIA asset George de Mohrenschildt arrives in Guatemala with his wife Jeanne. They remain in Guatemala for four months while the CIA is training [anti-Castro](#) Cubans there in preparation for the Bay of Pigs invasion.

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<sup>87</sup> Antonio Veciana had an established and successful accounting business in Cuba, with connections to numerous Cuban professionals and businessmen. However, Veciana was firmly opposed to Castro's turn to communism and eventually left Cuba to become one of the chief organizers of Alpha 66. Veciana traveled widely and served as the public spokesman for Alpha 66. He has made it clear that most of the group's strategy and plans were directed by a very secretive American. Veciana went on to work with this American in a variety of efforts, including assassination attempts directed against Castro. Veciana described one of these attempts (in Chile) as being very similar to the Kennedy assassination.

<sup>88</sup> John Roselli spent a lifetime within organized crime, eventually becoming one of the best connected and most respected "fixers," with connections to Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and Miami. Roselli first obtained success and prominence within the LA movie industry and then went on to become a key "facilitator" for gambling related deals in Las Vegas, and later in Havana, Cuba. He was a key organizer of the "skim" from Vegas casinos to syndicate heads in Chicago and the Midwest. When the CIA decided to go to the gambling syndicate to find someone who could use the established syndicate network inside Cuba for the assassination of Fidel Castro, Johnny Roselli was recommended. Roselli was involved in Castro assassination attempts both before the Bay of Pigs and afterwards, when the project was reactivated under William Harvey. One of his consistent resources in the Castro efforts was Antonio "Tony" Varona. Varona was a well-respected exile leader, but also a man with syndicate connections to the Trafficante organization within Cuba. Santo Trafficante Jr. headed most crime syndicate activities in Florida and Cuba. He was imprisoned by Fidel Castro after Castro began to take major control over the Havana casinos.

January 17, 1961: Congo leader [Patrice Lumumba](#), known for his support of African nationalism, is assassinated by the Belgian government with the complicity of the CIA in the Congo's secessionist province of Katanga, three days before the presidential inauguration of John F. Kennedy. On the same day, President Dwight D. Eisenhower delivers his Farewell Address, warning U.S. citizens of the rise in power of "[the military-industrial complex](#)," the "conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry [that] is new in the American experience . . . We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes."

January 19, 1961: During his last day in the White House, President Eisenhower gives President-elect Kennedy a transitional briefing. When Kennedy raises the possibility of the United States supporting a coalition government in Laos that would include Communists, Eisenhower says it would be far better to intervene militarily with U.S. troops.

01/20/61 — John F. Kennedy is inaugurated president of the United States.

January 20, 1961: President Kennedy delivers his Inaugural Address, balancing Cold War statements with the hope "that both sides begin anew the quest for peace, before the dark powers of destruction unleashed by science engulf all humanity in planned or accidental self-destruction."

02/05/61 — Oswald writes to Richard Snyder at the U.S. embassy in Moscow and expresses his desire to return home. He adds: "I hope that in recalling the responsibility I have to America that you remember yours in doing everything to help me since I am an American citizen."

02/13/61 — The CIA's Technical Services Division records indicate that a box of Castro's favorite cigars treated with a lethal poison were delivered to an unidentified asset. The records do not disclose whether an attempt was made to pass the cigars to Castro.

02/13/61 — CIA Support Chief James O'Connell delivers poison pills to Mob liaison John Rosselli who later claims to have given them to a Cuban official close to Castro. The pills are reportedly later returned after the official lost his position.

03/01/61 — At President Kennedy's direct order the Frente<sup>89</sup>, the umbrella group of [anti-Castro](#) organizations organized by the CIA's political liaison E. Howard Hunt, is replaced by a more liberal Cuban Revolutionary Council, called JURE. It now includes Manolo Ray, whom many consider a democratic socialist. [Amador Odio](#), [Silvia \(or Sylvia\) Odio](#)'s father, was one of the key backers of Ray's JURE. Hunt terms Ray's politics Fidelissimo sin Fidel (Fidelism without Fidel). Hunt was outraged at the appointment, and (either) resigns or is dismissed from his job as the CIA's political action officer for the Bay of Pigs operation.<sup>90</sup>

March 23, 1961: Over the opposition of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the CIA, President Kennedy changes policy on Laos by ending U.S. support of anti-communist ruler General Phoumi Nosavan, whose government was installed by CIA-Pentagon forces under Eisenhower. At a news conference Kennedy says the United States "strongly and unreservedly" supports "the goal of a neutral and independent Laos" and wants to join in an international conference on Laos.

04/15/61 — The CIA launches the Bay of Pigs invasion. It is over within two days. The Agency-trained forces of Brigade 2506 lose 114 men on the beaches; 1,189 are captured and imprisoned until December 1962 when the U.S. pays a ransom of \$53 million worth of food and drugs.

April 15—19, 1961: A Cuban exile brigade, trained and commanded by the CIA, invades Cuba at the Bay of Pigs. As the Cuban army led by Premier Fidel Castro surrounds the

<sup>89</sup> A list of the armed exile military organizations groups potentially most dangerous to Fidel Castro in the early 1960's would likely begin with Unidad Revolucionario/UR, formed within Cuba in 1960 and composed of participants from 27 independent groups, including Movimiento Liberation, MRD, MRR, Rescate, and 30th of November. Rafael Diaz Hanscomb of the MRR initiated this effort at unification, even after being advised against doing so by Antonio Varona, the leader of the **Frente**. Varona would later become the leader of the CIA-sponsored Cuban Revolutionary Council/CRC. Early in 1961, Diaz made a trip from Cuba to the United States to obtain external support via contacts at Sinclair Oil. During meetings with U.S. Government officials and the CIA, the UR was given pledges of supplies and a plan to establish and staff an office in Miami was developed. At this point the chief leaders of Unidad were Diaz Hascomb (Cuban General Coordinator), Andrews Zayas (Civil Coordinator), and Major Son Martin (Military Coordinator.) The first materials to be provided from the U.S. arrived in Cuba in late February, 1961 and by mid-March the CIA thought Unidad had developed into a significant [anti-Castro](#) movement, having penetrated Cuban police and military forces. Unidad was preparing plans for coordinated uprisings, a rebellion within the Cuban Navy, and other operations. But UNIDAD advised the CIA that it was not yet ready to support any actual military action against Castro. It also advised its own Cuban network of that position. The CIA did not warn UNIDAD about the impending Bay of Pigs invasion. As a result, it was not only unable to provide any support, but its members were surprised and its network extensively damaged by the Castro round-ups.

<sup>90</sup> JURE, organized by Manual "Manolo" Ray, was socialist-democratic in its politics and generally viewed by other groups, and the former Batista associated politicians, as being too left wing in its views. Many exiles, especially those from the commercial and landed social classes, viewed it virtually as "Castroism without Castro." Ray and JURE were also not trusted by many CIA officers, including Howard Hunt, Ted Shackley, and David Morales. In one memo out of JMIWAVE, Ray's group is suspected of spying on JM/WAVE/CIA operations. Many of the JURE members were outside the United States, and Ray himself spent a good deal of time in Puerto Rico. JURE had been part of the original consolidated exile movement.

invading force, President Kennedy refuses to send in U.S. combat forces. The exile brigade surrenders, and more than one thousand of its members are taken prisoner. President Kennedy realizes he has been drawn into a CIA trap designed to force him to escalate the battle by ordering a full-scale invasion of Cuba by U.S. troops. Kennedy says he wants “to splinter the CIA in a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds.”

June 3—4, 1961: At a summit meeting in Vienna, John Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev agree to support a neutral and independent Laos—the only issue they can agree upon. Khrushchev’s apparent indifference to the deepening threat of nuclear war shocks Kennedy.

July 20, 1961: At a National Security Council Meeting, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and CIA director Allen Dulles present a plan for a preemptive nuclear attack on the Soviet Union “in late 1963, preceded by a period of heightened tensions.” President Kennedy walks out of the meeting, saying to Secretary of State Dean Rusk, “And we call ourselves the human race.”

08/23/61—David Phillips is made chief of covert action in Mexico City.<sup>91</sup> He maintains the position until October 1963 when he is promoted to chief of Cuban operations.

August 30, 1961: The Soviet Union resumes atmospheric testing of thermonuclear weapons, exploding a 150-kiloton hydrogen bomb over Siberia.

09/01/61—In a unilateral move to isolate Cuba from its allies, the United States announces it will stop assistance to any country that assists Cuba.

September 5, 1961: After the Soviet testing of two more hydrogen bombs, President Kennedy announces he has ordered the resumption of U.S. nuclear tests.

September 25, 1961: President Kennedy delivers a speech on disarmament at the United Nations in which he states: “The weapons of war must be abolished before they abolish us. . . It is therefore our intention to challenge the Soviet Union, not to an arms race, but to a peace race—to advance together step by step, stage by stage, until general and complete disarmament has been achieved.”

**September 27, 1963**—John Martino on speaking tour to New Orleans and Dallas.<sup>92</sup>

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91 Gilberto Ugarte Alvarado was a Nicaraguan intelligence informant who went to CIA officials in Mexico City with a detailed story of having observed Lee Oswald inside the Cuban Embassy, receiving money for a Cuban sponsored assassination. Alvarado’s story was initially strongly endorsed by local CIA officers; David Phillips was a leading proponent of Alvarado’s information.

92 John Martino was a casino employee in Havana, specializing in electrical installations. He left Cuba during the Castro take over, but continued to make trips back, possibly serving as a courier. During one such trip he and his young son were arrested. The son was returned to the United States. John Martino was imprisoned by Castro for several years. After his release in late 1962, he wrote a book (*I Was Castro Prisoner*), which was published in 1963. The book related the failure of the U.S. State Department to support him while in prison, as well as a host of terrible information about the Castro revolution and government. The book mentioned many individuals Martino met in prison and also named David Morales,

September 29, 1961: Nikita Khrushchev writes a first confidential letter to John Kennedy. He smuggles it to the president in a newspaper brought by a Soviet intelligence agent to Kennedy's press secretary Pierre Salinger. In the letter Khrushchev compares their common concern for peace in the nuclear age "with Noah's Ark where both the 'clean' and the 'unclean' found sanctuary. But regardless of who lists himself with the 'clean' and who is considered to be 'unclean,' they are all equally interested in one thing and that is that the Ark should successfully continue its cruise."

10/03/61—An assassination attempt against Castro instigated by Maurice Bishop fails and Veciana is forced to flee Cuba. Reynol Gonzalez, one of Veciana's coconspirators, is later arrested hiding on the estate of Amador Odio, a wealthy industrialist and father of Silvia Odio. Gonzales, the elder Odio, and his wife are arrested.<sup>93</sup>

October 16, 1961: Kennedy responds privately to Khrushchev, writing: "I like very much your analogy of Noah's Ark, with both the 'clean' and the 'unclean' determined that it stay afloat. Whatever our differences, our collaboration to keep the peace is as urgent—if not more urgent—than our collaboration to win the last world war."

October 27—28, 1961: After a summer of U.S.—Soviet tensions over Berlin culminating in Khrushchev's August order to erect a wall between East and West Berlin, General Lucius Clay, President Kennedy's personal representative in West Berlin, provokes a sixteen-hour confrontation between U.S. and Soviet tanks at the Berlin Wall. Kennedy sends an urgent, back-channel appeal to Khrushchev, who then initiates their mutual withdrawal of the tanks, prefiguring the resolution of the Cuban Missile Crisis one year later.

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a U.S. Embassy employee who had impressed Martino. Martino was credited with trying to warn the U.S. Government about Castro's communist leanings. In 1963, Martino promoted and personally participated in the Bayo-Pawley mission into Cuba. This mission was staffed with Alpha 66 personnel, with military coordination by Rip Robertson, who worked for David Morales at JM/WAVE. Robertson had debriefed Martino after his return from Cuba.

<sup>93</sup> Silvia (or Sylvia) Odio was the daughter of wealthy Cuban businessman, Amador Odio; both her father and mother ended up imprisoned by Fidel Castro for providing aid and comfort to revolutionary activities against Castro. Sylvia and her father were both politically affiliated with Manolo Ray's relatively liberal JURE party. Sylvia and her children eventually moved to Dallas, Texas in early 1963 to join other members of her family. While not active with the local JURE organization herself, Sylvia remained in contact with Ray and attempted to locate weapon sources for JURE. Her younger sister, Santa, a college student in Dallas, was associated with individuals who were active DRE members.

11/01/61—Maurice Bishop contacts Antonio Veciana in Miami and instructs him to establish an [anti-Castro](#) organization. The organization is later called Alpha 66.<sup>94</sup>

11/01/61—Presidential Advisor Richard Goodwin and CIA Deputy Edward Lansdale recommend the creation of Operation Mongoose as a coordinated effort to depose Castro's government.<sup>95</sup>

11/16/61—CIA Deputy Director for Plans Richard Bissell directs Cuban Task Force head William Harvey<sup>96</sup> to apply the ZR/RIFLE assassination program to Cuba. Harvey reestablishes the Agency contact with Mob liaison John Rosselli.

November 22, 1961: While refusing the Joint Chiefs' recommendation that U.S. combat troops be deployed to defeat an insurgency in Vietnam, President Kennedy orders the sending of military advisers and support units—the beginning of a steady military buildup in Vietnam during his presidency.

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94 Tony Cuesta had been a businessman in Havana, but after going into exile he became one of the most aggressive exile raiders, operating first with Alpha 66 and then with Commandos L (Liberty). Cuesta led his first mission into Cuba in September of 1962, shortly before the Cuban Missile Crisis. However, he became a very visible and public figure primarily due to *LIFE* magazine's coverage of a raid he led into Cuba in the spring of 1963. Cuesta led a Commandos L team (a spin off group from Alpha 66) the raid resulted in the sinking of the Russian merchant ship, *Baku*, and received major media visibility as part of *LIFE*'s photo journalism support for the exiles and their efforts. A *LIFE* photographer accompanied Cuesta and his crew on the mission.

