

Summary of CIA

By Bill Richards
Washington Post Staff Writer

The report issued yesterday by the Senate intelligence committee contains information on alleged Central Intelligence Agency assassination plots in five foreign countries between 1959 and 1972.

The time frame for the plots, according to the Senate report, begins with approval Dec. 11, 1959, by CIA Director Allen W. Dulles for "through consideration to be given to the elimination of (Cuban Premier) Fidel Castro" and ends with a directive in 1972 by CIA Director Richard M. Helms against further assassination attempts.

Following is a brief summary of various CIA assassination plans that took place between those dates, according to the report:

CONGO

Late spring 1960—CIA Deputy Director for Plans Richard Bissell begins discussion of plans with Bronson Tweedy, CIA's African Division chief, and CIA scientist (identified yesterday by sources as Sidney Gottlieb), to kill unnamed African leader.

September, 1960 — Acting on Bissell's orders, Gottlieb gathers poison and hypodermic needles from Army stockpiles at Ft. Detrick, Md., and flies to Leopoldville with instructions for CIA station officer Victor Hedgman to kill Patrice Lumumba, dismissed as Congolese premier on Sept. 5. Director Dulles cables twice in support of mission.

October, 1960 — Hedgman cables CIA headquarters that he has located a local agent to kill Lumumba by injecting poison into his food or toothpaste. Headquarters cables urging speed before poison's power diminishes.

Oct. 31, 1960 — Bissell asks senior CIA official Michael Mulroney to go to the Congo and kill Lumumba. Mulroney refuses but agrees to go and lure Lumumba from his U.N. guard so Congolese can capture and try him with strong possibility of execution.

Nov. 3, 1960 — Mulroney arrives and sends for two other CIA agents. One agent

described as "a foreign citizen with a criminal background" of smuggling and the other a former forger and bank robber. CIA provides bank robber with plastic surgery and toupee so he won't be recognized.

Nov. 27 1960 — Lumumba leaves U.N. custody for Stanleyville. Hedgman cables Tweedy of departure and states his station is "studying several plans of action."

Jan. 17, 1961 — Lumumba put on plane by followers; plane diverted to Katanga Province where Lumumba is killed. CIA authorities in Africa later disclaim any connection with his death and cable traffic shows no evidence they were involved.

CUBA

March through August, 1960 — CIA officials discuss several schemes against Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. They include: spraying Castro's radio broadcast booth with LSD-type agent; impregnating Castro's cigars with disorienting agent before a speech; dusting Castro's boots with chemical that will make his beard fall out.

(Senate committee reported it had found evidence of at least eight plots by the CIA between 1960 and 1965 to assassinate Castro.)

July 21, 1960 — CIA Havana station arranges for "accident" involving Castro's brother Raul to be handled by Cuban volunteer who is assured his three children will be provided with college education if he is killed. CIA headquarters cables too late on July 22 to halt plan but it falls through anyway when agent can't get to Raul Castro.

Aug. 16, 1960 — CIA official gets box of Castro's favorite cigars and orders to treat them with botulinum toxin, according to records from CIA's Office of Medical Services. Cigars ready Oct. 7 and delivered to unidentified person Feb. 13, 1961. No record of any attempt to pass them on to Castro.

August, 1960 — Col. Sheffield Edwards, director of CIA Office of Security, and Bissell discuss Castro assassination and Edward suggests finding assassin from gambling syndicate operating in Cuba. Edwards turns job over to Robert A. Maheu former FBI

agent and later an employee of millionaire Howard Hughes.

Early September — Unidentified CIA official asks Maheu to contact underworld figure John Rosselli. Maheu meets Rosselli in Hollywood's Brown Derby Restaurant and tells him "high government officials" need his help in eliminating Castro. Rosselli goes to Miami to recruit Cubans for the job and meets on project with CIA agent.

February, 1961—CIA's technical services division makes batch of poison pills, which are turned over to Rosselli for delivery to Castro assassin. At least \$10,000 and electronics equipment given to potential assassin.

March-April, 1961—Cuban working in a favorite Castro restaurant was to administer poison but never received the "Go" signal from his contacts and returned pills and money to CIA.

April, 1962—CIA agent William Harvey reactivates Castro assassination plan. Harvey turns over poison pills and \$5,000 worth of arms and radio equipment to Cuban contact.

