Exclosuresto Serial #72

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TUP SEGRET

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

Robert C. Mardian

TO

Assistant Attorney General

Internal Security Division

DATE: December 9, 1971

Robert L. Keuch

Chief, Appellate and Civil Litigation Section

SUBJECT:

Top Secret memo - Assassination of President

John Fitzgerald Kennedy,

dated 2/24/71

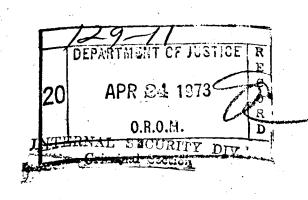
Attached is the only copy of this memorandum now in existence. Pursuant to your request, all other copies and their attachments have been destroyed.

Declassified-Date // / S (Curwiant to 28 C.F/R. 17 cc)

George W. Calhoun

IUP SECRET

TOP SECRET CONTROL OFFICE INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION CONTROL NO.7-74/2



6 Attempts to Kill Castro Laid to

By Jack Anderson

Locked in the darkest recesses of the Central Intelligence Agency is the story of six assassination attempts against Cuba's Fidel Castro.

For 10 years, only a few key people have known the terrible secret. They have sworn never to talk. Yet we have learned the details from sources whose credentials are

beyond question.

We spoke to John McCone,
who headed the CIA at the time of the assassination at-tempts. He acknowledged the idea had been discussed inside the CIA but insisted it had been "rejected immediately." He vigorously denied that the CIA had ever particiipated in any plot on Castro's life. Asked whether the attempts could have been made with his knowledge, he re-plied: "It could not have hapvened."

dence. however, in

ers landed on the sland. Their nedy. arrival was expected to touch off a general uprising, which the Communist militia would have had more tro ible putting down without the charismatic Castro to lead them.

After the first attempt failed, five more assassination teams were sent to Cuba. The last team reportedly made it to a rooftop within shooting distance of Castro before they were apprehended. This hap-pened around the last of February or first of March, 1963.

Nine months later, President Kennedy was gunned down in Dallas by Lee Harvey Oswald, a fanatic who pre-viously had agitated for Cas-tro-in New Orleans and had made a mysterious, trip to the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City.

complete confi-CIA conspiracy, there is still a our n a g g i n g suspicion-unsupbegan as part of the Bay of Pigs operation. The intent was plot upon his life and someto ellminate the Cuban dicta-

tor before the motley invad-late against President Ken-complete with secret trysts at

To set up the Castro assassination, the CIA enlisted Rob- dashes to secret landing spots ert Maheu, a former FBI on the Cuban coast. Once, Roagent with shadowy contacts, selli's boat was shot out from who had handled other undercover assignments for the CIA out of his Washington public relations office. He later moved to Las Vegas to head up billion: ire Howard Hughes' Nevada operations.

Mahet recruited John Roselli, a ruggedly handsome gambler with contacts in both the American and Cuban underworks, to arrange the assassination. The dapper, hawkfaced Roselli, formerly mar-ried to movie actress June Lang. was a power in the movie fudustry until his conviction with racketeer Willie Bioff in a million-dollar Holly-wood labor shakedown. The CIA assigned two of its most ity. trusted operatives, William Among those privy to the Harvey and James (Big Jim) O'Conne I, to the hush-hush murder mission. Using phony

glittering Miami Beach hotels and midnight powerboat selli's boat was shot out from? under him.

For the first try, furnished Roselli with specialpoison capsules to slip into Castro's food. The poison wassupposed to take three days to act. By the time Castro died, his system would throw off ail traces of the poison, so he' would appear to be the victim of a natural if mysterious ail-, ment.

Roselli arranged with Cuban, related to one of Castro's chefs, to plant the deadly pellets in the dictator's food, On March 13, 1961, Roselli delivered the capsules to his con-

tact at Miami Beach's glamor-

ous Fontainebleau Hotel. A couple of weeks later, just about the right time for the plot to have been carried out, a report out of Havana said Castro was ill. But he recovered before the Bay of Pigs

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Castro Plot Raises Ugly Questions

By Jack Anderson

The plot to kill Cuban dic-

The plot to kill Cuban dio tator Fidel Castro, hidden for follogial would rather kendy know about the assassinations.

Joi the late Robert Kendy know about the assassinations assassinate methy and the state part of play questions that high officials would rather keep buried deep inside the Central Intelligence Agency.

1. Has the CIA tried to assassinate any other leader's standard and the control of the CIA would like "to splinter the CIA would like "to splinter the CIA with instructions CIA during the six attempts on the control of the CIA with instructions are rived to kill anyone, But except Gamphatically that the CIA has after the Bay of Pigs while briefly and arranged the shootings of the CIA with instructions friends, told us the late President Kennedy was ridingly assassinate and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and a republic of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootings of the Dominican Republic's Ral and arranged the shootin

|behind the Trujillo and Diem | ment and had traveled to | sion, there was a wide spec-Mexico to visit the Cuban trum of plans ranging from

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