



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Detroit, Michigan
April 9, 1964

Assassination of President
John Fitzgerald Kennedy
November 22, 1963
Dallas, Texas

Handwritten: MARY JEAN BERNSTEIN

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 6, 1964, that Reva Bernstein had said she and her husband had been in Mexico for two months having recently returned; and had been in Canada over the Easter weekend 1964 to visit her mother who, according to [redacted] was believed to reside in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. [redacted] could give no additional information regarding the Bernsteins.

On April 7, 1964, confidential informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, and who are familiar with Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) activities, were contacted by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but advised that they did not have any knowledge or information concerning the alleged disappearance of two FPCC members. They also said they had not heard any statements by the Bernsteins in the Detroit area regarding interviews by newspaper reporters or anyone else; or their travel in Canada since the assassination of President Kennedy.

A characterization of the FPCC is attached hereto. (DETROIT BRANCH)

Page 19-A, Final 4 Star Edition, dated November 25, 1963, of the "Detroit News", a daily metropolitan newspaper, contained an article captioned "Cuba Fair Play Group Faded in Detroit Activity", which states in part that Joseph and his

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Re: Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy

wife, Reva, Bernstein were two of six witnesses at a public hearing into the affairs of the FPCC by a sub-committee of the Senate Internal Security Committee. The Washington hearing was notable for the fact that the six Detroit witnesses invoked the Fifth Amendment 100 times on grounds that any statement they might make about the committee or their activities might tend to incriminate them.

Mrs. Bernstein said that neither she nor her husband had ever been members of the Cuba committee. "We can't tell you anything", she said. "But I do want to say that my husband and I are deeply saddened by the death of President Kennedy." The article states that others who appeared before the Senate committee were not available for comment. The article did not state the date of the hearing in Washington, or the date of the interview of Mrs. Bernstein.

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APPENDIX

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE,
DETROIT BRANCH

On November 7, 1960, a source reported that ED SHAW, Detroit Branch, Socialist Workers Party (SWP) member, was Detroit Branch SWP representative of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) and was in the process of establishing the Detroit Chapter of the FPCC, the national office of which is in New York City.

On January 29, 1961, the "Detroit News" published an article stating that the Detroit Branch of the FPCC had been organized in Detroit with an office at the residence of ED SHAW, 1057 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, and that an Executive Board had been elected with ED SHAW named the Chairman of the board.

According to the article, the Detroit Branch, FPCC, was affiliated with the national organization and listed among its purposes "general efforts to create a better understanding between the peoples of the United States and Cuba." The article further stated that public meetings and discussions on Cuban-American relations were planned by the group in a "forceful and dynamic program to bring the truth about Cuba to the people of Michigan".

A second source on October 17, 1961, advised that activities of the Detroit Chapter, FPCC, had slowed down considerably and that during the summer and early fall very few activities were sponsored by this group.

This source further reported on June 22, 1962, that the FPCC activities in Detroit, Michigan, were at a standstill and that there were no plans for future activities.

The first source advised on October 4, 1962, that EDWARD SHAW was scheduled to leave Michigan on October 8 or 9, 1962, for Mountain Spring Camp in Washington, New Jersey, where he was to be an instructor for the next session of the Trotsky School.

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The second source advised on October 4, 1962, that there had been no activities connected with the FPCC and that as far as the source knew this committee was defunct.