May, 1962—Pills and guns arrive in Cuba. Despite reports of a three-man assassination team being prepared for Cuba, there is no evidence the attempt took place.

Early 1963—CIA "Task Force W" assigned to covert Cuban operation studies and rejects plan for implanting explosive seashell in area where Castro goes skin diving.

January, 1963—Diving gear contaminated with poison prepared as gift from James Donovan—negotiator for release of Cuban prisoners—but plan fails when Donovan decides to give Castro an uncontaminated suit.

Autumn 1963—Unidentified highly placed Cuban official meets with Desmond Fitzgerald, head of CIA Special Affairs staff, and offers to kill Castro with a high-powered rifle. Fitzgerald later told an in-house CIA investigation he rejected offer.

Nov. 22, 1963—Cuban told shipment of high-powered rifles and grenades would be dropped in Cuba. Fitzgerald offers Cuban CIA-

Plots, 1959-1972

manufactured pen equipped with hypodermic needle too small to be felt.

1963—Early 1965—CIA arranges for delivery of arms and explosives to agent in Cuba for Castro assassination. No specifics in report on assassination attempts.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

April, 1960—President Eisenhower approves contingency plan to remove Dominican Republic dictator Rafael Trujillo.

June, 1960—U.S. Ambassador to Dominican Republic Joseph Farland agrees to be link between Dominican Republic dissidents and CIA. Farland transmits request from dissidents for rifles with telescopic sights. CIA investigates plan for air-dropping rifles.

Oct. 3, 1960—CIA prepares memorandum for delivery of 300 rifles and pistols, ammunition and explosives to dissidents to "eliminate certain key Trujillo henchmen."

March 15, 1961—Deputy chief of mission Henry Dearborn requests three .38 cal. pistols for dissidents. CIA sends pistols in diplomatic pouch to local station chief six days later.

June 7, 1961—Unsigned and unattributed memo says station officer passed two of the pistols to U.S. citizen in contact with dissident action group.

On a month earlier a State Department memo prepared for former Assistant Secretary Richard Goodwin notes that three .38 cal. revolvers and three carbines had been passed to dissident leaders "attendant to their projected efforts to neutralize Trujillo."

May 30, 1961 — Trujillo was ambushed and assassinated near San Cristobal in the Dominican Republic. Weapons were handguns and shotguns; assassination carried out by dissident action group.

SOUTH VIETNAM

May 8, 1963 — South Vietnamese troops in Hue fire on Buddhists celebrating Buddha's birthday. Lucien Conein, a CIA officer in Vietnam later testified that Buddhist uprisings following

incident led to coup against South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem.

Aug. 24, 1963 — State Department cable approved by President Kennedy told Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge to press Diem to redress the grievances of Buddhists and remove Diem's brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, and sister-in-law, Madame Nhu from power.

Oct. 3, 1963—Conein told by Gen. Duong Van Minh ("Big Minh") of planned coup and possibility of assassination of Diem's brothers, Nhu and Can. Cables from CIA Director John A. McCone neither opposed nor supported plan at first and later opposed assassination plan.

Nov. 2, 1963—Diem and his brother Nhu die and Conein rejects offer from Minh to view their bodies for fear of damaging U.S. interests. The Senate committee reported that 'details of deaths aren't known but there is no evidence of direct or indirect U.S. involvement.

CHILE

Sept. 15, 1970—President Nixon tells CIA Director Richard M. Helms that the regime of Dr. Salvadore Allende Gossens—which won plurality in a presidential election 11 days before—was unacceptable to U.S. CIA instructed by Nixon to play a direct role in organizing military coup.

Oct. 5 to Oct. 20, 1970—CIA makes 21 contacts with key police and military officials in Chile giving assurances of support in case of coup. Army commander-in-chief Gen. Rene Schneider is singled out as target for removal to prepare for coup.

Oct. 19, 1970 — Unsuccessful attempt made to kidnap Schneider by group of Chilean military officers who were supported by CIA. A second unsuccessful attempt made the following day.

Oct. 22, 1970 — During the early morning hours, the CIA passed machine guns and ammunition to the group that failed to kidnap Schneider. Shortly after 8 a.m. Schneider's car is intercepted on his way to work and he is mortally wounded during gunfight. Conspirators involved are not those who got CIA weapons.