CIA SUPER-SPY: I CAN PROVE

WATERGATE burglar Frank Sturgis revealed this week he has proof that Fidel Castro triggered the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

And he produced a super-secret document that clearly involves hoodlum Jack Ruby, the killer of Lee Harvey Oswald, in the plot.

Sturgis, a trained killer who spent 14 months in jail for his part in the Watergate burglary, said he was breaking traditional silence for one reason: Patriotism.

By STEVE DUNLEAVY

He told The Star: "I would do anything to end the love affair some of the leaders of this country are having with Castro. He is a murdering butcher, responsible for the deaths of countless Americans."

Sturgis, a veteran front-line C.I.A. agent for 20 years who once fought alongside Castro during the early part of his revolution, says Ruby was in Cuba two months before J.F.K.'s assassination.

"In September 1963, Ruby met here with Castro, Che Guevara, Che's mistress Tanya, a KGB agent and an American known as 'The Mexican,'" said Sturgis.

"Ruby knew Cuba well. He had been running guns in there for Castro. In return, Castro was letting him take cocaine to the States.

"The rub came when he was asked to help Castro kill President Kennedy who was a great source of anger to Fidel.

"Ruby almost certainly organized the killing, may have actually been a second gun and then he covered his tracks by taking care of Oswald.

"Ruby was there in Cuba meeting with Castro. I know. For sure."

Right now in the Justice Department, there exists a secret document which gives credibility to Sturgis' story that Ruby was a conspirator against President Kennedy.

The document (reproduced in part on the opposite page) most certainly should have been produced at the Warren Commission report into Kennedy's death. If made public, it might have put an entirely new light on the assassination.

It was a report, sent from Miami on January 27, 1964, just two months after J.F.K.'s death, by Mr. A.L. Tarabochia, a crack agent with the Senate Internal-Security Sub-Committee.

Agent Tarabochia reports that he had information, from the Cuban Student Directorate in Havana, that Jack Ruby traveled to Havana for a meeting in 1963.

There, Ruby met with Castro agent Solomon Pratkin, the only person in Cuba allowed to run a private enterprise. It is a curio shop and a meeting place for foreigners.

In his report, Tarabochia reveals that a letter he intercepted from Cuba, dated December, 1963, tells of Ruby meeting up with Pratkin.

This week, I contacted Mr. Tarabochia in Washington and mentioned I had his report in front of me.

"How did you get it? he asked. "I know you have to do a job but, it's a violation whoever gave it to you.

"I'm afraid I really can't comment on it, other than it was processed as raw intelligence."

Sturgis believes that if the letter and Mr. Tarabochia's report were more fully investigated, the whole complexion of the assassination investigation would have been different.

"It was a dreadful cover-up," Sturgis said. "The Johnson Administration just made sure none of it got out.

"Castro believed that after the Cuban missile crisis Kennedy would always interfere.

"But as far back as 1959, when I was very close to him, Castro made it very clear that assassination was very much in his mind if foreigners got in his way."

On August 13 this year, Sturgis was questioned about the Tarabochia document by FBI agents Ben Kantey and Al Marquez.

Sturgis said: "I told them all I knew and that was the document that was handed over to the FBI and then it disappeared.

"Everybody has been talking about C.I.A. cover-ups and F.B.I. cover-ups, but this was a cover-up on the part of the Johnson Administration.

"They destroyed all those very important documents."

"It's frightening. If the facts really came out some of our more liberal Senators might not be so quick to look on Castro as a hero."

Frank Sturgis, left, and the man he used to work for, Fidel Castro. Sturgis was Security Chief of Castro's Air Force until he became disillusioned with the Communist regime. Then, as a CIA agent, he set about trying to kill him.

My secret James Bond life

Castro, cigar in mouth, chats to Marie. Little did he know she would turn against him by stealing secret documents and then trying to poison him.

SUPER-SPY Frank Sturgis and Marie Lorenz, the Mata Hari mistress of Fidel Castro, were re-united last week for the first time in 15 years.

And they told The Star how they plotted to kill the Cuban dictator.

It was Sturgis, while working as Security Chief for Castro in 1959, who recruited the shapely German-born beauty and used her in a bizarre attempt to poison Castro.