95 The Mongoose project was the follow-on Kennedy Administration response to the disaster at the Bay of Pigs. That project had actually originated under President Eisenhower. Mongoose was to be the Kennedy response; it originated in a memorandum from President Kennedy in November of 1961. The memorandum went to multiple agencies and called for all designated parties to follow the lead of Major General Edward Lansdale. Lansdale, designated Mongoose project leader, was to "use our available assets to help Cuba overthrow the communist regime." These assets were to be largely operated out of the CIA station in Miami known as JM/WAVE, and run by station chief Theodore Shackley. Lansdale would run the planning and oversee the grand strategy of Mongoose, while William Harvey was assigned to be in charge of the CIA elements known as Task Force W. Lansdale's decisions and planning were to be overseen by a special group of senior administration personnel in Washington, including Robert Kennedy.

96 William Harvey was a senior CIA officer who was placed in charge of Task Force W (CIA operations) within the multiple agency, Kennedy Administration, [anti-Castro](#) project named Mongoose. Mongoose was charged with the overthrow of the Castro regime. Project Mongoose and Task Force W operated out of the same facilities and used the resources of the giant JM/WAVE CIA station on the south campus of the University of Miami. Harvey was ordered by Richard Helms to reactivate the joint CIA-Roselli assassination project in 1962. Helms apparently did this without the knowledge of either the Kennedy Administration or the director of the CIA, John McCone. This effort had originally been organized prior to the Bay of Pigs, using syndicate "fixer" Johnny Roselli and remaining gambling syndicate connections in Cuba, which had been part of the Trafficante network. Harvey and Roselli engaged in several efforts to poison or otherwise remove Fidel Castro during 1962, and although the project was officially terminated at the end of that year, the two men continued a close personal association throughout 1963. This association continued even after Harvey was removed from Task Force W and reassigned to Italy. William Harvey had earlier been assigned by Richard Helms to organize and recruit personnel for an overseas CIA Executive Action capability designated ZR/RIFLE. This project was to give the CIA the capability to remove foreign leaders through the use of criminal assets. Recent document releases also show this project remained active during 1963, after Harvey's removal from Task Force W, Mongoose and his reassignment.

11/29/61—President Kennedy fires CIA Director Allen Dulles and his deputy Richard Bissell as a result of the Bay of Pigs debacle; Kennedy appoints an “outsider,” John McCone, an industrialist and former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, as head of the Agency.

11/30/61—President Kennedy writes memo to Secretary of State Dean Rusk recording his decision to start Operation Mongoose. A presidential advisory group, headed by Robert Kennedy and called Special Group (Augmented), is to control it. The CIA’s branch of Operation Mongoose, Task Force W, is headed by William Harvey, boss of the Agency’s ZR/RIFLE “Executive Action” section. Miami’s JM/WAVE station is the CIA’s operational center for Mongoose. Headed by Theodore Shackley, its chief of operations is David Sanchez Morales, David Phillips’s close associate. With an official staff of more than three hundred and with fifty-four front corporations, the Agency becomes one of Florida’s largest employers.

November 30, 1961: President Kennedy authorizes “Operation Mongoose,” a covert-action program “to help Cuba overthrow the communist regime.” He appoints counterinsurgency specialist General Edward Lansdale as its Chief of Operations.

02/19/62—Richard Helms replaces Richard Bissell as the CIA’s deputy director for Plans, in charge of all covert operations.

April 13, 1962: President Kennedy, backed by overwhelming public support, forces the leaders of the steel industry to rescind a price increase that violates a Kennedy-brokered agreement to combat inflation. Kennedy’s anti-business statements and beginning cancellation of the steel companies’ defense contracts make him notorious among the power brokers of the military-industrial complex.

April 25, 1962: As authorized by President Kennedy, the United States sets off the first of a series of twenty-four nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

May 8, 1962: Following President Kennedy’s instructions, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara orders General Paul Harkins at a Saigon conference “to devise a plan for turning full responsibility [for the war in Vietnam] over to South Vietnam and reducing the size of our military command, and to submit this plan at the next conference.”

05/21/62—CIA Technical Services Division gives poison pills to Cuban Ops chief William Harvey to pass to Mob contact John Rosselli who in turn will pass pills on to the same Cuban contact involved in the pre-Bay of Pigs attempt to poison Castro. The Cuban contact would later claim the opportunity to use the pills never came up.

06/13/62—Oswald, with his Russian wife and baby daughter, disembark from the SS Maasdam in Hobokon, New Jersey. The CIA claims it took no interest in the returning defector, but the Oswalds are met by Spas T. Raikin, a caseworker with Travelers Aid in New York. Raikin is a member of American Friends of Anti-Bolshevik Nations, a staunch

anticommunist group. Late the next day, the Oswalds fly to Fort Worth where they will temporarily stay with his brother Robert. Oswald's mother Marguerite later said he had sent her a letter from Moscow saying he would stop in Washington on the way home. According to Legend author Edward J. Epstein, a CIA psychologist code-named Cato interviewed a Russian defector who resembled Oswald at the Roger Smith Hotel in Washington on the evening of June 13.

June 13, 1962: With his Russian wife, Marina, and infant daughter, June, Lee Harvey Oswald returns to the United States with a loan from the State Department, after his highly publicized October 1959 defection to the Soviet Union and two and one-half years living as an expatriate in Minsk. As the Oswalds settle in Fort Worth, Texas, Lee Oswald begins to be shepherded by intelligence asset George de Mohrenschildt, at the instigation of Dallas CIA agent J. Walton Moore.

06/20/62—Oswald is befriended by Peter Paul Gregory, a petroleum engineer teaching Russian language courses at the Fort Worth library. Gregory begins introducing the Oswalds to his friends in the White Russian community in Dallas. Among them is George de Mohrenschildt, who would later say that he first heard of Oswald through J. Walton Moore in late 1961. Moore, of the CIA's Domestic Contact Service in Dallas, described an ex-Marine working in an electronics factory in Minsk who would soon return to the United States. Moore said the CIA had an "interest" in Oswald.

07/13/62—Oswald obtains a job with Leslie Welding Company in Fort Worth. He assembles doors and windows for \$1.25 an hour.

July 23, 1962: The United States joins thirteen other nations at Geneva in signing the "Declaration on the Neutrality of Laos." CIA and Pentagon opponents regard Kennedy's negotiation of the Laotian agreement as surrender to the Communists. They undermine it by supporting General Phoumi's violations of the cease-fire. In another conference on the war in Vietnam, at Camp Smith, Hawaii, Secretary McNamara discovers that his May 8 order to General Harkins has been ignored. He repeats President Kennedy's order for a program to phase out U.S. military involvement in Vietnam.

09/10/62—With only Washington's intelligence insiders aware of a brewing Cuban missile crisis, Maurice Bishop directs Alpha 66<sup>97</sup> leader Antonio Veciana to launch a

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<sup>97</sup> Alpha 66 was one of the best organized and most militarily effective of the activist Cuban exile organizations. In 1962 and 1963, Alpha 66 was very successful in launching attacks in Cuba, targeting port installations and foreign shipping. Russian ships and assets were among its primary targets. Alpha 66 was also especially effective at private fund raising through exile business connections in New York City and Puerto Rico; the key individual in this effort was one of its principal organizers, Antonio Veciana. The most well known, aggressive and successful Alpha 66 raid leaders were Tony Cuesta and Eduardo (Eddie) Perez (Bayo). Alpha 66 was largely put together by Antonio Veciana and Eloy Menoyo; Veciana had approached the CIA with a proposal to assassinate Castro and his key leaders. In 1961 he helped organized an abortive bazooka attack on Castro before escaping into exile. Eloy Menoyo had been an active Second Front of the Escambray leader during the revolution against Batista. Menoyo was adamant in retaining the "Second Front of the Escambray" name and the consolidated group was often referred to as Second Front Alpha 66.

commando attack on a British ship and two Cuban cargo vessels off the north coast of Cuba. Four days later, the Associated Press reports from San Juan, Puerto Rico, that Veciana declares that Alpha 66 will make five more raids into Cuba in the next sixty days. He claims a war chest of \$100,000.

10/07/62—After attending the Van Cliburn piano competition in Fort Worth, George de Mohrenschildt joins his daughter Alexandra and friends from the White Russian community at a gathering at the Oswald apartment. Oswald's mother Marguerite later says she had the impression that de Mohrenschildt had already arranged a job for her son in Dallas.

10/08/62—Under the strategic direction of Maurice Bishop, Antonio Veciana orders commandos of Alpha 66 to attack Soviet merchant ships in Havana harbor.

10/11/62—Oswald is hired by Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall Co., a Dallas photographic firm that has a contract with the U.S. Army Map Service, which involves information obtained from U-2 spy flights.

October 16, 1962: President Kennedy is informed that photographs from a U-2 reconnaissance flight show Soviet medium-range ballistic missiles in Cuba. Kennedy calls a top-secret meeting of his key advisers, who become the Executive Committee (ExComm) of the National Security Council. At their first meeting, they debate ways of destroying the Soviet missiles by preemptive attacks on Cuba, prompting Robert Kennedy to write a note to the president saying: "I now know how Tojo felt when he was planning Pearl Harbor."

October 19, 1962: As President Kennedy resolves to blockade further Soviet missile shipments rather than bomb and invade Cuba, he meets with his Joint Chiefs of Staff. They push for an immediate attack on the missile sites. General Curtis LeMay tells him, "This [blockade and political action] is almost as bad as the appeasement [of Hitler] at Munich."

October 22, 1962: President Kennedy delivers a televised speech to the nation, announcing the U.S. discovery of Soviet missile sites in Cuba. He declares "a strict quarantine on all offensive military equipment under shipment to Cuba" and calls for "the prompt dismantling and withdrawal of all offensive weapons in Cuba."

October 27, 1962: A Soviet surface-to-air missile shoots down a U-2 reconnaissance plane over Cuba, killing the Air Force pilot. The Joint Chiefs and ExComm urge a quick retaliatory attack. Kennedy sends a letter accepting Khrushchev's proposal to withdraw the Soviet missiles in return for JFK's pledge not to invade Cuba, while ignoring Khrushchev's later demand that the United States remove its analogous missiles from

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Many young, activist Cubans also had dual membership in Alpha 66 and in the DRE (Student Revolutionary Directorate). The DRE students had been strongly involved in the Castro revolt against Batista, but had been excluded as Castro turned to communism and Russia. DRE members remained strong anti-communists and maintained one of the most effective intelligence channels into Cuba under Castro.

Turkey beside the Soviet border. JFK sends Robert Kennedy to meet with Soviet ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. RFK gives Dobrynin a secret promise that the missiles in Turkey will also be withdrawn as part of the agreement. He appeals for a quick response by Khrushchev, saying many generals are pushing for war and the president may lose control. Upon receipt of this message from Dobrynin, Khrushchev announces publicly he is taking the Soviet missiles out of Cuba in exchange for Kennedy's no-invasion pledge. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are outraged by Kennedy's refusal to attack Cuba and his concessions to Khrushchev.

10/28/62—After weeks of tense confrontation that brought the world to the brink of a nuclear holocaust, Russian Premier Khrushchev announces that the U.S.S.R. had decided to dismantle Soviet missiles in Cuba. Kennedy responds by congratulating Khrushchev for “an important contribution to peace.” An agreement is reached which includes Kennedy's promise to halt Operation Mongoose raids against Cuba. The confrontation appears to be a cathartic experience for Kennedy. “Our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet,” he says in a speech later. “We all breathe the same air, we all cherish our children's futures and we are all mortal.”

12/04/62—U.S. Customs officers capture twelve [anti-Castro](#) guerillas, mostly American soldiers of fortune trained by the CIA, at a secret training base called No Name Key, north of Key West, as they are about to embark on a raid to Cuba. They are charged with violation of the Neutrality Act. Among those arrested is Gerry Patrick Hemming, founder with Frank Sturgis of the international Anti-Communist Brigade.

December 18, 1962: After visiting Vietnam at President Kennedy's request, Senator Mike Mansfield issues a report cautioning Kennedy against being drawn “inexorably into some variation of the unenviable position in Vietnam which was formerly occupied by the French.”

01/01/63—Task Force W is replaced by new CIA group called Special Affairs Staff. Desmond FitzGerald replaces William Harvey and continues [anti-Castro](#) raids on a smaller scale, despite earlier Kennedy directives to halt all Cuban operations.

02/02/63—The CIA establishes a new Domestic Operations Division under Tracy Barnes, chief of the psychological and paramilitary staff for the Agency's clandestine branch during the Bay of Pigs, when he worked with David Phillips as propaganda chief. E. Howard Hunt is shifted from chief of the covert action staff in the Western European Division to a deputy position in Barnes's new division. On orders from Deputy Director FitzGerald, Phillips takes over Cuban operations.

02/02/63—George and Jeanne de Mohrenschildt invite the Oswalds to a party at the home of Everett Glover, where Michael Paine, the estranged husband of Ruth Paine, lives; but Paine, who works for Bell Helicopter, isn't present. The Oswalds, however, are introduced to Ruth Paine, who would later invite Marina Oswald and her daughter to live with her when Oswald moved to a rooming house.

03/19/63—At a press conference in Washington arranged by spymaster Maurice Bishop, Alpha 66 leader Antonio Veciana announces that his [anti-Castro](#) forces have raided a “Soviet fortress” and ship in a Cuban port east of Havana, causing a dozen Soviet casualties and serious damage. Veciana says his purpose is “to wage psychological warfare against the government of Premier Fidel Castro and the Soviet troops supporting him.” The New York Times says the Kennedy administration is “embarrassed by the incident.”

