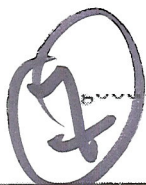
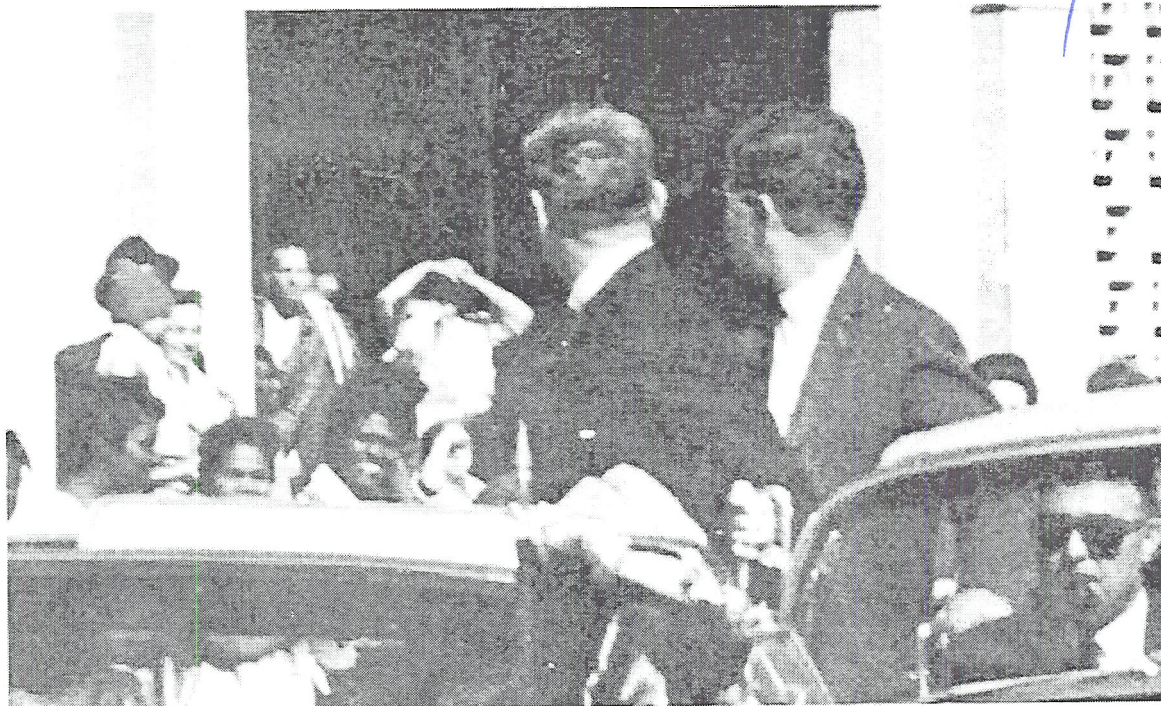


Box 7

File Oswald in the
Booeyay



WIDE WORLD



Standing in the doorway of the Texas School Book Depository in the background is a man who bears a startling resemblance to the accused assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. At right is a closeup of that same man.

Secretary Robert S. McNamara to reassert civilian control over the generals in the Pentagon. He let it be known that he favored *détente* with the Russians, engineered the first workable nuclear test ban treaty, called for an end to the (then) 27.5 percent oil depletion allowance, and in the third year of his reign, indicated that he would do what Nixon eventually did do—open the door to Red China. And to make matters even worse, he decided sometime in mid-1963 that sending 15,000 “advisors” to Vietnam hadn’t been such a good idea after all, and ordered the

but also his brother Raul and theoretician Chê Guevara, Fiorini—better known today as Frank A. Sturgis of Watergate fame—had joined Castro back in 1957 in the Sierra Maestre, largely at the urging of former Cuban president Carlos Prío Socarrás, who’d been overthrown by Batista in 1948. Fiorini had insinuated himself into the Castro brothers’ confidence and told the CIA he was in a perfect position to do the job right.

We don’t know what the CIA’s response was at the time, but from Fiorini’s recent published confessions, we’re told that if the CIA wasn’t in-

American known only as “Eduardo”—E. Howard Hunt.

Shortly after Kennedy’s inauguration, the CIA confronted the new President with what was essentially a *fait accompli*: a complete invasion “package” consisting of a landing by 1,500 men, pre-invasion air cover by the U.S. Navy, and the Castro assassination. Kennedy vetoed the air cover but did allow the CIA to send up two obsolete B-25 bombers with Cuban markings to bomb the Havana airport; he also strictly forbade the Castro killing.

“Eduardo,” of course, never bothered to inform the “free” Cubans of Kennedy’s hardnosed position. And because the two B-26 bombers had missed knocking out Castro’s T-33 jet fighters on the ground, the April 17-20 Bay of Pigs invasion was a disaster from start to finish. The stragglers felt Kennedy had betrayed them; so did the mob and many within the CIA.

Badly burned by the disaster, and angry at his “advisers,” Kennedy vowed he would “break the CIA into a thousand pieces and scatter it.” He sent the FBI and Secret Service in to break up new CIA training camps in Louisiana and Florida. Possibly at this point, some within the CIA as well as those in Cuba remembered the mob’s interest and willingness to kill Castro, because in 1972, a CIA-organized hit team was sent on to Havana—and was caught.

Possibly for this reason, a few assassinologists keep coming back to “that Cuban connection” in four shootings.

- Consider Lee Harvey Oswald and his one-man New Orleans chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee—whose address, curiously, was the same as that of the violently anti-Castro, E. Howard Hunt-managed Cuban Revolutionary Council.
- Consider the admission by Dr. King’s accused slayer, James Earl Ray, that a “blond Latin” named Raoul gave him a new ID and money in exchange for running guns down to some Cubans in Memphis and New Orleans.
- Consider the recent revelation that the man who may have actually killed Senator Kennedy in Los Angeles was not Sirhan but a private security guard of possible Cuban extraction.
- And consider, too, that within 30 minutes after news of Gov. Wallace’s shooting had reached the White House, Charles Colson ordered the White House “plumbers”—including

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first 1,000 back by Christmas.

But in hindsight of what we’ve since learned, no one power bloc might have loomed as large a nemesis as that of the Syndicate. Before Fidel Castro toppled Cuban strongman Fulgencio Batista on New Year’s Day of 1959, Havana was the Syndicate’s fiefdom: more than just a tourist mecca, it was the base for heroin shipments to the U.S. As long as Fidel was in power, the mob stood to lose a lot of money. As far as they were concerned, Castro had to go.

It now turns out that as early as 1959, Frank Angelo Fiorini, a one-time Syndicate employee in Havana, born in Norfolk, Virginia, a former U.S. Marine and Hagannah mercenary during the first (1948) Israeli-

terested, the mob was going to go ahead: they offered him at least \$100,000 to kill Castro. Possibly the reason he didn’t was that he had by now become a CIA contract agent.

The next thing we learn, the assassination of Castro becomes an integral part of the invasion plans. The idea is not just to hit the beaches of Playa Giron and march on Havana, but to take out El Lidre before he can rally his 20,000-man militia.

Meanwhile, in those secret jungle camps down in Nicaragua and Guatemala, the CIA continued training up to 2,000 “free” Cubans—including some of the very same boys who, in 1972, were at the Watergate: people like Virgilio R. Gonzales, Eugenio R. Martinez, Felipe deDiego, Bernard Barber, and our friend Fiorini.

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