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The FBI announced today that it has transferred an additional 10,228 pages of JFK documents to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the "President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992" (The Act).

The Bureau also sent to NARA previously classified information on the assassination received through an operation codenamed SOLO that includes the reaction of Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro and officials of the then Soviet Union.

The SOLO operation focused on the activities of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA) and the Soviet Union's funding and influence over that organization. The information from that operation contained in the 149 pages of transferred documents is from several of the FBI's "core" assassination files, including the file on Lee Harvey Oswald. Attorney General Janet Reno declassified and authorized the release of SOLO information under The Act subsequent to the initial transfers of the Oswald and other files that contain the information. In addition, the FBI has now declassified the SOLO operation and code name in response to The Act.

Information obtained from sources in the SOLO operation was among that considered by the FBI in examining whether Oswald was involved with a foreign government in the assassination of President Kennedy. The sources reported no information indicating Soviet or Cuban involvement in the assassination. One source reported on Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro's comments about the assassination made during a meeting in 1964, and on the reaction of CPUSA officials, while a second source reported on the reaction of Soviet officials just after the assassination.

The sources reported the following to the FBI:

- - Castro recounted an incident of Oswald becoming angry when he was refused a visa at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. Castro stated that when Oswald was refused a visa at that embassy he reportedly said as he left "I'm going to kill Kennedy for this." Furthermore, Castro expressed the belief that Oswald did not act alone. The source advised that Castro's speculation was based on experiments Castro and "his men" had conducted with rifles similar to that used by Oswald and not on firsthand information.

- - Soviet officials acknowledged that Oswald had defected to the Soviet Union but stated that he was never given Soviet citizenship and he belonged to no Soviet organizations. They described him as a neurotic maniac who was disloyal to his own country and everything else. Soviet officials believed the assassination was not the deed of one man and was the work of "ultraright" elements. The CPUSA requested that the Soviets have all world communist parties continue the campaign blaming the ultra-right elements in the United States as the perpetrators of the assassination.

The materials transferred to the Archives also included investigative files regarding organized crime figures Sam Giancana (deceased) and Gus Alex, who both lived in Chicago, that were reviewed by the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) in 1978 and 1979 as it examined various assassination conspiracy theories. The FBI sent to NARA 4,674 pages of Giancana's file and 5,554 pages of Alex's file. This represents the first transfer by the FBI of files reviewed by the HSCA.

Of the 10,228 pages of Giancana and Alex documents transferred today, 3,326 contained postponed information ranging from one word or item on a page to more extensive postponements. Another 402 pages were withheld because the FBI postponed them in their entirety. There were 119 pages of documents withheld in their entirety because they contained IRS information, the release of which is prohibited by The Act, or because the FBI is awaiting word from another government agency or a foreign government as to whether their contents can be released.

Many of the postponements in the Giancana and Alex files were taken to protect sensitive organized crime sources. Other postponements involved grand jury material that has not been unsealed. The FBI will seek to have grand jury records made public and take other appropriate steps to reduce the amount of postponed material in those files, as part of its continuing effort to maximize disclosure of information in its JFK records.

The FBI previously transferred over 590,000 pages of JFK records, including its files on the investigations of President Kennedy's assassination, Lee Harvey Oswald, and Jack Ruby. The FBI will continue the expeditious transfer of the approximately 250,000 remaining pages of files on over 600 subjects of interest to the HSCA. The files will be transferred in logical subject groupings. The order of their transfer is being coordinated with the Assassination Records Review Board. To date, the FBI has expended over \$6 million in personnel costs to respond to the JFK Records Act.

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