March 19, 1963: At a Washington news conference, the CIA-sponsored Cuban exile group Alpha 66 announces its having raided a Soviet “fortress” and ship in Cuba, causing a dozen casualties. The secret purpose of the attack in Cuban waters, according to Alpha 66’s incognito CIA adviser, David Atlee Phillips, is “to publicly embarrass Kennedy and force him to move against Castro.”

March 31, 1963: President Kennedy orders a crackdown on Cuban refugee gunboats being run by the CIA out of Miami. Robert Kennedy’s Justice Department confines the movement of [anti-Castro](#) commando leaders to the Miami area, while the Coast Guard seizes their boats and arrests the crews.

04/01/63—The New York Times reports: “Seventeen heavily armed Cuban exiles planning to attack a Soviet tanker off Cuba were seized yesterday by a British force on a solitary islet in the Bahamas chain. . . . The capture was apparently the first result of an agreement worked out late last week by Washington and London to cooperate in preventing raids by opponents of Premier Fidel Castro. . . [In Miami], Cuban exiles reacted with a mixture of anger, defiance and gloom. . . .” The [anti-Castro](#) raiding party was led by Jerry Buchanan, a member of Frank Sturgis’s International Anti-Communist Brigade.

04/05/63—The Kennedy administration reveals it is assigning more Navy and Customs planes and boats to police the Florida straits against continuing [anti-Castro](#) raids.

April 11, 1963: Pope John XXIII issues his encyclical letter, *Pacem in Terris* (“Peace On Earth”). Norman Cousins presents an advance copy in Russian to Nikita Khrushchev. The papal encyclical’s principles of mutual trust and cooperation with an ideological opponent provide a foundation for the Kennedy—Khrushchev dialogue and Kennedy’s American University address in June. President Kennedy writes secretly to Premier Khrushchev that he is “aware of the tensions unduly created by recent private attacks on your ships in Cuban waters; and we are taking action to halt those attacks which are in violation of our laws.” Also in early April, James Donovan, U.S. negotiator, returns to Cuba to confer with Premier Fidel Castro for the further release of Bay of Pigs prisoners. The CIA attempts through an unwitting Donovan to foist a CIA-contaminated diving suit on Castro, as a gift by the Kennedy-appointed negotiator, in a failed effort to simultaneously assassinate Castro, scapegoat Kennedy, and sabotage a beginning Cuban—American dialogue.

04/16/63—Oswald writes V. T. Lee of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New York that he had passed out FPCC literature in Dallas and requests that more be sent to him. The FBI steps up its surveillance and mail-intercept program of the FPCC.

04/16/63—Alpha 66 continues to expand, with branches in Miami, New York, Chicago, and Dallas; announces it is now opening a chapter in Los Angeles.

April 18, 1963: [Dr. Jose Miro Cardona](#), head of the Cuban Revolutionary Council (CRC<sup>98</sup>) in Miami, subsidized by the CIA, resigns in protest against Kennedy's shift in Cuban policy. Cardona concludes from Kennedy's actions: "the struggle for Cuba is in the process of being liquidated by the [U.S.] Government."

04/19/63—With details of Kennedy's Cuban missile crisis agreement with Khrushchev still emerging, Dr. José Miro Cardona resigns as head of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, originally set up by the U.S. government as a means of controlling the disparate [anti-Castro](#) groups. Miro Cardona charges that Kennedy has given Castro "absolute immunity" and accuses him of "liquidating the struggle for Cuba."

04/24/63—Oswald is laid off from Jagers-Chiles-Stovall and tells his wife he is going to New Orleans to look for work and that she should follow in a few weeks. He temporarily moves in with his aunt and uncle, the Murrets. Charles Murret is a shipyard worker and small time bookie who works under the Marcello organized crime family.

May 6, 1963: In another conference on Vietnam chaired by Secretary McNamara at Camp Smith, Hawaii, the Pacific Command finally presents President Kennedy's long-sought plan for withdrawal from Vietnam. However, McNamara has to reject the military's overextended time line. He orders that concrete plans be drawn up for withdrawing one thousand U.S. military personnel from South Vietnam by the end of 1963. President Kennedy issues National Security Action Memorandum 239, ordering his principal national security advisers to pursue both a nuclear test ban treaty and a policy of general and complete disarmament.

05/07/63—After making arrangements through Army Colonel Sam Kail (the contact given to Antonio Veciana by Maurice Bishop when Kail was the military attaché at the American embassy in Havana), George de Mohrenschildt brings his Haitian business

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98 Tony Varona, acting head of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, supported by the Kennedy Administration and the CIA during and after the Bay of Pigs. Varona was heavily involved in exile politics and to a large extent became a stand-in for former Cuban President Carlos Prío Socarrés. Varona became the head of numerous exile parties, including the FRD, OA, and Rescate. The CRC worked with various Interpen members to set up a training camp outside New Orleans in 1962 (when the administration began cracking down on raids out of Florida), but aborted the effort due to ongoing administration opposition to unauthorized exile military activities. Varona also maintained connections to the powerful gambling syndicate members who had been so influential in pre-Castro Cuba, including the Trafficante organization. It was this connection which resulted in his being used in the Roselli organized poison attempts against Castro. Verona accepted arms, money, and supplies in return for his participation. Varona also maintained his connections to key political leaders such as Manuel Artime, even after Artime was selected by the Kennedy Administration to move the exile efforts against Castro offshore in 1963.

partner, Clemard Charles, to a meeting with a CIA staff officer in Washington prior to departing for Haiti. Charles is believed to be a conduit for CIA funds funneled through Haitian dictator François Duvalier.

May 8, 1963: At a protest in Hue, South Vietnam, by Buddhists claiming religious repression by the Diem government, two explosions attributed to government security forces kill eight people, wounding fifteen others. The government accuses the Viet Cong of setting off the explosions. A later, independent investigation identifies the bomber as a U.S. military officer, using CIA-supplied plastic bombs. The Buddhist Crisis touched off by the Hue explosions threatens to topple Ngo Dinh Diem's government, destroying the possibility of a Diem—Kennedy agreement for a U.S. military withdrawal from Vietnam.

05/09/63—Oswald obtains a job at the Reily Coffee Company in New Orleans. The company's owner, William Reily, is a wealthy backer of [anti-Castro](#) groups and activities.

05/26/63—Oswald writes V. T. Lee at the New York FPCC: “Now that I live in New Orleans I have been thinking about renting a small office at my own expense for the purpose of forming a FPCC branch here in New Orleans. Could you give me a charter? Also a picture of Fidel, suitable for framing would be a welcome touch.”

05/29/63—At Jones Printing Company, next to Reily Coffee, Oswald orders a thousand handbills that read: “HANDS OFF CUBA! Join the Fair Play for Cuba Committee NEW ORLEANS CHARTER MEMBER BRANCH.” Some of the handbills are hand stamped with the address 544 Camp Street. That is the office of ex-FBI agent Guy Banister and his investigator David Ferrie, ardent [anti-Castro](#) supporters.

**June 8, 1963**—The [Bayo-Pawley mission \(Operation TILT\)](#) operatives clandestinely entered Cuba to bring out two Red Army officers with purported knowledge of Soviet nuclear missiles still in Cuba post-Cuban missile crisis (i.e., Were the Soviets violating the JFK-Khrushchev agreement?). [Eduardo "Eddie Bayo" Perez](#)<sup>99</sup> initially promoted and organized Operation TILT (aka Bayo-Pawley mission), funded by patriotic multi-millionaire international statesman and business man, [William Douglas Pawley](#)<sup>100</sup>

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99 Eddie Bayo (Eduardo Perez) initially fought under Raul Castro against Batista. Bayo was a fierce fighter and later turned against the Castro regime. After his rejection of Castro and his exile to the U.S., Bayo became a crew member of the *Tejana III*. The *Tejana* was a WWII subchaser, which had been purchased by persons associated with the King Ranch in Texas and pledged to the CIA's secret efforts against Castro. It was then purchased by Alberto Fernandez Hechaverria, registered under the dummy company name of InterKey Transportation, and refitted and “gunned” by the CIA for supply missions into Cuba before the Bay of Pigs in 1961. In 1963, the *Tejana* was placed under control of Manual Artime and crewed by his MRR commandos as part of the build-up of his forces outside the United States. After leaving the *Tejana*, Bayo became one of the most aggressive and successful leaders of Alpha 66 boat attack groups, participating in raids against Russian ships and assets in Cuba.

100 William Pawley was posthumously lionized by biographer Anthony R. Carrozza in [“William D. Pawley: The Extraordinary Life of the Adventurer, Entrepreneur, and Diplomat Who Cofounded the Flying Tigers”](#), March 2012.

(QDDALE)<sup>101</sup>, [cofounder](#) of the [Flying Tigers](#), successively former U.S. ambassador to Peru and Brazil during the Truman administration, and a close personal friend of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and former CIA DCI Allen Dulles.

William D. Pawley participated personally in the mission. In addition to William Pawley and Eddie Bayo, personnel from CIA's [Cuban "secret war"](#) JM/WAVE headquarters in Miami, and two staff members from [Life magazine](#), who, in modern terms, were "embedded" to get the scoop on the outcome, if successful, participated in the mission. The mission failed.

In "Miamian Pawley Tells of '63 Cuba Operation, Loss of Ten Exiles," Miami Herald, January 8, 1976, states, "The ten men [lost] were Tomas Vaquero, Luis Jimenez, Denis Rigal [aka Denys Regal], Rene Lamoru [aka Rene Lomalru], Rolando Rodriguez [no other trace found of this person except in this quote], Francisco Hernandez [aka Francesco Hernandez], Luis Cantin, Alfredo Mir, Ernesto Duenas [aka Ernesto Duenas Esposo De Socorro], and Eddie Bayo [aka Eduardo Perez]."

However, listed elsewhere, the group also included William (Rip) Robertson<sup>102</sup>, [Virgilio Gonzalez](#), [Eugenio Martinez](#), John Martino<sup>103</sup>, and [Richard Billings](#) and [Terry Spencer](#), the journalist and photographer working for Life Magazine, possibly others (e.g., there are 14 men, most unidentified, including the photographer, in this [mission photo – see third photo from top](#)).

The group boarded a [CIA flying boat](#) (bottom photo). After landing off [Baracoa](#), [Bayo and his men got into a 22-foot craft](#) and headed for the Cuban shore. The plan was to pick them up with the Soviet officers two days later. They were unsuccessful in their attempts

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101 Mary Ferrell Foundation, CIA Cryptonyms, [http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/CIA\\_Cryptonyms#\\_QD](http://www.maryferrell.org/wiki/index.php/CIA_Cryptonyms#_QD)

102 William "Rip" Robertson was a CIA military operations officer; he joined the PB/SUCCESS team in Guatemala, serving as part of the military component with David Morales. Robertson would later become a Brigade 2506 military advisor, and was present as an advisor and UDT (underwater demolitions team) leader at the Bay of Pigs. He then became one of the military operations personnel at JM/WAVE, where he continued to demonstrate his personal bravery in Cuban penetration missions. Reportedly Robertson, along with senior boat guide Eugenio Martinez, were part of the unsanctioned group sent into Cuba by William Harvey during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Both men would later be assigned to the CIA supported TILT mission. Robertson had also conducted debriefing and other contacts with John Martino after Martino's return from prison in Cuba. Robertson went on to lead Cuban exile military personnel in Angola (where he used the name "Carlos") and later served in Vietnam.

103 John Martino became a close friend and confidant of Felipe Vidal, keeping Martino informed on exile affairs. In the fall of 1963 Vidal made a series of trips to Dallas, Texas. During 1962 and 1963, Vidal associated with the Interpen group but primarily became a good friend of Roy Hargraves. Vidal was a Cuban Naval officer who went into exile from Castro's communist regime via South America. Vidal was approached by CIA, but no ongoing relationship developed due to mutual distrust. Vidal distrusted CIA's motives. Vidal moved into the U.S. via Miami and remained very independent, joining no established exile party, but associating with more operationally inclined individuals. He attempted to form his own group for missions into Cuba but could not come up with sufficient funding. Vidal was one of the first people approached by Paulino Sierra when he came to Miami recruiting for the JCGE.

to find the Soviet officers they were looking for and forced to return to Miami. Eddie Bayo, hero to many inside the movement,<sup>104</sup> remained behind and it was rumored that he had been captured and executed. However, his death was never reported in the Cuban press.

June 10, 1963: President Kennedy delivers his Commencement Address at American University in Washington proposing, in effect, an end to the Cold War. Rejecting the goal of “a Pax Americana enforced on the world by American weapons of war,” Kennedy asks Americans to reexamine their attitudes toward war, especially in relation to the people of the Soviet Union, who suffered incomparable losses in World War II. Now nuclear war would be far worse: “All we have built, all we have worked for, would be destroyed in the first 24 hours.” He announces his unilateral suspension of further nuclear tests in the atmosphere, so as to promote “our primary long-range interest,” “general and complete disarmament.”

06/24/63—Oswald applies for a new passport, receives it the next day.

June 25, 1963: Lee Harvey Oswald is issued a United States passport in New Orleans, twenty-four hours after his application and one year after his return from defecting to the Soviet Union. On his passport application, he identifies his destination as the Soviet Union.

07/19/63—Oswald is fired from his job at Reily Coffee. Adrian Alba, who manages the parking garage next door, drops in to see him, says Oswald appears in good spirits, tells Alba, “I have found my pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.”