During their three-hour conversation in a New York hotel, they described a hair-raising cloak-and-dagger existence straight from the pages of a James Bond novel.

They talked fervently of their love for Cuba and their fellow agents, lamented the deaths of men and women who were killed in the line of duty and talked of the day that Castro will be dead.

Sturgis, betraying no emotion, said: "If I had the chance tomorrow, I would kill Fidel in a second."

Marie, 35, shrugged her shoulders, smiled and said: "We had our chance, but we blew it."

Marie Lorenz became Castro's mistress in 1959 after he and his revolutionaries boarded a luxury liner, The Berlin, which was captained by her father, Heinrich Lorenz.

She took a job as Castro's live-in secretary, but soon found she was nothing more than a prisoner.

Locked in a suite at the Havana Hilton, Marie Lorenz was simply a plaything for the bearded dictator.

But she became a problem when news that Castro was keeping a foreign woman in luxury leaked to the population.

He had her taken to the Isle of Pines, the jail where he himself had been imprisoned by his predecessor Batista. And he had her locked in his old cell.

"I spent a week there eating black beans, rice, stale bread and coffee," she said. "Every morning the prisoners would be treated to the sound of firing squads."

CASTRO PLOTTED JFK's DEATH

Jack Ruby was also involved, says Watergate burglar

MEMORANDUM

M—26—63
MIAMI, JANUARY 27, 1964

FROM: A. L. TARABOCHIA

RE: PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION—
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—JACK RUBY

Reference is made to the reports under the same case number dated 11/28/63, 12/3/63, and 1/8/64.

On January 24, 1964, the writer was advised by JOSE A. GONZALEZ LANUZA of the Cuban Student Directorate that there were indications of a trip to Cuba made by Jack Ruby in 1963. Gonzalez Lanuza added that sources inside Cuba had revealed that Ruby had travelled to the Communist Island from Mexico late in 1962 or 1963.

Further investigation revealed that Jack Ruby had visited a SOLOMON FRANKIN or FASKIN in Havana. Faskin owns and operates a curio shop in Havana across from the Hotel Seville. Faskins residence is on Prado between the streets of Animas and Trocadero.

Part of the super-secret memo mentioning Jack Ruby's alleged visit to Cuba before John Kennedy's assassination. Agent Tarabochia asked The Star: "How did you get it?"

Super-spy Frank Sturgis reunited last week with Marie Lorenz, the girl he enlisted in a plot to poison Fidel Castro. She had been Castro's lover, but turned against him after the dictator threw her in jail.

with Fidel's beautiful mistress

Surprise reunion in New York hotel

Castro never told her why he had locked her up. But she believes he knew she wanted to escape.

"That's where I came in," said Sturgis. "At the time I was Fidel's Security Chief of the Cuban Air Force. But I had long been disillusioned because it was obvious he was a Communist, which I hated.

"I became a double-agent. I was getting excellent information from Juan Orta, Castro's secretary, but I needed more. Marie came along."

One night, Castro swept into the lobby of the Riviera Hotel with Marie and his claque of bodyguards.

Risking being executed on the spot, Sturgis sidled up and told her he was an agent with the American Embassy and wanted to help her.

But like a true spy, he wanted a trade—his help for her help.

"Marie was the only one who had access to Castro's suite," Frank recalled. "I agreed to get her out of Cuba if she could steal papers and documents from his cabinet."

Castro had one filing cabinet that was never locked. It was chock full of guns, money and documents.

Marie did as Frank asked, just plunging her hands into wads of papers not knowing what they were. But one load she stole proved to be a gold mine of information.

They were the original groundwork plans for the Russian missile sites.

Marie recalls: "Fidel never missed them. He was so disorganized. Papers, cigar butts were all over the place. He never missed them."

"Let me tell you Marie is a girl with more guts than 20 male agents," Frank said.

"And she was smart and beautiful. I was very happy. I had a contact in Fidel's office and in his bedroom. I had him pretty well tabbed."

Sturgis kept his promise and had Marie smuggled out of the country late in 1959.

"I had to keep my word," said Sturgis as he sipped on a soft drink which he ordered with the remark: "I don't drink. Getting drunk can get a guy killed."

You would think all this was enough excitement for anyone. But Sturgis was still trying to find a way to kill Castro.

