

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

DATE: July 20, 1967

REC-10

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Wick	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
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Sullivan	_____
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Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan *WAB*

- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

The purpose of this memorandum is to set forth results of interview with Rudolph Richard Davis, Jr.

BACKGROUND:

Rudolph Richard Davis, Jr., was born in 1934 in New York, New York. His father was a Cuban national. Davis returned to Cuba with his parents when he was a small boy. He returned to the United States when Fidel Castro took over leadership of Cuba. In 1962-63 Davis was residing in New Orleans, where he was employed as a salesman. He also was active in anti-Castro activities and claimed to be a delegate of the Christain Democratic Movement, an anti-Castro organization.

Through our coverage in the Cuban field, we learned Davis brought a group of approximately 20 Cuban refugees to New Orleans area in Summer of 1963. We received allegations Davis planned to use this group for military action against Fidel Castro. Davis interviewed in this matter by Agents of the New Orleans Office on October 1, 1963. He indicated he had brought this group to New Orleans to prepare them for employment in the lumber industry in Guatemala. He stated that the men were extremely disappointed since they thought they were being selected for military operations against Cuba. Davis further stated that in late July, 1963, the FBI seized dynamite and other explosives which were stored in Lacombe, Louisiana, which was a short distance from his camp. According to Davis, this action disturbed the Cuban refugees and the entire group returned to Miami.

GARRISON'S INTEREST IN DAVIS:

REC 10 62-107060-5587

We have previously received information <sup>July 27 1967</sup> New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison feels this anti-Castro Cuban group led by Davis was involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. Garrison has alleged that Davis, himself, was at a meeting in residence of David William Ferrie when Ferrie, Clay Shaw and several other individuals plotted the assassination of President Kennedy.

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*9/21/67*  
*W.A. Branigan*  
*W.A. Branigan*

*57 J. C.*

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
-109060

CURRENT INTEREST IN DAVIS:

On June 30, 1967, an official of an insurance firm with offices in Houston, Texas, advised that Davis had applied for employment as an insurance agent with his firm. He added that Davis claimed to have formerly been active in anti-Castro activities in New Orleans and that he knew Lee Harvey Oswald.

INTERVIEW WITH DAVIS:

Davis interviewed by Houston Office July 14, 1967, and furnished details concerning the anti-Castro Cuban refugee group he brought to New Orleans in Summer of 1963. Davis claimed he met Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans in Fall of 1963. He stated his first meeting with Oswald took place when Oswald was passing out pro-Castro leaflets on Canal Street in New Orleans. Shortly thereafter he contacted Oswald at latter's apartment in New Orleans in effort to obtain information concerning Oswald's pro-Castro activities. Davis claimed Oswald refused to have anything to do with him.

Davis claimed that representatives of District Attorney Garrison's office have contacted him in Houston in an effort to elicit information concerning Davis' training camp and anti-Castro activities in New Orleans. Davis stated he obtained the services of an attorney and refused to discuss these matters with Garrison's men. Davis further stated approximately four months ago he was paid \$500 and expenses by Time-Life Corporation to go to New Orleans and identify the training site he used for his Cuban refugee group during the Summer of 1963. Davis did this and understands that "Life" magazine plans to include information regarding this training site in an article dealing with current Garrison probe in New Orleans.

OBSERVATIONS:

Davis' claim that he had personal contact with Lee Harvey Oswald on two occasions in New Orleans during the Summer of 1963, not previously received by us, and it is not known if true. During our investigation of the assassination, we developed no information indicating Oswald had contact with Davis. On June 23, 1964, we interviewed Davis on another matter involving an allegation that Davis planned to arrange a bombing of Havana, Cuba. During such interview, Davis made no mention of any contacts with Lee Harvey Oswald. Our files disclose that individuals close to Davis report him to be a liar, a heavy drinker and a "nut." On June 23, 1964, Davis admitted to two Agents of our New Orleans Office that he was a fabricator and had completely fabricated a story that he was behind an effort to bomb oil refineries near Havana, Cuba. It appears highly doubtful that Davis had any contact with Lee Harvey Oswald.

ACTION:

For information. A letterhead memorandum setting forth results of our interview with Davis is being disseminated to the Department, Secret Service and to the Central Intelligence Agency.

*DA Sullivan*  
*W.C.S.*  
*10-2-67*