07/24/63—A group of [anti-Castro](#) Cubans arrives in New Orleans from Miami and joins a training camp off Lake Pontchartrain. Members are from the International Anti-Communist Brigade, established by Frank Sturgis and Gerry Patrick Hemming. The Senate Intelligence Committee Report would later claim that “‘A,’ life-long friend of [AM/LASH \[Rolando Cubela\]](#)<sup>105</sup>,” had helped procure explosives for the camp. “A” is

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104 Alberto Fernandez (CIA crypt AM/DENIM-1), another funding source for Eddie Bayo and the boat raids, was a graduate of Princeton, attended prep school with John F. Kennedy, and was the director of the Sugar Stabilization Board of the Cuban Sugar Institute in 1958 and 1959. His eventual opposition to Castro and his counter-evolutionary activities led to his exile. Initially he had been a strong 26th of July supporter and reportedly raised over \$2 million dollars for the movement. An FBI memo dated October 1958 lists companies that had been solicited for payments to Fidel Castro and his rebel army. These included United Fruit, Lone Star Cement, Freeport Sulphur, Czarnikow Rionda, Chase Manhattan Bank, King Ranch (Robert Kleberg), Standard Oil, and Hilton Hotels. One of Fernandez's first operational moves after his exfiltration to the United States was to use his business connections, including his being known to the Klebergs of King Ranch, to help negotiate and fund the purchase of an ex-Navy sub chaser for penetration and supply missions into Cuba. The ship was located in New Orleans, owned by Texan Robert McCoy, and was purchased jointly with Texas (Kleberg) and Cuban funds (approximately \$38,000 each) in November of 1960. This ship would be named the *Tejana*. Its crew would come to include two men whose names would also become legendary in independent exile military operations: Tony Cuesta (AM/DENIM 14) and Eddie Bayo.

105 AM/LASH is a CIA cryptonym associated both with a project and an individual. The individual was Dr. Rolando Cubela. Cubela had led DRE forces into Havana to oust Batista, but later became associated

Victor Espinosa Hernandez, who obtained the explosives from Richard Lauchli, cofounder of the paramilitary right-wing Minutemen. During the Garrison investigation, reports were received that Oswald and David Ferrie were seen at this camp.

July 25, 1963: In Moscow, on behalf of President Kennedy, U.S. negotiator, [W. Averell Harriman](#) agrees with Soviet negotiators to the Limited Test Ban Treaty, outlawing nuclear tests “in the atmosphere, beyond its limits, including outer space, or under water, including territorial waters or high seas.”

July 26, 1963: President Kennedy makes a television appeal to the nation for support of the test ban treaty, quoting Nikita Khrushchev on a nuclear war they both hope to avoid: “The survivors would envy the dead.”

07/31/63—The FBI seizes more than a ton of dynamite, bomb casing, and napalm material at a home off Lake Pontchartrain but not part of the IAB camp. The home is owned by William McClaney, a well-known Havana gambler and brother of Mike McClaney, former casino owner in Cuba.

08/01/63—Oswald is Listed by the House UnAmerican Activities Committee as the secretary of the Fair Play for Cuba chapter in New Orleans.

08/09/63—Oswald is arrested on Canal Street in New Orleans after a confrontation with [anti-Castro](#) Cuban exiles, including Carlos Bringuier, a member of the CIA-supported Student Revolutionary Directorate (DRE).<sup>106</sup> Oswald was handing out leaflets for the pro-

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with Castro and held a variety of minor posts in the Castro regime. These posts did, however, allow Cubela to travel internationally. After contacts with and recruitment by the CIA, Cubela eventually came to be viewed by the CIA as one option for organizing an internal revolt against Castro. Cubela himself continuously promoted the idea of an assassination attempt against Castro and requested equipment from the CIA for this project.

106 Members of the Student Directorate were very active in protesting and opposing the Batista regime, and DRE fighters played a major role in the revolution against him. DRE members fought fiercely in Havana and initially took control, later to concede political control to Fidel Castro and his followers when they entered the city. DRE members were later among the first to oppose Castro’s eventual turn to communism and the Soviets. The DRE network inside Cuba might be considered one of the best organized and secure during the period of 1962-1963. In the U.S., DRE exiles and members were primarily engaged in fund raising, recruiting, and political/media opposition to the Castro regime. DRE and its Miami chapter were one of the few exile organizations actively cultivated and supported by the CIA, both for their intelligence connections and their political value. However, DRE members who were more operationally inclined did participate in raids of their own into Cuba, and also joined with other operationally focused groups such as Alpha 66/SNFE. During 1962 and 1963, the leader of DRE was Manuel Salvar, and its military director was Blanco Fernandez. Army intelligence documents note that some members of Alpha 66 were also members of the DRE. We find DRE and Alpha 66 individuals associated in Miami, Puerto Rico, and in Dallas during this period. We also find DRE members in New Orleans in contact with Lee Oswald in 1963, and very actively involved in developing propaganda opposing Oswald and the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. DRE members in New Orleans and Miami were also among the very first to seek media attention tying Castro to Oswald and to the Kennedy assassination. Unfortunately, the reports dealing with Oswald, which must have gone from the DRE to its CIA case officer, have never been made available and as of 2006 are the subject of an ongoing lawsuit against the CIA.

Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee. The confrontation seems staged. An FBI agent interviews Oswald in jail, but despite inaugurating a special “Cuban Section” to its Security Index after the Cuban missile crisis, Oswald’s name is not added to it.

August 9—10, 1963: Lee Harvey Oswald is arrested in New Orleans while passing out Fair Play for Cuba leaflets. He and three [anti-Castro](#) Cuban exiles, who confront him and tear up his leaflets, are charged with disturbing the peace. After Oswald spends the night in jail, he meets privately with New Orleans FBI agent John Quigley. Oswald’s street theater discredits the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and prepares the ground for his portrayal in November as a pro-Castro assassin of President Kennedy.

08/21/63—Oswald appears on New Orleans radio station with Carlos Bringuier. After the show, Oswald goes to a bar to drink beer with talk show host, Bill Stuckey who had been briefed about Oswald by an associate, Ed Butler, head of the Information Council of the Americas, a right-wing propaganda organization.

08/22 to 09/17/63—The House Assassinations Committee says there is no corroborated whereabouts for Oswald during this period. However, it was during this time, the Committee concluded, that Oswald was seen with David Ferrie and, likely, Guy Banister at a black voting rights demonstration in Clinton, Louisiana, about 130 miles north of New Orleans.

08/23/63—Silvia Duran begins work as a secretary at the Cuban consulate in Mexico City. Claims she is a socialist sympathizer and had flown to Cuba as government guest in December 1961.

August 24, 1963: Presidential advisers Roger Hilsman, Averell Harriman, and Michael Forrestal draft a telegram to newly appointed Saigon ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge that conditionally authorizes U.S. support of a coup by rebel South Vietnamese generals. President Kennedy, who is in Hyannis Port, endorses the telegram. He soon regrets the hasty policy decision that puts the U.S. government on record in support of a coup.

09/01/63—In the last week of August, while officially confined to Dade County by federal authorities for his [anti-Castro](#) activities, Antonio Veciana travels to Dallas for a meeting with Maurice Bishop. In the lobby of the Southland Building, Veciana sees Bishop speaking to a young man Veciana later identifies as Lee Harvey Oswald.

09/01/63—[William Attwood](#), special advisor to the U.S.’s United Nations delegation, begins a series of talks with the Cuban ambassador. Robert Kennedy encourages the effort. Attwood reports regularly to the White House and to Adlai Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the U.N.

09/07/63—CIA case officers meet with AM/LASH, a Cuban agent in Castro's inner circle, report AM/LASH has an interest in attempting to assassinate Castro, and is awaiting a U.S. plan of action.<sup>107</sup>

September 12, 1963: At a National Security Council meeting, the Joint Chiefs of Staff again present a report evaluating a projected nuclear first strike against the Soviet Union, in a time scheme of 1964 through 1968. President Kennedy turns the discussion to his conclusion: "Preemption is not possible for us." He passes over without comment the report's implication that the remaining months of 1963 are still the most advantageous time for the United States to launch a preemptive strike.

**September 13, 1963**—President Kennedy's trip to Texas announced.

September 20, 1963: In an address to the United Nations, President Kennedy expresses the hope that the Limited Test Ban Treaty can serve as a lever for a just and lasting peace. In a meeting with UN ambassador Adlai Stevenson, he approves U.S. diplomat William Attwood contacting Dr. Carlos Lechuga, Cuba's UN ambassador, to open a secret dialogue with Premier Castro. In El Paso, Texas, U.S. counterintelligence agent Richard Case Nagell, who has met with Kennedy assassination planners, walks into a bank and fires two pistol shots into a plaster wall just below the ceiling. He waits outside to be arrested and tells the FBI, "I would rather be arrested than commit murder and treason."

September 23, 1963: At a party arranged as a cover by television newscaster Lisa Howard, William Attwood meets Carlos Lechuga. Attwood tells Lechuga he is about to travel to the White House to request authorization from the president to meet secretly with Premier Castro. The meeting's purpose would be to discuss the feasibility of a rapprochement between Havana and Washington. Lechuga expresses great interest.

September 24, 1963: The Senate approves the Limited Test Ban Treaty by a vote of 80 to 19. In Washington, William Attwood meets with Robert Kennedy, who tells Attwood to continue pursuing with Lechuga a secret meeting with Castro but to seek a less risky location than Cuba.

09/25/63—According to the Warren Commission, Oswald left New Orleans by bus on his way to Mexico City.

**September 25, 1963**—[Sylvia Odio visited in Dallas by two Latinos and Oswald.](#)

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<sup>107</sup> The CIA AM/TRUNK project was another effort to identify Cuban military and political leaders who would be willing and able to organize an internal revolt against Fidel Castro. Much of this effort was devoted to a search for military leaders who were unhappy with the growing Russian military influence and control, which had escalated significantly during 1963. The AM/TRUNK and AM/LASH projects continued for a number of years, even in the face of internal CIA evidence that many of the AM/TRUNK Cuban assets (given AM/WHIP numerical designations) were compromised by Cuban intelligence. There was even CIA security concern that Cubela (AM/LASH) might have been an informant to Castro, and was testing the CIA's willingness to engage in political assassination.

09/27/63—According to the Warren Commission, Oswald arrives in Mexico City at 10:00 A.M., registers at the Hotel Comercio and appears at the Cuban embassy to apply for a visa to Cuba in transit to Russia.

09/27/63—Silvia Odio, a Cuban refugee living in Dallas, reports three men visited her to ask her help in [anti-Castro](#) activities. One of the men is introduced to her as “Leon Oswald.”

September 27, 1963: William Attwood meets Lechuga at the UN Delegates’ Lounge, saying he is authorized to meet with Castro at a site other than Cuba. Lechuga says he will so inform Havana. In Mexico City, a man identifying himself as Lee Harvey Oswald visits the Cuban and Soviet consulates, displaying leftist credentials and applying for immediate visas to both Communist countries. When suspicious employees put him off and escort him outside, he flies into a rage, creating memorable scenes.

**September 27, 1963**—Lee Oswald reportedly arrived in Mexico City and according to the CIA, made multiple visits to the Cuban Embassy/Consulate, plus three separate telephone calls to the Soviet Consulate. The CIA was unable to provide any photos of Oswald entering or leaving the embassy during the period of September 27 through October 1 while he was in Mexico City, despite the known existence of photo surveillance equipment at both the Cuban and Soviet facilities.<sup>108</sup>

September 28, 1963: The man identifying himself as Oswald returns to the Mexico City Soviet Embassy, renewing his request for a quick visa to the Soviet Union. When Soviet officials offer him forms to fill out, he becomes even more agitated than on the previous day. He places a revolver on the table, saying it is necessary for his protection. He is again escorted to the door.<sup>109</sup>

**September 28, 1963**—Oswald and a woman, purportedly Sylvia Duran, made a call to the Soviet Consulate from the Cuban Embassy.

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108 A newly available document relates correspondence from David Phillips, CIA Mexico City. Phillips conducted a photographic records search in an attempt to corroborate a claim by Pedro Gutierrez Valencia that he had seen an American resembling Oswald at the Cuban Embassy in the company of a Cuban on October 1, 1963. Phillips advised that CIA was unable to identify Gutierrez visiting the Cuban Embassy during either September or October. Phillips stated that photographic surveillance was in full operation during all daylight hours during this period, and that the photo file would have allowed Gutierrez to be identified if he had indeed entered the building. Phillips also refers to a comprehensive photo file on the Cuban Embassy for that period, as still being available in March 1964. This raises the question of why this comprehensive file would not have contained photographs of Lee Harvey Oswald entering or leaving the building during the same period, a period in which Phillips describes full photo surveillance to be in effect, with no down time in September or October, which might have missed Gutierrez.

109 This visit to the Soviet Embassy becomes a repeated reference during incriminating phone calls by “Oswald,” wiretapped and transcribed by the CIA, in which the speaker associates himself with a Soviet assassination expert working at the embassy. When it is pointed out that the phone caller speaks broken Russian, whereas Oswald is fluent in the language, the CIA claims the audiotapes are no longer available for voice comparisons because they were routinely erased.

September 30, 1963: President Kennedy reopens a secret channel of communication between himself and Nikita Khrushchev, via Press Secretary Pierre Salinger and a Washington-based Soviet Secret Police agent. He thereby circumvents a State Department he can no longer trust for his communications with the Soviet leader.

10/01/63—David Phillips, stationed in Mexico City, promoted to chief of Cuban operations, travels to Washington.

10/01/63—The New York Times columnist Arthur Krock, in citing a dispatch from Vietnam by reporter Richard Starnes, imbues it with additional significance because of Krock's known close relationship with the Kennedys. Starnes had reported that the CIA twice flatly refused to carry out instructions from Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, and in one instance frustrated a plan of action Mr. Lodge brought from Washington because the Agency disagreed with it. Krock also noted this revelation in Starnes's report: "Among the views attributed to United States officials on the scene, including one described as 'a very high American official . . . who has spent much of his life in the service of democracy' . . . are the following: 'The CIA's growth was "likened to a malignancy" which the very high official was not sure even the White House could control . . . any longer. If the United States ever experiences [an attempt at a coup to overthrow the government] it will come from the CIA and not the Pentagon.' The agency 'represents a tremendous power and total unaccountability to anyone.'