"I had tried to work out several ways," he said. "It had become an obsession.

"At one stage, I wanted to blow him up with a suitcase full of explosives. I could have planted them very easily.

"I kept on badgering my commanding officer at the American Embassy. But I could never get the go-ahead. My boss thought I was crazy, going to blow up the entire leadership of Cuba. But hell, this was war.

"They were communists, at least most of them. If some innocent men had to go with Castro, well, that's the tragedy of war.

"Why didn't I get the go-ahead? Well, it was 1959. President Eisenhower didn't want any assassinations. It was different of course with the Kennedy years."

Sturgis was frustrated with the directives from the C.I.A. "One administration wanted to keep it cool, the Kennedy administration were quite keen to do him in."

By early 1960, Sturgis was running out of time and luck. It was only a matter of time before Castro would realize he was a double agent.

"I got out, probably only a few days before I would have been executed," he said. That's where Marie came back into the picture.

She recalled: "I suppose I must have been a little bit crazy to listen to Frank, but he was a good guy and very patriotic. He wanted Fidel dead."

Sturgis, together with another agent, talked her into going back to Havana with two poison pellets to kill him.

She returned dressed in a Cuban revolutionary army uniform and armed with the poison and a revolver.

"Boy, what guts," Sturgis said with a laugh. "She just walks straight back into his arms. I mean could you imagine another girl doing that? She could have gone straight to the firing squad."

Unfortunately the plot was doomed.

She had hid the poison capsules in a cold cream jar. The cream had melted the outer lining of the capsule — and the poison was just a gooey mess.

Sturgis, now 53, became a Marine at age 17 after giving up ambitions of being a priest. Now his spying experiences have embittered him.

"The C.I.A. are betraying

• Turn to Page 6

Job-hunt stunt pays off

THREE men sneaked onto a firm's assembly line and worked for free — in an attempt to win themselves a job. And their scheme paid off.

After months of unsuccessful job-hunting, brothers Andre and Arthur Andrews, and their friend Derrick Gill of Detroit, Mich., joined Chrysler's stamping plant, hoping to prove to the employers that they should be given jobs.

The three worked on the line for free, figuring that they could get a job "by being in there and showing them that we could do it."

The men secured proper uniforms and worked unnoticed for two days.

Then on the third day, the foreman discovered they were not hired employees, and turned them in to Chrysler officials.

Andre Andrews told The Star: "They were mad at us, real mad. They were asking a lot of rough questions.

"But they told us to return to work the next morning."

Everything you always wanted to know about swine flu vaccine

THE GOVERNMENT'S vast swine flu inoculation program starts in the next few weeks.

More than a million persons a day will be able to get free protection against the killer ailment when the program is operating at full speed.

It's the biggest health maintenance offensive ever launched by a country, according to the program's national director, Dr. H. Delano Meriwether.

Yet, many Americans still do not fully understand it. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions, and the answers to them.

By LESLIE SAVAN

Q. Should I get a swine flu inoculation?

A. Yes, if you are 18 or older and do not have an allergy to eggs, for the swine flu vaccine is grown in fertilized hen's eggs. In some cases, your doctor may be able to de-sensitize you so you can receive the vaccine even if you are egg-allergic.

This involves a series of shots that gives you a tolerance for eggs.

Q. What if I'm under 18?

A. You can't get the swine flu vaccine — yet — because it won't give you enough immunity to warrant your taking it.

Q. Why is that?

A. The vaccine causes the body to form antibodies to fight the swine flu virus and the older a person is, the more antibodies his system is able to produce. The vaccine is 85 percent effective for persons 25 and older and only 50 percent effective for those between 18 and 25.

Q. Is anything being done to help those under 18?

A. Yes. The government is trying to develop an effective and safe vaccine dosage, possibly with a booster, for this age group.

Q. Does the law say I MUST get a swine flu inoculation if I'm eligible?

A. No. The program is completely voluntary. But if you change your mind, it will be available virtually indefinitely — until everyone who wants it can get it.

Q. What will the inoculation cost me?

A. Nothing. You've already paid. Congress appropriated $105 million to provide the vaccine.

Some communities may ask you for a contribution to help defray the expense of their inoculation centers, but you won't be turned away if you don't give.

