

## Kennedy, Castro plots linked Mathias reveals

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BALTIMORE (AP)—Sen. Charles McC. Mathias said a Senate intelligence committee report soon to be made public will include information on a possible connection between American plots to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castro and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The Maryland Republican said there is a "strong likelihood" of a link based on "indications" that a Cuban official and Central Intelligence Agency operative code-named AmLash was a possible double agent reporting back to the Cubans.

"There is reason to think Cuban intelligence was aware something was going on...The degree they were willing to retaliate is unclear," according to Mathias, who is a member of the intelligence committee.

However, he pointed out that Castro had publicly threatened to retaliate against American leaders in 1963 if there were plots against him.

The intelligence committee reported in November that AmLash was meeting in Paris with a high-ranking CIA official, Desmond Fitzgerald, on the day Kennedy was assassinated in 1963.

According to the report, Fitzgerald offered the agent a poison pen rigged with a hypodermic needle to use on Castro, but AmLash rejected the device,

suggesting the CIA "could come up with something more sophisticated than that."

Intelligence committee staff members said that the panel finished up the major portions of its report earlier this week, but an addendum concerning the Kennedy assassination will be released by the end of May.

If the addendum links the assassination to CIA designs on Castro's life, it would be the first time any branch of the federal government has officially drawn such a conclusion.

Mathias also expressed doubts concerning the Warren Commission report, which concluded Lee Harvey Oswald had acted alone in killing Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

He said he thought commission members "were simply denied information that might have had a bearing on their judgment." He indicated the CIA and the FBI held back information from the commission.

"If the Warren Commission had known that AmLash was in Paris receiving a poison pen the day Kennedy was assassinated, we would have had a 24th (additional) volume to their report," Mathias said.

In addition, he said Americans would have learned at that time about clandestine CIA activities.