10/01/63—The CIA says that on this day "a reliable and sensitive source in Mexico reported that an American male, who identified himself as Lee Oswald, contacted the Soviet embassy in Mexico City . . ." It later sends the Warren Commission a photograph of the man who is not Oswald entering the embassy. The CIA says it was simply a "mistake."<sup>110</sup>

10/03/63—According to the Warren Commission, Oswald arrives back in the United States from his trip to Mexico City.

10/04/63—Richard Helms provides the Warren Commission an affidavit claiming that the CIA's photograph of the mystery man misidentified as Oswald was taken on this date—after Oswald had left the city.<sup>111</sup>

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110 The CIA translators in Mexico City were Mr. and Mrs. Tarasoff, identified as Mr. and Mrs. T. in Newman's *Oswald and the CIA*. Their full names are given in Peter Dale Scott's *Deep Politics II*, where Scott also notes, "Mr. Tarasoff added the important and possibly relevant detail that the name Lee Oswald was known to the CIA Station before the October 1 telephone call from someone who identified himself as Lee Oswald." In Tarasoff's words "they were very hot about the whole thing" before that call was transcribed.

111 Former FBI Agent James Hosty repeated a conversation he had with Agent Michael DeGuire, who had been working in Mexico City at the time. DeGuire had informed Hosty after the assassination that Oswald was under surveillance in Mexico City, outside of his visits to the embassies, and that he had been separately photographed near a fountain at one time during the surveillance.

10/08/63—David Phillips testified to the Assassinations Committee that on this date he signed off on a cable from Mexico City to CIA headquarters reporting Oswald’s visit to the Soviet embassy on October 10. Later, records reveal that Phillips was on leave at the JM/WAVE station in Miami and didn’t return to the Mexico City station until October 9.

**October 8, 1963**—The CIA Mexico City Station had reported Oswald’s contacts with the Cubans and Soviets to CIA Headquarters on October 8, including Oswald’s apparent contact with Soviet Vice-Consul Kostikov.<sup>112</sup>

10/10/63—Oswald appears at the Jobco Employment Agency in Dallas. Lists George de Mohrenschildt as “closest friend.”

10/10/63—CIA headquarters sends a teletype to the State Department, FBI, and Navy notifying them of Oswald’s October 1 contact with the Soviet embassy.

**October 10, 1963**—CIA Mexico City sent a memo to various State Department, FBI, and Navy organizations in regard to Oswald’s Mexico City activities; Oswald’s apparent contacts with Soviet official Kostikov were not mentioned.<sup>113</sup>

10/11/63—President Kennedy issues National Security Action Memorandum #263 declaring that the Vietnamese should take over “essential functions now performed by U.S. military personnel. . . by the end of 1965.”

October 11, 1963: President Kennedy issues National Security Action Memorandum 263, making official government policy the withdrawal from Vietnam of “1,000 U.S. military personnel by the end of 1963” and “by the end of 1965 . . . the bulk of U.S. personnel.”

10/16/63—Oswald begins job at Texas School Book Depository. He reportedly obtained it through a contact of Ruth Paine, the friend with whom Marina Oswald was living.

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112 In response to the Mexico City request for information, CIA HQ responded that they knew Lee Oswald as an ex-Marine Soviet defector. The last activity in his file was his return to the U.S. in May of 1962, and they had no more recent information on him. This misleading response was approved by a variety of individuals, the same individuals who had also signed off as having read a number of reports on Oswald’s leafleting and pro-Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) activities in New Orleans only two months before. This misrepresentation involved Ann Elizabeth Goldsborough Egerter, aka Elizabeth Ann Egerter, aka Betty Egerter, aka [Ann Egerter](#) of James Angleton’s counter-intelligence staff, Jane Roman, liaison to CI (counter-intelligence), and [Thomas Karamessines](#), Assistant Deputy Director for Plans (one of the top four executive positions in the Agency). All of these individuals, without doubt, signed off on a very incomplete reply concerning Oswald, when the true facts would have triggered a much higher level of response in Mexico City. When interviewed in the 1990’s by Dr. John Newman and shown the relevant documents with her signature, Jane Roman admitted that she was “signing off on something she knows not to be true.” *The Washington Post* reporter Jeff Morley taped this interview.

113 Departments of the INS and FBI in Mexico City were later notified with full information, and FBI personnel in Mexico conducted an intensive investigation of sources and contacts for information on Oswald. This information was passed up the chain to Director Hoover, but it apparently was not communicated to the local U.S. FBI offices or to individuals responsible for monitoring Oswald.

Paine would later discover and turn over to the FBI much incriminating evidence against Oswald.

October 16, 1963: After a successful job referral by Ruth Paine, Lee Harvey Oswald begins work at the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas.

**October 18, 1963**—The FBI legate in Mexico City sent a cablegram directly to J. Edgar Hoover informing him that the CIA had just provided them with information (not to be disseminated) that Lee Oswald had contacted Soviet Vice Counsel Valery Kostikov at the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City on September 28, and again on October 1. CIA advised that this Oswald was probably identical with “Lee Henry Oswald” who had been in the Marine Corps and defected to Russia in 1959.<sup>114</sup>

10/21/63—During the Cuban missile crisis, after Robert Kennedy tells CIA Director McCone to immediately halt all operations against Cuba, Task Force W Chief William Harvey sends two raiding parties into Cuba, one headed by Eugenio Martinez, a close associate of E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis and later also involved in the Watergate burglary. Harvey is subsequently yanked off Task Force W by Kennedy and assigned as station chief to Rome.

**October 22, 1963**—A Registered Mail Airtel was sent from the SAIC of the Dallas FBI to Director Hoover, and copied to FBI Mexico City, New Orleans, and Little Rock. SAIC Dallas referenced an unavailable Airtel on the same subject from October 2, 1963. He informed Hoover that INS has advised SA Hosty in Dallas verbally that they are in receipt of a “Secret” communication from their office in Mexico City, indicating that Lee Oswald had contacted the Soviets in Mexico City. He also advised that a confidential postal informant in Fort Worth had related that Lee’s brother, Robert, moved to Little

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114 The importance of this telegram could not be understood without recently released records, which reveal that in 1962 the FBI had “turned” one of Kostikov’s agents in New York City. An FBI double agent ([AEBURBLE](#) - Stateside double agent code named “Tumbleweed”, real name Gunter Schulz) had identified Kostikov as being involved in covert operations in North America, and had been providing information on him for months. Kostikov was suspected of being a KGB operative based on information from those contacts, as well as his ongoing contacts with known KGB personnel. In fact, it was suspected that he was specifically involved with KGB 13th Department, which conducted both sabotage and assassination operations. Kostikov was being monitored in contacts with a German national (Gunter Schultz- designated Tumbleweed) who had been recruited by the Soviets in Europe, doubled by the CIA at an unknown location, and was living in Oklahoma in 1963. This individual had met with Kostikov in Mexico City and with a known 13th Department agent, Oleg Brykin of the Soviet United Nations staff, in New York City. Available information suggested that this meeting involved discussion of sabotage targets within the United States. Certainly Director Hoover was well aware of the significance of any Kostikov contact, especially a contact with a former Soviet resident now living in the United States with a Russian wife. In addition, we now know that these Oswald contacts apparently involved one personal visit by Oswald to the Soviet Embassy and follow on telephone calls, apparently from the Cuban Embassy, which were tape recorded, possibly by both the FBI and CIA. More importantly, information from Sylvia Duran and employees of the Russian Embassy suggests that the three calls were actually made from the Cuban Embassy on a day in which the Cuban facility was closed to the public.

Rock, Arkansas.<sup>115</sup>

10/24/63—President Kennedy meets Jean Daniel, a French journalist, who is in transit to Cuba. Kennedy suggests Daniel broach the subject of reestablishing U.S.-Cuba relations with Castro, asks Daniel to report back to him.

October 24, 1963: French journalist Jean Daniel interviews President Kennedy, before Daniel's trip to Cuba to interview Premier Castro. Kennedy speaks warmly of the Cuban revolution led by Castro, but asks Daniel if Castro realizes that "through his fault the world was on the verge of nuclear war in October 1962." Kennedy asks Daniel to tell him what Castro says in reply, when Daniel returns from Cuba at the end of November.

10/29/63—CIA senior officer Desmond FitzGerald meets AM/LASH, informs him a coup would receive U.S. support, later agrees to provide rifles, telescopic sights and explosives. FitzGerald presents himself as personal representative of Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

October 31, 1963: Fidel Castro's aide Rene Vallejo speaks by phone with Lisa Howard. Through Vallejo, Castro offers to expedite the process of meeting with William Attwood by sending a plane to pick up Attwood in Mexico. Attwood would be flown to a private airport in Cuba, where he would talk confidentially with Castro, then be flown back immediately. Howard conveys this to Attwood, who alerts the White House.

11/01/63—South Vietnam president Diem is assassinated by CIA-backed coup.

November 1, 1963: Rebel South Vietnamese army units, supported by the CIA, encircle and bombard President Diem's presidential palace in Saigon. Diem and his brother Nhu flee from the palace in darkness. They take refuge in the Saigon suburb of Cholon.

In Chicago, the Secret Service arrests two members of a four-man sniper team suspected of planning to assassinate President Kennedy during his visit to Chicago the following day. The other two snipers escape. Thomas Arthur Vallee, a mentally damaged ex-Marine working in a building over Kennedy's motorcade route, is monitored by the Chicago Police.

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115 It appears that the Dallas FBI had not been informed by Hoover's office of the Kostikov contact. But it also seems that the FBI may have been routinely monitoring Oswald's entire family. FBI Headquarters did respond to Dallas, simply confirming the facts. They did not escalate the matter, nor did they give any advice on Kostikov's importance—but Kostikov was considered one of the most dangerous Soviet agents in the Western Hemisphere and was on daily surveillance up to and including November 22. Both the director of the FBI and the top CI people at CIA HQ were personally aware that an ex-Marine who had "virtually," if not legally defected to Russia, had contacted the suspected head of Soviet Assassination and Sabotage. Still, the official record indicates that Oswald was neither contacted nor placed under special surveillance by either agency. One year earlier, Oswald had been investigated by the FBI for doing no more than subscribing to a variety of Russian and socialist publications, yet in the 60 days following his visit to Mexico City (including the period following his arrest for the president's murder), Oswald was never interrogated by the FBI about his contact with the Soviets.

11/02/63—The Secret Service investigates an alleged plot against the president in Chicago.

November 2, 1963: From his refuge in Cholon, Diem phones Ambassador Lodge and the coup generals. He surrenders, requesting for Nhu and himself only safe conduct to the airport and departure from Vietnam. Rebel general Minh sends a team of five men to pick up the two men. The armored personnel carrier into which Diem and Nhu descend delivers their dead, bullet-sprayed bodies to the generals' headquarters.

At the White House, President Kennedy is handed a telegram from Lodge informing him that Diem and Nhu are dead and that the coup leaders claim their deaths are suicides. Kennedy rushes from the room with a look of shock and dismay on his face.

Forty minutes later, White House press secretary Pierre Salinger announces President Kennedy's trip to Chicago has been cancelled. While the two suspected snipers are questioned at Chicago Secret Service headquarters, potential assassination scapegoat Thomas Arthur Vallee is arrested. The other two alleged snipers remain at large in Chicago. Only Vallee is ever identified publicly.

November 5, 1963: William Attwood briefs President Kennedy's National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy on Premier Castro's concrete offer to expedite a meeting with Attwood as Kennedy's representative. Bundy then updates Kennedy on Castro's proposal. Kennedy says Attwood should sever his formal relation with the government as a precaution, so as to meet with Castro under the cover of his former work as a journalist.

11/08/63—Oswald writes to "Dear Mr. Hunt:" requests only "information."

November 18, 1963: Rene Vallejo talks by phone with William Attwood, while Fidel Castro listens. Attwood says a preliminary meeting is essential to identify what he and Castro will discuss. Vallejo says they will send instructions to Cuban ambassador Carlos Lechuga to set an agenda with Attwood for his meeting with Castro.

In a speech in Miami, President Kennedy issues a challenge and a promise to Premier Castro, saying that if Cuba ceases being "a weapon in an effort dictated by external powers to subvert the other American Republics, everything is possible."

In Washington, the Soviet Embassy receives a crudely typed, badly spelled letter dated nine days earlier and signed by "Lee H. Oswald" of Dallas. The letter seems to implicate the Soviet Union in conspiring with Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy that will occur four days later. Soviet authorities recognize the letter as a forgery or provocation and decide to return it to the U.S. government, whose FBI agents had already opened and copied the letter on its way into the embassy.

November 19—20, 1963: Fidel Castro meets for six hours with Jean Daniel at his Havana hotel to learn more about a dialogue with Kennedy. After Daniel recounts Kennedy's endorsement of the Cuban revolution and his accusation that Castro almost caused a nuclear war, Castro explains the reasoning for the introduction of Soviet missiles in Cuba—to deter the imminent U.S. invasion that he feared. Reassessing Kennedy, he expresses the hope that Kennedy will win reelection and become the United States' greatest president—by recognizing there can be coexistence between capitalists and socialists,

even in the Americas.

November 20, 1963: At Red Bird Air Field in Dallas, a young man and woman try to charter a plane for Friday afternoon, November 22, from Wayne January, owner of a private airline. From their questions, January suspects they may hijack the plane to Cuba. He rejects their offer. The man he sees waiting for the couple in their car he recognizes two days later from media pictures as Lee Harvey Oswald. In Eunice, Louisiana, heroin addict [Rose Cheramie](#) tells Louisiana State Police lieutenant Francis Fruge that the two men with whom she stopped at the Silver Slipper Lounge that night, on a drive from Miami to Dallas, plan to kill President Kennedy when he comes to Dallas.

November 21, 1963: Before leaving on his trip to Texas, President Kennedy, after being given a list of the most recent casualties in Vietnam, says to Assistant Press Secretary Malcolm Kilduff: “After I come back from Texas, that’s going to change. Vietnam is not worth another American life.”

