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THE JFK CASE

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THE JFK CASE: WHAT INFORMANTS ARE STILL OUT THERE?

By Bill Simpich (*about the author*) Page 1 of 3 page(s)  
For OpEdNews: Bill Simpich - Writer

There are many questions about the JFK assassination that can easily be answered - but only by eyewitnesses who aren't going to be alive for much longer. Do the math: It was 46 years ago this week. It's time for these eyewitnesses to tell their stories - or for the rest of us to at least know who to ask.

Thanks to the JFK Act of 1992 passed in the wake of Oliver Stone's well-known movie, many of the assassination documents were released in the last few years - but the rest are being held back to 2017 or even later. These documents are filled with blacked-out portions that hide the names of the informants and sources of the spy agencies. Some of these names we can figure out. I'll name a couple of them here. Others have gone public. All these names need to be public, before more of these sources pass away from old age.

Here's why it's important. Whether or not Oswald was a spy, he was in the middle of some intriguing operations centered in New York City and Mexico City during the months before Kennedy was shot.

The purpose of these operations was not merely to spy on the pro-Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee, which was the main anti-war network of the era and similar to United for Peace and Justice or ANSWER.

Rather, the goal was to isolate Castro's government in the eyes of the world and to pave the way for a second invasion of Cuba, much like George Bush's second invasion of Iraq.

These operations appear to have been used by someone - whether it was Oswald or someone else - as "protective cover" behind which they could engineer the assassination of JFK, causing the intelligence bureaucracies to instinctively cover up and protect their jobs and pensions, even at the cost of concealing known evidence about Oswald. Who was using who?

Individual claims for privacy are important. But in this case, justice demands that all available information be brought forward now. Embedded in this history are the strategies that push the American people into war - over and over again.

### **It's Time for Fair Play for the FPCC**

In November, 1962, one month after the Cuban missile crisis, the New York papers were filled with headlines about a Cuban plot to bomb Bloomingdale's, other midtown shopping establishments, and military installations throughout the metropolitan area.

Arrested were one of the members of the UN Cuban mission and two members of the Casa Cuba Club, a club of pro-Castro Cuban exiles allied with the politically active Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) headquartered in New York.

*Kal*

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*File - motives  
top w/ Michael's  
proposed  
w/ raised fist.*

### The Guatemalan Coup of March 1963

During 1963, on orders from headquarters, station chief Win Scott conducted a self-described harassment campaign against the former President of Guatemala, Juan Jose Arevalo. This harassment included mailing "poisoned" candy to Arevalo's family (which included five children) as he campaigned for a second chance to serve as president while in exile in Mexico City.

*Winn's  
predicates*

These documents also reveal that the CIA staged a scenario designed to make Arevalo believe that the Cubans at the embassy were planning to bomb him. The Cuban government was allied with the Guatemalan dissidents, and this was an effort to split Arevalo from other dissidents.

There was even a faked "montage" photo of Arevalo standing with a Soviet military attache that was released to the Guatemalan newspapers during this shortened campaign, which ended abruptly with a military coup before the election.

This military coup plunged Guatemala deeper into more than thirty years of terrible civil war that claimed 200,000 lives.

*Oswald's  
Killer*

After the Guatemalan coup, Arevalo finally left Mexico for good the day after the Kennedy assassination, with the CIA monitoring his movements very closely during those final two months.

Juan Jose Arevalo was known as the FDR of Guatemala. His supporters, known throughout the Americas as "Arevalistas", praised him for bringing democracy, free speech, and social services to his part of the world between 1944 and 1951 as Guatemala's first President. In exile in Mexico City, Arevalo was returning to the national stage by running for President a second time until a military coup ended his chances in March 1963.

Why was his family receiving death threats over the telephone and "poisoned" candy in the mail? Why were Cubans supposedly planning to bomb him? Why were the newspapers trying to ruin his campaign by running phony pictures with him alongside a Soviet general?

David Phillips, the CIA's chief of covert actions during this era, had won a Distinguished Service Medal, one of his agency's highest awards, for his work in overthrowing the Guatemala government. Throughout the early sixties, he was active in operations designed to undermine the FPCC. In early October, 1963, Phillips was transferred to become chief of Cuban operations and doubtlessly played a role in the decision to engage in mass polygraphs.

The montage photo is eerily reminiscent of a famous March 1963 photo of an armed Lee Harvey Oswald holding together in his fist the newspapers of the Socialist Workers Party and the Communist Party. One of the only projects that those two parties were ever able to work together was in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, which Oswald joined the next month. In one way, whether this photo is real or faked is immaterial. The photo was created to ensure that Oswald was seen as a person who could bring Communist forces together around Cuba with the power of the gun. That remains Oswald's image to this very day.

*Lee  
Oswald  
Marxist  
took  
same*

If those of us in the United States are serious about understanding our history in places like Guatemala and in Cuba, we will take action in the next few years to ensure that all of the documents about this era are fully released, including the names of the sources and informants. If that happens, we will learn a lot more about how "dirty tricks" affected US history as well as those in other lands. Write Congress and call on them to enforce the JFK Act by releasing all the documents and all the government's sources of information. When the American people are willing to take an unblinking look at ourselves and our institutions, the Kennedy assassination will no longer be a mystery.

- Bill Simpich is a civil rights attorney and an antiwar activist in the San Francisco Bay Area.