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Dallas M. News 2-17-78

Book says Nixon felt Cuba behind JFK death

Richard Nixon suspected that unsuccessful CIA attempts to murder Fidel Castro led to the 1963 assassination of John F. Kennedy as the young president rode in a Dallas motorcade, H.R. Haldeman suggests in a new book.

Haldeman, who became Nixon's chief of staff and confidant, refers to the Kennedy assassination in "The Ends of Power."

"As an outgrowth of the Bay of Pigs (the disastrous attempt to invade Cuba during the Kennedy administration), the CIA made several attempts on Fidel Castro's life," Haldeman wrote. "Unfortunately, Castro knew of the assassination attempts all the time.

"After Kennedy was killed, the CIA launched a fantastic

coverup. Many of the facts about Lee Harvey Oswald unavoidably pointed to a Cuban connection."

Haldeman quoted Nixon as saying that a thorough investigation of the Watergate burglary would "open up this whole Bay of Pigs thing again." But, Haldeman said, he concluded later that Nixon was "actually referring to the Kennedy assassination" when he talked about the Bay of Pigs.

The Warren Commission said it was convinced by its investigation that Oswald acted alone in shooting Kennedy and that Oswald was not a CIA agent when the president was killed.

Gerald Ford, who succeeded Nixon in the White House, was a Warren Commission member.