11/22/63—President John F. Kennedy is murdered in Dallas at 12:30 P.M. According to the Warren Commission, at 1:45 P.M. police were alerted to a man seen entering the Texas Theater after shooting patrolman Tippit in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas. They surrounded the theater, arrested Lee Harvey Oswald and arrived back at police headquarters by 2:00 P.M. At 7:10 P.M., Oswald was notified he had been formally charged with the murder of Officer Tippit, and then, later with the murder of the president.

11/22/63—A CIA case officer representing Desmond FitzGerald meets with AM/LASH and provides him poison pen to kill Castro. AM/LASH doesn’t think it will work and refuses it. As the meeting ends, they are told President Kennedy has been assassinated. Later, FitzGerald orders case officer to omit mention of poison pen in report of his meeting with AM/LASH.

11/22/63—CIA sends photos taken in Mexico City of man misidentified as Oswald to Dallas police.

11/22/63—At evening press conference in Dallas police headquarters, Jack Ruby interrupts Chief Curry to identify proper name of Oswald’s organization as Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

November 22, 1963: [At 12:30 P.M. CST, with security having been withdrawn from the surrounding area and the presidential limousine, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy is driven around a dogleg turn to a virtual stop in Dealey Plaza, Dallas, where sniper teams assassinate him by crossfire.](#)

While Fidel Castro and Jean Daniel are having lunch together in Varadero Beach, Cuba, they receive the news of Kennedy’s death in Dallas. Castro says, “Everything is changed. Everything is going to change.”

When the president’s body is brought to Parkland Hospital, Dallas, twenty-one witnesses see a massive head wound in the right rear of his skull, evidence of a fatal head

shot from the front. At a press conference, Dr. Malcolm Perry repeatedly describes an entrance wound in the front of the throat, further evidence of shooting from the front.

Lee Harvey Oswald is arrested in the Texas Theater at 1:50 P.M., following the murder of Dallas Police officer J. D. Tippit at 1:15 by a man whom witnesses identify as Oswald. At 1:53 P.M., a man resembling Oswald is also arrested in the Texas Theater and taken out a different door. At 3:30 P.M., an Oswald double is flown out of Dallas on a CIA C-54 cargo plane.<sup>116</sup>

During the president's autopsy held at Bethesda Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland, Admiral Calvin Galloway, hospital commander, orders the doctors not to probe the throat wound. X-rays taken that night show an intact rear skull, where a large occipital fragment of the president's skull, which will be found the next day in Dealey Plaza, was blown out—proving the X-rays are fraudulent, created to disguise a massive exit wound in the rear.

At 11:55 P.M. on the third floor of Dallas Police headquarters, CIA-connected nightclub owner Jack Ruby, whom a witness saw deliver a gunman to the grassy knoll that morning, is given access to the doorway where prisoner Lee Harvey Oswald is about to be brought by police to a midnight press conference. Ruby (with a revolver in his pocket) fails to shoot Oswald.

11/23/63—CIA counterintelligence staff, headed by James Angleton, prepares a memorandum suggesting that Oswald's contacts in Mexico City with Soviet personnel might have sinister implications.

11/23/63—Cuban embassy employee, Silvia Duran, who processed a transit visa for an American who identified himself as Lee Harvey Oswald, is arrested by Mexican police on the direction of the CIA.

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116 Oswald's central FBI file contained the Cuban and Soviet Consulate contacts, memoranda on the following investigation in Mexico, and reports on Oswald's return to Texas, as well as information on Oswald's New Orleans political activism. Either the official record of Hoover's communications had been significantly altered, or Hoover had some reason not to disclose this knowledge in communications with the president, the Secret Service, or with any member of the National Security Council. Although we have abundant records of Director Hoover's memos and calls on November 22 and 23, none of them makes any reference to an Oswald contact with the KGB. They treat Oswald as a virtual nobody. But we now know the director of the FBI was very much aware of the contact between the supposed presidential assassin and the suspected chief of KGB Sabotage and Assassination for the Western Hemisphere.

**November 23, 1963**—At 2:47AM CST, a plane and courier arrived in Dallas carrying materials on Lee Oswald from Mexico City.<sup>117</sup>

**4:45 P.M. Saturday, November 23, 1963**—A communication from Helms of CIA to the Mexico City CIA staff gives an idea of how seriously the whole Kostikov issue was being treated in Washington. In addition to telling them their information was being processed around the clock, Helms instructed them to: [“Feel free to abandon cables and talk plain English. so that there can be no mistakes!”](#)—Richard Helms DD/P CIA”

**6:00 P.M. Saturday, November 23, 1963**—A CIA cable from Mexico City stated, “Regret, complete recheck shows tapes from this period already erased.” This claim appears not to have registered because as of Sunday afternoon, CIA counter-intelligence was still asking for all tapes and transcripts.<sup>118</sup>

11/24/63—Lee Harvey Oswald is murdered by Jack Ruby at 11:20 A. M. as Oswald, flanked by Dallas detectives on either side and at his rear, is led from the basement of the Dallas police jail.

11/24/63—The CIA prepares a summary of “relevant” information on Oswald. Agency claims its first information on Oswald came from its Mexico City station on October 9, that Oswald entered Mexico on September 27, “probably by car.” It notes Oswald’s visits to the Soviet and Cuban embassies but makes no mention of erroneous photo and description of Oswald sent to headquarters on October 10.

November 24, 1963: At 11:21 A.M., an armed Jack Ruby is again given access to the prisoner Lee Harvey Oswald, this time as Oswald is brought from the basement to the

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117 Although the FBI referred to tapes being listened to and comparisons to Oswald’s voice, by around noon on Saturday, November 23, two different messages from the CIA in Mexico City related that they would be unable to provide tapes to their own headquarters. One stated that they were “unable to compare voices as first tape erased” (that would seem to be the September 28 tape), and a second message stated that as of noon, “regret, complete recheck shows tapes already erased.” This CIA communication itself conflicts with a separate document (Anne Goodpasture) from Mexico City, which spoke of comparing voices. The position that Oswald’s conversations were of no importance and would have been routinely erased also conflicts with an interview with the CIA station translator. Tarasoff stated that the staff in the office had been “very hot about the whole thing” pertaining to Oswald, even before he had transcribed the October 1 tape. Goodpasture also later admitted to the HSCA that tapes were compared. This suggests that the CIA Mexico City staff was aware of the impersonation, but may not have shared it with the FBI, nor had wanted to confirm it afterwards for the official record. Dallas SAIC Shanklin telephoned in a report on the tape review to Belmont at FBI Headquarters. Hoover sent a memo on the tape and the impersonation to Secret Service Chief Rowley. The ARRB took testimony from Agency employee, Anne Goodpasture; she had confirmed the tape in an interview by the HSCA. She reaffirmed to the ARRB that an Oswald tape dub (copy) had been made at the Agency’s telephone tap center and carried to Texas. In addition, the ARRB also verified that two Warren Commission attorneys, Coleman and Slawson, had traveled to the Mexico City Station and listened to the tapes.

118 The whole incident involving the FBI and the Mexico City tape is a perfect illustration of the “now you see it, now you don’t” phenomenon that occurred frequently in the hours immediately following the assassination. In several instances, the early FBI reports actually record information that later “disappears” (or changes form) as other parties become involved.

garage of Dallas Police headquarters while being transferred to the Dallas County Jail. Ruby shoots Oswald to death at point blank range, as seen on television by millions.

November 24, 1963: In mid-afternoon EST in Washington, DC, President Lyndon Johnson meets with Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, back from Vietnam. Johnson tells Lodge, ["I am not going to lose Vietnam. I am not going to be the President who saw Southeast Asia go the way China went."](#)

**November 24, 1963**—At 10:00AM CST, LBJ's first recorded call of the day shows his initial question to Director Hoover to be about Oswald in Mexico City. There are no earlier records confirming how and when Johnson was first informed about Oswald and Mexico City. Hoover described the situation as confusing, but that his men in Dallas had a tape and photos, and neither the voice on the tape or the photos matched Oswald. According to Hoover, there seemed to have been a "second person" in Mexico City impersonating Oswald.<sup>119</sup>

**November 25, 1963**—FBI Headquarters communicated to FBI Mexico City, "If tapes available please forward to Lab, including tapes sent to Dallas if they have been returned." FBI Mexico responds: "I think you are confused; we never sent tapes to Dallas."<sup>120</sup>

11/29/63—President Lyndon Johnson appoints a commission "to ascertain, evaluate, and report on" the facts of the assassination. Chief Justice Earl Warren is asked to head the commission but he refuses. Johnson pushes Warren into accepting the job because,

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119 It may be that the official record was never intended to reveal any mention of impersonation in Hoover and Johnson's short Saturday morning discussion. This is suggested by the "14 Minute Gap," identified by researcher Rex Bradford, which may indicate that an attempt was made to remove the content of the Hoover—Johnson dialogue from the historical record. Although the tape transcript of this conversation does exist, Bradford's research shows that the actual tape containing this morning call seems to have had only this single 14 minute call erased; a transcript remains, but not the actual voices on the tape. Shortly after this exchange between Hoover and President Johnson, Shanklin of the FBI in Dallas, talked with Belmont in D.C., who then wrote a memo to Deputy Director Clyde Tolson, Hoover's second in command. This memo confirmed that Dallas FBI agents familiar with Oswald had listened to the tape of the conversation (apparently the September 28 telephone call), supposedly from the Cuban to the Soviet Embassy. The FBI also had in its possession a mail intercept which contained a letter from Lee Oswald in Dallas to the Soviet Embassy in NYC, in which a meeting with "comrade Kostin" was mentioned.

120 This seems to be in direct contradiction to Hoover's personal remarks to Johnson at 10:00AM on the morning of the 23rd, although it may only reflect the confusion over whether the tapes actually sent on Friday night were from the CIA, rather than the FBI. More recently, information has developed that both agencies may have had copies of telephone tap tapes. Eventually, Director Hoover had to accept the CIA's final position that there was no such tape and that what he himself had stated to President Johnson had never actually happened. Hoover would not be the only one to eat his own words in order to maintain what became the official "lone nut" position. But the director was definitely not the sort of man who would forget that sort of treatment. In January 1964, he cautioned his staff against taking information from the CIA at face value. On a memo which dealt with the CIA'S promise to keep the FBI informed on certain of its domestic activities, he made the following note: "I can't forget the CIA withholding the French espionage activities in the U.S.A., nor the false story re: Oswald's trip to Mexico City, to mention two instances of their double dealing."

according to Warren biographer Jack H. Pollack, “rumors of the most exaggerated kind were circulating [and] some went so far as attributing the assassination to a faction within the government. . . .” Among those appointed to the commission is former CIA Director Allen Dulles, fired by Kennedy after the Bay of Pigs.

12/09/63—The FBI completes its five-volume report on Kennedy’s assassination. Deputy Attorney General Katzenback writes the Warren Commission and recommends that the commission publicly declare that the FBI report concludes Oswald was the lone assassin.

12/31/63—The Fair Play for Cuba Committee disbands.

01/23/64—The CIA designates a subordinate to Chief of Counterintelligence James Angleton as the “point of record” for all matter relating to the Kennedy assassination and the Warren Commission.

02/01/64—Maurice Bishop asks Antonio Veciana to contact his cousin, a Cuban intelligence officer stationed in Mexico City, and offer him a large amount of money if he publicly acknowledges that he had met with Oswald. Veciana attempts but cannot make the contact before his cousin is recalled to Cuba.

02/04/64—Yuri Nosenko, deputy director of the Soviet intelligence service, the KGB, defects to the U.S. He alleges that the KGB took no interest in Oswald because it considered him too unstable. Nosenko is confined and questioned by the CIA for two years before he is declared a legitimate defector.

06/07/64—Interviewed in Dallas prison, Jack Ruby begs Commission Chairman Earl Warren to take him to Washington so he can reveal the truth about the assassination. Warren refuses.

07/01/64—Guy Banister dies of a heart attack.

09/16/64—International Anti-Communist Brigade soldier of fortune Loran Hall allegedly tells FBI agents that it was he, William Seymour<sup>121</sup>, and Lawrence Howard who visited

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121 Bernardo De Torres went on from the Bay of Pigs to become the chief of intelligence for the reformed Brigade 2506 and was acquainted with Interpcn members, including William Seymour and Roy Hargraves. Bernardo De Torres was a Bay of Pigs veteran who was held a Castro prisoner with other Brigade 2506 members until December 1962. Upon his release in Florida, he joined his brother Carlos in Miami. Carlos operated a Miami detective agency. Later, De Torres would become involved in the Garrison investigation of the JFK assassination. Roy Emory Hargraves was an exceptionally active American supporter of exile [anti-Castro](#) activities. Initially, he became associated with a group headed by ex-Army Major George Tanner, but his longer term association was the Interpen group, organized by Gerry Patrick Hemming. As part of this group, Hargraves was involved with training members of the AAA group headed by Sanchez Arango. AAA was an offshoot of the Authentico party. Arango had been one of the chief leaders, along with Varona and Arrime, during the preparations for the exile invasion of Cuba. However, he had broken from that effort and the CIA entirely at the last minute over concerns that the invasion had been compromised and would be a disaster. Arango’s initial funding reportedly came from Rolando Masferrer, a former political power in the Batista regime. FBI documents report that Hargraves received funding from Masferrer to launch a successful raid into Cuba in 1963. Hargraves led a team of exiles, captured two Cuban fishing boats, engaged in a running fight with Castro forces, and successfully extracted his team and

Silvia Odio in Dallas. The Warren Commission uses FBI report in its conclusions to dismiss Odio's assertion that Oswald was among visitors. Later, both Seymour and Howard contradict Hall. Hall eventually tells Assassination Committee he never told FBI of any visit.