Q. Will a private doctor charge me if I get my inoculation from him?

A. Not for the vaccine itself, but he may charge you for an office visit or administrative fee, if he is not participating in the national program. In such a case, however, he won't be covered by the new insurance making the federal government liable for injuries resulting from the swine flu program.

Q. Where will the public inoculation centers be set up?

A. In most towns, public health facilities will be used.

Other possible sites are mobile clinics, hospital outpatient clinics, schools, churches, Y's, shopping centers, factories, office buildings, department stores, and nursing homes.

- BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

Q. How can I find out where the nearest inoculation center is?

A. Inoculation center locations and times they are open will appear in newspapers and be announced on radio and TV. Your local health department can also give you the information.

Q. Will the inoculation hurt?

A. No more than any other shot. Even less, at those clinics using big injection "guns" which, incidentally, can inoculate up to 500 persons an hour.

Q. What's this I hear about side effects?

A. You may get a sore arm. Or your arm may get red around the area of the injection.

Headaches and fever of 100 to 104 degrees are possible. These are possibly psychosomatic. They will subside within 24 hours. If you wish, take a couple of aspirin.

Q. I'm a policeman. Is there any special urgency about my being inoculated?

A. You should be inoculated as soon as possible. So should firemen, bus drivers, sanitation workers and others who provide essential public services. This also applies to private employes with heavy public contact.

Q. Any others?

A. Yes, those in the "high risk" category, including persons who are over 65 or have diabetes, heart, lung, or kidney disease.

Q. Are special arrangements being made to inoculate older people?

A. Nursing homes are being encouraged to do their own inoculations. And, when possible, the government will set up inoculation centers in lobbies of senior citizen high rises. For other elderly citizens, volunteers and health departments will try to get them to the public centers.

Q. Won't "high risks" get something extra in their inoculation?

A. For them, the swine flu vaccine will be coupled with protection against the A-Victoria flu which was prevalent last winter.

Q. What if I don't want that?

A. If you're a "high risk" you'll have to be inoculated by your private doctor.

Q. Doesn't the swine flu vaccine work differently than others?

A. Yes. Unlike polio or German measles vaccines, for instance, the swine flu virus is killed before it is put into the vaccine. Thus, you can't get symptoms of the disease from the virus itself, as you sometimes do with others.

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CIA man's James Bond life

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their own people," he said. "There are a lot of good people in the C.I.A. but some are pre-Communist," he said.

"I told the Rockefeller Commission that someone in the Western Hemisphere sector actually was notifying Cuba on when the Cuban exiles were returning to Havana.

"That son-of-a-bitch should have been jailed for that.

"U.S. Ambassador Earl Smith, the former Ambassador to Cuba, believes there are 40 pro-Communist agents in the C.I.A. What the hell are we running here?"

Are Sturgis and Marie in fear of their lives?

"They have tried on both of us," he said. "Two Cubans tried to snatch Marie in a telephone booth in New York, in March, 1960 — just after our poison plot failed.

"They held a gun on her, beat her up and tried to bring her back to Cuba. Luckily, a neighbor saw the Cubans struggling with Marie and distracted them."

Soon after, three Cubans were sent, via Mexico, to take care of Sturgis.

"I got information about it and reported it to the FBI. They stuck to me like glue with a 24-hour guard.

"They got the hit men as they came across the Mexican border," he said.

Do they still fear for their lives? Sturgis said: "The greatest safety I have is my Watergate exposure.

"A professional killer wouldn't hit me. It would cause too much of a stir. I have had too much exposure."

Sturgis is the consummate killing machine. Barrel-chested and looking years younger than 51, he has been trained in knife fighting, judo, karate, guerrilla warfare, jungle warfare and conventional warfare.

He is also a trained pilot, explosives expert and a crack shot.

Sturgis is convinced the Watergate Seven were set up by a cell inside the C.I.A.

"What are men like E. Howard Hunt and G. Gordon Liddy doing in jail?" he asked. "They are patriots, men willing to die for their country.

"We were all pros, we just don't get caught. There were people in the C.I.A. who wanted it as an instrument to hurt President Nixon.

"C.I.A. Director (Richard) Helms and his gang knew they were going to be fired by Nixon and they hit back. We were set up."