

ASSASSINATION PLOTS

On Caribbean Leaders

NEW YORK — (UPI) — Time Magazine reported Sunday that it has been told by "credible sources" that the CIA was "involved in assassination plots" against Caribbean leaders Fidel Castro, Rafael Trujillo, and Francois (Papa Doc) Duvalier.

Helped CIA, Costa Rica's Figueres Says

MENLO CITY — (UPI) — Former Costa Rica President Jose Figueres says he aided the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in an attempt to overthrow Dominican dictator Rafael Leonidas Trujillo.

Trujillo ruled the Dominican Republic for 31 years before he was assassinated in 1961.

Figueres was discussing general political situations in Latin America when suddenly he volunteered information about the CIA in a television interview aired nationwide Sunday.

"I collaborated with the CIA when we were trying to topple Trujillo," Figueres said.

He granted the interview last week at his home in San Jose, the Costa Rican capital, to a reporter of the Mexican national television network Televisa.

Figueres, 67, refused to elaborate when asked specifically if he had actually had something to do with the assassination.

"I don't want to be more explicit because it would not help anybody," Figueres said. He stepped down as president of Costa Rica last May 8 after a four-year term.

Trujillo, and Francois (Papa Doc) Duvalier.

The magazine said its "sources" contend that the CIA enlisted the help of U.S. mafia figures in several unsuccessful attempts to kill Cuban Premier Castro both before and shortly after the CIA-planned Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961.

It said the sources claimed that the CIA had enlisted the help of underworld figures Sam Giancana and John Roselli in efforts to kill Castro by poison, shooting, or bombs. It said the FBI later learned, while investigating a burglary of comedian Dan Rowan's hotel room in Las Vegas, that the arrested prowlers had been assigned by the CIA as a favor to Giancana, who sought information to break up a budding romance between Rowan and Giancana's girl friend, Phyllis McGuire.

The sources claimed that the CIA "backed the successful drive to overthrow" Trujillo, whose 31 years as dictator of the Dominican Republic ended with his shooting death in May 1961 because Trujillo was "getting too friendly with the Communists" and, so, "nobody wanted another Cuba in the Dominican Republic." Several sources insist that "some of the guns used in the killing, apparently fast-firing M1 carbines, were smuggled into the Caribbean island by CIA operatives," it said.

It said the CIA "collaborated with Haiti leaders of a group of at least 200 rebels" who tried unsuccessfully to overthrow Duvalier, dictator of Haiti, in 1963. It said the rebels were stopped at the Dominican border when they tried to invade Haiti.