09/27/64—The Warren Commission Report is released. It concludes that Lee Harvey Oswald, firing three shots from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository, killed President Kennedy and wounded Governor Connally. It also concluded that Oswald acted alone, had no coconspirators and “was not an agent of the U.S. government.”

10/16/64—Soviet Premiere Khrushchev is overthrown.

11/03/64—Lyndon Johnson is elected president.

01/01/65—After closing down Operation Mongoose and the CIA's JM/WAVE station in Miami, Theodore Shackley and his deputy, Thomas Clines, are sent to Laos to organize opposition to the Pathet Lao guerilla force. Meo hill tribesmen are recruited and conduct a massive extermination program of guerilla sympathizers.

06/01/65—David Sanchez Morales is assigned as a deep-cover operative, working as a public safety officer for the Agency for International Development (AID), in Lima, Peru.

07/05/65—David Phillips is made station chief in Dominican Republic following President Johnson's decision to send the U.S. Marines to bolster the right-wing government's fight against leftist rebels. Serving as CIA adviser to the Dominican Republic's military is Mitchel Livingston WerBell III, an OSS veteran and CIA supplier of sophisticated assassination devices.

03/01/66—CIA contact Rolando Cubela (AM/LASH) is arrested in Havana for plotting to assassinate Castro.

06/01/66—President Johnson appoints Richard Helms as director of the CIA.

01/03/67—With the appeal of his death penalty pending and likely to be reviewed in his favor, Jack Ruby dies of cancer as a prisoner in Dallas.

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the boats to the Bahamas. This ended up causing a minor political crisis with the British when the boats were forcibly recovered by the Cubans (in a raid after F-largraves had returned to Miami). Hargraves was a close friend and associate of independent exile activist Felipe Vidal Santiago. Hargraves continued his [anti-Castro](#) and anti-communist activities during the 1960s, becoming involved in a plan to create war with Cuba by simulating an attack on Guantanamo naval base. He eventually moved to Los Angeles where he was involved with bombing attacks on both the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) and the Black Panthers.

02/17/67—New Orleans newspapers reveal that District Attorney Jim Garrison has been secretly investigating the Kennedy assassination since the previous November.

02/22/67—David Ferrie is found dead in his apartment. Although he left what was described as “a suicide note” to a friend, an autopsy indicated he died of a cerebral hemorrhage. Garrison calls Ferrie “one of history’s most important individuals.”

03/01/67—Garrison arrests prominent New Orleans businessman and CIA asset Clay Shaw for conspiring to murder President Kennedy.

03/01/67—David Sanchez Morales joins former JM/WAVE station chief Ted Shackley to implement the Phoenix Program in Vietnam. It is a plan devised by future CIA Director William Colby to eliminate the Vietcong infrastructure; it results in the assassination of 40,000 individuals. Morales works under cover of the Agency for International Development’s Vientiane area community development administration.

07/23/67—CIA’s Desmond FitzGerald, David Phillips former Agency boss, chief of the Cuban task force who personally organized at least three attempts to assassinate Castro, collapses while playing tennis and dies.

08/01/67—CIA Director Richard Helms establishes a new Special Operations Group hidden within the Plans Department’s counterintelligence division to monitor the peace movement within the United States.

06/04/68—Robert Kennedy is assassinated in Los Angeles.

08/01/68—Antonio Veciana begins working as a banking consultant in La Paz, Bolivia. He is officially a U.S. government employee salaried by the Agency for International Development. He claims the job was obtained for him by Maurice Bishop to better position him for [anti-Castro](#) activities throughout Latin America. The State Department later confirms Veciana’s statement that he never signed an application for the job.

11/05/68—Richard M. Nixon, promising to end the Vietnam War, is elected president by the narrowest margin since 1912.

03/01/69—In the Kennedy conspiracy case brought by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, a jury finds Clay Shaw not guilty.

07/01/69—The CIA station in Santiago, Chile, receives approval from headquarters for a covert program to establish intelligence assets in the Chilean armed services.

09/09/70—Former CIA Director John McCone, a director of International Telephone & Telegraph, tells CIA Director Richard Helms that IT&T is prepared to spend \$1 million to prevent socialist Salvadore Allende from becoming president of Chile.

9/15/70—President Nixon orders CIA Director Richard Helms to prevent Allende's accession to office in Chile. The CIA is to play a direct role in organizing a military coup d'état. Helms puts David Atlee Phillips in charge of this involvement, known as Track II.

11/03/70—Allende is formerly inaugurated President of Chile. Shortly afterwards, a document called "Plan Z," describing a leftist plan to seize power and start a reign of terror is "discovered" by the enemies of Allende. CIA defector Philip Agee later reveals it was written by a CIA officer under the direction of David Phillips.

04/25/71—Retired Mexico City station chief Winston Scott dies of a heart attack. CIA's Counterintelligence Chief James Angleton arrives from Washington to retrieve Scott's autobiographical manuscript and other files from his personal safe. There remains speculation that Scott kept a photo of Oswald, but Angleton denies it.

06/01/71—E. Howard Hunt joins the Nixon White House as a "consultant," begins planning operations to discredit Senator Edward Kennedy and Daniel Ellsberg and to set up a disinformation scheme to blame President Kennedy for the assassination of Diem. Hunt receives assistance from the CIA's Technical Services Division.

11/31/71—On instructions of Maurice Bishop, Antonio Veciana organizes a Castro assassination attempt in Chile. Bishop does the coordinating with the Chilean military in setting it up. Veciana says CIA contract agent Luis Posada was also involved in the planning. Later, David Phillips, unaware of Veciana's detailed revelations, would admit to the House Assassinations Committee that Posada worked with him on operations in Chile.

06/17/72—A group of Nixon White House operatives known as The Plumbers are arrested burglarizing the offices of the Democratic National Committee in Washington's Watergate complex. Included are former CIA officer E. Howard Hunt, veteran CIA asset Frank Sturgis, and a legend of JM/WAVE's [anti-Castro war](#), Eugenio Martinez, still on the CIA payroll.

06/23/72—Presidential Assistant W. R. Haldeman, under orders from Nixon, pressures CIA Director Richard Helms to protect the administration from the escalating Watergate scandal. Haldeman quotes Nixon: "Tell them that if it gets out, it's going to make the CIA look bad, it's going to make [E. Howard] Hunt look bad, and it's likely to blow the whole Bay of Pigs, which we think would be very unfortunate for the CIA." Haldeman later concludes that Nixon's mention of the Bay of Pigs was actually a reference to the Kennedy assassination. Helms, obviously understanding the code, explodes in anger when Haldeman mentions it, shouts: "The Bay of Pigs has nothing to do with this!"

11/07/72—Richard Nixon is reelected president in a near-record landslide.

11/20/72—President Nixon fires CIA Director Richard Helms and appoints him ambassador to Iran. Helms feels it is a direct result of his failure to support Nixon during

Watergate.

05/01/73—David Atlee Phillips is selected by Director William Colby for chief of the CIA's Western Hemisphere Division, the highest rank not requiring Congressional approval.

06/01/73—Antonio Veciana has a lengthy meeting with Maurice Bishop at the race track in Caracas. Veciana suggests a new plan to assassinate Castro. Bishop says the timing isn't right.

07/01/73—Veciana meets Bishop in the Ramada Inn in Dallas and has a two-day conference with him. Again he presses for a new Castro assassination attempt. Bishop rejects the idea.

07/16/73—Antonio Veciana is arrested and charged with conspiracy to import cocaine. Veciana claims he is innocent. His former business partner in Puerto Rico, previously charged, is the only witness against him. Initially, Veciana says he suspects the arrest was set up by Maurice Bishop, later says it was likely Castro agents.

07/26/73—Maurice Bishop severs his relationship with Antonio Veciana, gives him a \$253,000 cash payment for services.

09/11/73—The Chilean military, supported by the CIA's Track II program headed by David Phillips, overthrows the government of Salvadore Allende. Allende is shot during the coup. The military junta massacres tens of thousands of workers and students considered leftists. "There is a strong probability that the CIA station in Chile helped supply the assassination lists," according to ex-agent Phillip Agee.

08/09/74—In the aftermath of Watergate, Nixon resigns and Gerald R. Ford, a former member of the Warren Commission becomes president. Ford nominates Nelson Rockefeller as his vice president.

12/17/74—James Angleton is fired by CIA Director William Colby after Colby was informed by New York Times reporter Seymour Hersh that he was going to break a story about two Agency operations—operations CHAOS and HTLINGUAL—which involve a massive and illegal spying campaign against American citizens. Angleton, the veteran chief of counterintelligence, controlled both programs.

01/04/75—Spurred by media revelations of CIA improprieties, President Ford directs Vice President Rockefeller to establish a "commission on CIA activities within the United States." Ford himself appoints as the Rockefeller Commission's executive director a former assistant counsel of the Warren Commission, David Belin, who had written a book staunchly defending the Warren Report.

01/27/75—After recent allegations of "substantial, even massive wrong-doing within the 'national intelligence system,'" the Senate establishes a select committee headed by

Idaho Senator Frank Church. It would conduct a fifteen-month inquiry but, in the end, was forced to acknowledge the limitations imposed on it by the CIA: “Although the Senate inquiry was congressionally ordered and although properly constituted committees under the Constitution have the right of full inquiry, the Central Intelligence Agency [has] limited the Committee’s access to the full record.”

05/10/75—David Atlee Phillips, shortly after being awarded the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, the CIA’s highest honor, announces he is taking early retirement from the CIA to start an association of former intelligence officers and lead a public campaign against the critics of the Agency and the rash of unfavorable revelations issuing from congressional investigations.

05/21/75—CIA Director William Colby testifies before the Senate Intelligence Committee regarding assassination plots. Emerging from the hearing, Chairman Church tells reporters: “It is simply intolerable that any agency of the government of the United States may engage in murder.”

06/10/75—The Rockefeller Commission issues a report concluding that the CIA engaged in scores of “plainly unlawful and . . . improper” activities during its twenty-eight-year history, including domestic break-ins, mail openings, testing mind-altering drugs on unsuspecting victims and spying on thousands of Americans. It also concludes that there is “no credible evidence” that the CIA was involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. However, it acknowledges that it had limited its investigation to examination of photographic evidence indicating that E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis might have been among the tramps arrested on the grassy knoll, and to the possibility that someone might have been firing from the grassy knoll. It defends the single-bullet theory, explaining that the violent backward and leftward motion of Kennedy’s body was caused by “a seizure-like neuromuscular reaction to major damage inflicted to nerve centers of the brain.”

06/19/75—A week before his scheduled appearance before the Church Committee to be questioned about the CIA-Mafia plots, Chicago Mob boss Sam Giancana, preparing a late snack of sausage and escarole on a stove in his basement den, is shot in the back of the head with a .22-caliber pistol. His killer rolls his body over and fires six more shots, one in the mouth and five in a semicircle around his chin.

06/24/75—John Rosselli testifies before the Church Committee and provides the details of his role as a liaison between CIA representatives and Mob bosses Giancana and Trafficante in plans to assassinate Castro. He provides little information about his relationship with the CIA’s William Harvey and is not asked about his role at the JM/WAVE station training [anti-Castro](#) assassination teams with David Sanchez Morales.

09/08/75—Shocked by revelations that former CIA director Allen Dulles did not tell the Warren Commission that the Agency was conspiring with the Mafia to assassinate Castro, Senate Intelligence Committee member Richard Schweiker conducts a personal preliminary review of the Kennedy assassination and concludes that “the fingerprints of

intelligence” were all over Oswald’s activities. He convinces Committee Chairman Frank Church to establish a subcommittee to review the role of federal agencies in investigating the Kennedy assassination.

09/21/75—The Washington Post reports that “according to reliable sources” former CIA officer E. Howard Hunt “told associates after the Watergate break-in that he was ordered in December 1971 or January 1972, to assassinate syndicated columnist Jack Anderson.” Hunt’s alleged plan involved the use of a poison obtained from a former CIA physician. The Post also reported that Hunt had said that the order came from a “senior official in the Nixon White House,” and “was cancelled at the last minute. . .”

10/23/75—Former U.S. ambassador to Chile Edward Korry reveals to the Church Senate Intelligence Committee his opposition to the CIA’s role in overthrowing Allende: “The CIA is amoral. . . . It could operate behind my back, not merely with the president of the United States, but with Chileans. In that sense, the CIA could be an ‘invisible’ government.”

11/02/75—President Ford fires William Colby as CIA director and appoints George Bush to the post.

11/11/75—Senate JFK Subcommittee Chairman Schweiker decides Church Committee staff is focusing investigation on possible Castro involvement in assassination, decides involvement of CIA with [anti-Castro groups](#) also needs probing, puts Gaeton Fonzi on staff to pursue leads in Miami’s Little Havana.

03/02/76—[Anti-Castro](#) leader Antonio Veciana reveals to Schweiker Subcommittee investigator Fonzi that a CIA master spy named Maurice Bishop was his secret control officer, initiated the founding of Alpha 66, instigated two Castro assassination plots, and planned [anti-Castro](#) raids during the Cuban missile crisis in an attempt to embarrass President Kennedy and provoke Cuban or Russian retaliation that would spark a major U.S. reaction. Veciana also reveals he saw Bishop with Lee Harvey Oswald. After years of sworn denials by the Agency, it is the first evidence that the CIA was directly involved with Oswald.

04/11/76—Senator Richard Schweiker discovers that a police artist’s sketch of Maurice Bishop looks very much like a high-ranking retired CIA officer who had testified before the Church Intelligence Committee. His name is David Atlee Phillips.

04/23/76—In a secret session in Washington’s old Carroll Arms Hotel, used as an annex for Senate Intelligence Committee staff, Schweiker questions John Rosselli about the revelations he provided Jack Anderson about the Kennedy assassination being a Castro retaliation plan. Rosselli admits it was only his opinion and that he had “no facts” to back it up.

06/23/76—Schweiker releases his JFK Subcommittee report. Limited in its mandate to review intelligence agencies’ performance in their investigation of the JFK assassination,

the Schweiker Report concludes that both the FBI and the CIA were “deficient and that facts which might have substantially affected the course of the investigation were not provided.” Although the committee staff had taken Antonio Veciana’s sworn testimony, no mention is made of it or of his control agent Maurice Bishop. Despite release of final report, Schweiker decides to continue JFK investigation with his own senate staff and investigator Fonzi.

06/27/76—Twenty representatives of the most militant exile groups are brought together by Orlando Bosch at a resort in Bona0, Dominican Republic, to form a united coalition called CORU. Within the next several months, CORU claims credit for more than fifty bombings and some of its members are implicated in the Letelier assassination. Among those attending the Bona0 meeting is Luis Posada, the CIA agent involved with Antonio Veciana in planning to kill Castro in Chile in 1971.

08/07/76—The body of mobster John Rosselli, the link between the CIA and organized crime leaders involved in Castro assassination plots, is found mutilated and stuffed into a drum floating in Biscayne Bay.

09/17/76—The House of Representatives establishes the Select Committee on Assassinations to investigate the deaths of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. It results from joining two resolutions, one submitted by Virginia’s Tom Downing and the other from Texan Henry Gonzalez. Despite Downing’s scheduled retirement, Speaker-elect Tip O’Neill names him chairman, irking Gonzalez. The new committee, however, will expire at the end of the year and will have to be reconstituted and funded by the new ninety-fifth Congress.

09/18/76—Schweiker investigator Fonzi takes Alpha 66 founder Veciana to a meeting of the Retired Intelligence Officers Association in Reston, Virginia, to confront David Phillips. Fonzi introduces Veciana to Phillips by name. Veciana himself asks Phillips if he is familiar with the name of Veciana. Phillips, once chief of all the Agency’s Cuban operations, appears flustered but says no, he never heard of Veciana. He refuses to be questioned further by Fonzi.

09/21/76—Former Chilean foreign and defense minister Orlando Letelier is murdered in Washington with a planted car bomb on orders of the Chilean military junta. Involved are Chilean intelligence agents and [anti-Castro](#) Cubans with links to David Phillips. After the assassination, Phillips is involved in disseminating misinformation through his media assets.

10/10/76—Assassinations Committee Chairman Downing appoints Philadelphia First Assistant District Attorney Richard Sprague as chief counsel and staff director. Sprague, who has a national reputation as a homicide prosecutor with a string of sixty-nine out of seventy first-degree convictions, announces he will conduct the Kennedy probe as a murder investigation, a new approach.

11/02/76—Jimmy Carter defeats Ford in presidential election.

11/27/76—David Phillips, among the first Witnesses subpoenaed by the Assassinations Committee, is questioned about his role in the CIA supplying the Warren Commission photo of man misidentified as Lee Harvey Oswald about the tape recordings and the transcripts of Oswald's visit to the Russian embassy. Phillips testifies that surveillance cameras were not working when Oswald approached the embassy and that the tape recording had been routinely destroyed. Chief Counsel Sprague asks the CIA for access to its files but the Agency refuses unless Sprague signs a secrecy oath. Sprague says that would be a conflict since the CIA is one of the Committee's targets.

12/21/76—Reviewing Senator Schweiker's files on [anti-Castro](#) Cuban connection to the CIA, Bob Tanenbaum, deputy chief counsel of the JFK Assassinations Committee, asks investigator Gaeton Fonzi to join House probe.

01/07/77—[William Pawley](#) (QDDALE), millionaire ex-ambassador, backer of the ill-fated [Bayo-Pawley mission](#) (aka Operation Tilt) designed to extricate Russian missile site personnel from Cuba in order to embarrass President Kennedy, kills himself in his Miami Beach home before being questioned by Committee investigator Gaeton Fonzi.

02/01/77—The House Rules Committee, deviating from its normal procedure of automatically reconstituting standing committees from the previous congressional session, gives the Assassinations Committee funding for only two months and an order to justify its existence during that period. The Committee and Chief Counsel Sprague had been under heavy attack by the major media, notably The New York Times, and politicians claiming Sprague is planning to employ hidden tape recorders and lie detectors in the probe. Attacks have increased since Sprague, refusing to use other federal agencies to staff the investigation as the Warren Commission did, said he needed a \$6.5 million for the first year of investigation. With Downing's retirement, Texas Democrat Henry Gonzalez assumes chairmanship of the Committee.

02/11/77—Angered by Sprague's refusal to relinquish the power of staff appointments to him, Gonzalez begins a feud with Sprague that culminates in Gonzalez firing Sprague and ordering the Capitol police to evict the chief counsel from his office. Within hours, Gonzalez's dismissal of Sprague is rescinded by the other members of the Committee.

03/01/77—Frustrated at the lack of support from his fellow Committee members, Gonzales resigns as chairman, calls Sprague an "unconscionable scoundrel." Ohio congressman Louis Stokes is appointed the new Committee chairman.

03/01/77—President Carter appoints a Naval Academy classmate, Admiral Stansfield Turner, as CIA director. Turner begins a reorganization of the Agency, fires 820 employees, most in covert operations.

03/16/77—With general congressional support for continuing the Assassinations Committee fading as a result of its internal feuding, Sprague offers to resign if

Committee members feel he is a “millstone” that would prevent the Committee’s reconstitution. The members refuse his offer.

03/29/77—In Florida, George de Mohrenschildt dies of a shotgun wound to the head hours after receiving a notice from Assassinations Committee investigator Fonzi that he is being sought to testify. That evening in Washington, with the Committee on the verge of losing a House vote for its reconstitution and funding, Chief Counsel Sprague resigns. The next morning, the news of de Mohrenschildt’s death and Sprague’s resignation produce a victory for the Committee’s continuation, although, at \$2.5 million a year, with much less funding than Sprague had requested.

05/06/77—Carlos Prío, former president of Cuba linked to the Mob’s control of Havana casinos and, involved with Frank Sturgis in [anti-Castro](#) activities, kills himself outside his Miami Beach home before he can be questioned by Committee investigator Fonzi.

05/13/77—In an interview with New York Times reporter Robert Sam Anson, former Committee Chief Counsel Sprague says he believes his problems with Gonzalez and certain members of Congress about funding was a “smoke screen,” that his conflict with the CIA was the underlying source of his troubles. If he had to do it all over again, he said, he would begin by probing “Oswald’s ties to the Central Intelligence Agency.”

09/18/77—In a public debate with Mark Lane in Los Angeles, David Phillips declares that Oswald “was in no way connected with the CIA” and promises to call for the abolition of the CIA if the Agency is proved guilty of a cover-up in the Kennedy assassination.

10/31/77—Richard Helms, director of the CIA who withheld information about the Agency’s plotting with the Mafia to kill Castro from the Warren Commission, pleads guilty to lying to the Church Senate Intelligence Committee about the CIA’s involvement in overthrowing Allende in Chile.

11/18/77—Cuban exile leader Manuel Artime, a close associate of E. Howard Hunt, dies at the age of forty-five within weeks of being told he has cancer and before he can be questioned by House Committee investigators Fonzi and Gonzales.

06/20/77—G. Robert Blakey, of Cornell Law’s Organized Crime Institute, is appointed chief counsel and staff director of the Assassinations Committee.

08/29/77—Staff Director Blakey conducts a Committee staff conference on “investigative techniques and procedures.”

10/28/77—Assassinations Committee staff conference signals the beginning of an organized investigation with each team instructed to define the issues in its field. Blakey establishes a working relationship with the CIA for staff to review files, but all notes will be sanitized by the Agency before being released back to the Committee. All contacts

with former CIA agents must be cleared through CIA headquarters.

12/04/77—A procedural directive is issued at an Assassinations Committee staff conference. Deputy Chief Counsel Gary Cornwell announces that the time for “foraging” is over, the investigation must now be limited to “linchpin issues,” meaning only those to which an answer can be found prior to writing a final report.

01/16/78—A former CIA officer code-named Ron Cross, who worked at the JM/WAVE station with David Phillips, tells Committee investigators Al Gonzales and Gaeton Fonzi that Phillips used the pseudonym of Maurice Bishop. He also recalls Phillips being referred to as “Mr. Bishop” by one of his deputies, a “Doug Gupton.” Cross is never called to testify under oath before the Committee. When questioned by Committee staff at CIA headquarters, “Doug Gupton” says he does not remember ever referring to Phillips as “Mr. Bishop.” He, too, is never called to testify under oath.

03/02/78—The CIA informs the Assassinations Committee that its office of the Inspector General, its office of the General Counsel, its office of Personnel and the Deputy Directorate of Operations has no record of a Maurice Bishop.

04/25/78—David Phillips testifies under oath before the Assassinations Committee that he never used the name of Maurice Bishop. He also says he was never introduced to Antonio Veciana by name. Committee staff members urge Chief Counsel Blakey to bring perjury charges against Phillips. He declines.

05/07/78—David Sanchez Morales, although officially retired from the CIA, returns from a regular trip to Washington to his home near Phoenix, Arizona. He tells friends he began feeling ill shortly before leaving Washington and that night has sudden heart attack. The ambulance is late in arriving and reportedly has equipment problems. Morales dies the next morning at the Tucson Medical Center. He had told a friend he feared for his life “from his own people” because he “knows too much.”

06/12/78—Blakey announces that because of an unforeseen “budget crunch,” there will have to be a drastic reduction of Assassinations Committee staff personnel. When the specific cuts are later announced, two-thirds of the Committee’s investigative staff are dismissed.

08/01/78—Former CIA Director Richard Helms testifies before the House Select Committee on Assassinations that Oswald “was not an agent of the CIA” and “to the best of my knowledge no contact [by the CIA] was ever made [with Oswald].”

08/17/78—The Assassination Committee takes a deposition from former CIA Director John McCone. He answers affirmatively to two questions: Do you know or did you know Maurice Bishop? Was he an Agency employee? He does not remember with what division of the Agency Bishop was associated.

08/28/78—Questioned by staff researcher Dan Hardway at Assassinations Committee headquarters, David Phillips dissembles regarding his role at the Mexico City CIA station at the time of Oswald’s alleged visit. The questioning also reveals that most of the originators of disinformation stories in Mexico City and Miami were Phillips’s assets. Unaware of its significance, Phillips also acknowledges his working relationship in Chile with CIA agent Luis Posada, involved with Antonio Veciana in Castro assassination attempt planned by Maurice Bishop.

09/06/78—The Assassinations Committee begins its public hearings. Sixteen days of hearings are scheduled between this date and 12/29. Most of the hearings deal with scientific analysis of the physical evidence and the possibility of organized crime involvement. Many of the hearings are consumed by Chief Counsel Blakey reading narrative of the various areas of the Committee’s investigation. Of the more than four dozen witnesses called, only one, former CIA Director Richard Helms, is connected to the intelligence community. (Helms is questioned only about the CIA’s treatment of defector Yuri Nosenko and his failure to tell the Warren Commission about Castro assassination plots.)

09/06/78—Governor John Connally and wife Nellie testify for more than three hours on the first day of public hearings. Both repeat their Warren Commission testimony that Connally was hit by the second bullet fired, contradicting the single-bullet theory.

09/11/78—Based on an analysis of a recording from a Dallas motorcycle policeman’s radio and tests done in Dealey Plaza, acoustical expert James Barger testifies that there is a 50 percent chance that one shot came from the “grassy knoll” area.

09/18/78—Time magazine reports on the Assassinations Committee hearings, concludes that the Committee “added credence to the main finding of the Warren Commission: Lee Harvey Oswald alone killed the president. . .“

10/19/78—The CIA’s Office of Legislative Counsel informs the Committee that the information given in a sworn deposition by former Director John McCone is incorrect. Upon being reinterviewed by the Agency, McCone states that he was mistaken in his recollection of knowing a Maurice Bishop.

12/29/78—After further acoustical tests at Dealey Plaza and a reevaluation of Dr. Barger’s earlier analysis, two other acoustical consultants, Mark Weiss and Ernest Aschkenasy, testify there is more than a 95 percent probability of a shot having been fired from the “grassy knoll.”

03/29/79—The House Assassinations Committee issues its report, concluding that President Kennedy was probably assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in a conspiracy with other unknown individuals. Chief Counsel Robert Blakey announces his conclusion that “the Mob did it.”

09/21/79—Antonio Veciana is shot in the head by an unknown assailant. He survives. The FBI says it is investigating the assassination attempt “because of a possible connection with agents of a foreign government.”

01/24/81—President Reagan names his former campaign chairman, William Casey, as CIA director. Casey, a onetime OSS agent and a board director of David Phillips’s Association of Former Intelligence Officers, immediately asks that Congressional restrictions on CIA operations be loosened and the Agency removed entirely from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. He later formulates a secret and illegal phase of Project Democracy to control American public opinion to support waging covert wars against communism in Latin America. Casey later becomes chief architect of the Iran-Contra operation.

10/06/86—The CIA’s secret Contra arms-supply network begins to unravel when an American cargo plane loaded with arms and ammunition is shot down in Nicaragua. Captured crewman Eugene Hasenfus reveals that a Cuban-American veteran of the Bay of Pigs named “Max Gomez” helped coordinate the supply network from an airbase at Ilopango in El Salvador. “Max Gomez” is CIA veteran Felix Rodriguez, who worked with David Sanchez Morales in the capture of Che Guevara. Hasenfus also reveals that a CIA agent known as “Ramón Medina” is working with Rodriguez at Hopango. “Medina” turns out to be Luis Posada, who had worked with David Phillips in Chile and was involved with Antonio Veciana in the 1971 Castro assassination attempt there planned by Maurice Bishop.

05/11/87—Former CIA Counterintelligence Chief James Angleton dies of lung cancer.

07/10/88—Retired CIA Chief of Western Hemisphere Division David Atlee Phillips dies after a long bout with cancer. Maurice Bishop is buried with him.