

[REDACTED]

7 AUG 1967

MEMORANDUM NO. 5

SUBJECT : Garrison and the Kennedy Assassination

REFERENCE : [REDACTED] Memorandum of 20 June 1967,  
subject as above

SUMMARY

Recently received FBI reports contain information about Cuban refugees, some of whom are apparently considered by District Attorney James Garrison to be former CIA employees who were the real assassins of President Kennedy. FBI reporting also provides information about a member of American adventurers and soldiers of fortune, some of them ex-marines, who have been involved in clandestine activity directed against the Castro government, including giving training in guerrilla warfare to Cuban refugees and smuggling arms and explosives.

[REDACTED] In all, 21 names not previously checked out are now being traced.

DETAILS

1. James Garrison, district attorney of New Orleans Parish, has repeatedly claimed that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated by a group of Cubans who had been associated with CIA not long before 22 November 1963. A recent TV show ("The Garrison Investigation: The First Ninety Days", station WKBW - TV, Buffalo, New York, 19 July 1967) provided no new information but did summarize major developments. Those of particular interest to CIA are the following:

a. On 27 February 1967 Garrison's office first brought Perry Raymond RUSSO to New Orleans. RUSSO,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

an insurance salesman, has been Garrison's most important witness to date. He gave the following testimony at the preliminary hearing of Clay SHAW:

"The two instances where I met Spanish speaking people through Dave Ferrie -- one of the instances is that I was living in New Orleans, and he brought two friends of his who were dressed in battle fatigues -- green uniforms, they didn't have any lettering or insignias or army names or anything on them that I could identify. And I would suppose they only spoke Spanish because they -- they know English -- well although they did talk in Spanish which I didn't understand.

"Another instance where I met some of Dave's friends was up at his place ... and at that time, I met another one, which again he did not speak any English. And these people -- these three according to Dave Ferrie were supposed to be instructors, and they were supposed to teach the people that he was dealing with, how to fight, in jungle warfare, and that type of activity."

b. On the TV program cited above Garrison made the following remarks:

"But it purely and simply was a case of former employees of the CIA, a large number of them Cubans, having a venemous reaction from the 1961 Bay of Pigs episode and then the -- in October -- the '62 -- the detente, the understanding which President Kennedy reached with Khrushchev and Russia, and a result of this reaction -- when certain individuals with a fusion of interest in regaining Cuba assassinated the President."

"We have even located photographs in which we -- we have found the men behind the grassy knoll .... And they've been located in other photographs by a process of bringing them out .... the Warren Commission said nobody was back there because not enough evidence was presented .... Again, not so much the Bureau's part as the Central Intelligence Agency."

"... Lee Oswald's associations in the summer of '63 in New Orleans ... were exclusively with anti-Castro Cubans, and everyone of them was on the Central Intelligence Agency payroll."

"... we know the group, and we know some of the names ... but we don't know which ones are standing where, and we can't find out with the CIA keeping its vaults locked. They were former employees of the CIA. We managed to get the names of some of them in a way I can't describe here ... but I can say the rest of them are Cubans who were training in New Orleans."

"Ferrie worked for the CIA in Florida in 1961, which appears to be as far as we can find, his initial connection. He was making flights for them, and when '63 came, and they had a special adventure -- plan in spite of President Kennedy's order involving Cuba, he was deeply involved in it, and he was actually helping with the training."

"They [CIA] know the name of every man involved, including the name of the individuals who pulled the triggers from the grassy knoll and stonewall area, and I'm sure that they know that they did it, because they were former employees of the CIA, while they were training in New Orleans in the summer of '63."

2. The earlier memoranda in this series have shown Garrison's charges to be false. It is clearly important, nevertheless, to discern as much as possible of the nature of the case that he will try to make against Clay Shaw (and CIA) when Shaw comes to trial (perhaps in September). Three recent FBI reports have given us some additional insight into the nature of Garrison's charges. These reports are as follows:

a. Report from the New Orleans office of the FBI, 20 July 1967, subject: Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, November 22, 1963, Dallas, Texas. Hereafter this report is referred to as Reference I.

b. As above, with date of 18 July 1967. Reference II.

c. Report of Detroit office of the FBI, 18 July 1967, subject as above. Reference III.

3. These reports contain the names of 27 persons, in addition to those of such peripheral persons as members of Garrison's investigative staff and absent witnesses. Only five of them have previously been reported in this series as linked to the case. They are Sergio ARCACHA Smith, Carlos Jose BRINGUIER, David FERRIE, Laurence Joseph LABORDE, and Carlos QUIROGA.



4. Of the three reports, Reference I is the most important. It is a transcript of a question and answer session held between Garrison and Carlos QUIROGA on 21 January 1967 and recorded without QUIROGA's knowledge at the time. (He learned about it later, when Garrison passed out copies of the transcript to the press.) The transcript shows that Garrison believes that David W. FERRIE provided the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front with weapons, including a large cache of arms intended for delivery in Cuba. At another point in the transcript, however, QUIROGA said that the cache of arms was taken to Miami in a U-Haul by Cubans representing the Christian Democratic Movement. Others mentioned in the transcript and the roles that they allegedly played are as follows:



a. Sergio ARCACHA Smith, New Orleans leader of the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front until early 1962, when he was deposed. (Enclosure 1.)

b. Laureano BATISTA. He was described by Rudolph Richard DAVIS as a Cuban living in Miami, a delegate or official of the Christian Democratic Movement, who sent 19 men from Miami to Lacombe, Louisiana in 1963 for military training. (Enclosure 2.)

c. Carlos Jose BRINGUIER. In July 1967 turned over a copy of the transcript of QUIROGA's debriefing by Garrison, in January 1967, to the FBI. (Enclosure 3.)

d. Rudolph Richard (or Ricardo) DAVIS, delegate of the Christian Democratic Movement in New Orleans. He was involved in setting up a military training camp in or near Lacombe, Louisiana; in arranging for 14 to 19 Cubans to be sent to the camp from Miami for training; and in trying to raise funds for such purposes. (Enclosure 7.)

e. Alberto FERNANDEZ, a member of an anti-Castro organization, Unidad Revolucionaria, in Key Biscayne, Florida. (Enclosure 8)

f. Fernando FERNANDEZ. Given one month's military training in 1963 at Lacombe, Louisiana. Rudolph Richard DAVIS alleged that FERNANDEZ was a Castroite spy at the camp. (Enclosure 9.)

g. Fnu FERNANDEZ. Was also at the Lacombe training site. (Enclosure 11.)

h. Leodorino INTERIAN. As above. (Enclosure 16.)

i. Victor PANEQUE or FENEQUE. Was in charge of training at Lacombe. (Enclosure 24.)

j. Orlando PIEDRA. Carlos QUIROGA gave his name to Garrison and alleged that PIEDRA is the "Chief of the Bureau of Investigation of the Cuban Society" in New Orleans. (Enclosure 25.)

k. Carlos QUIROGA. Like Carlos BRINGUIER, QUIROGA has been questioned by Garrison and staff several times. (Enclosure 26.) Some facts suggest the possibility that he may be, or may have been, a penetration of anti-Castro Cuban groups in New Orleans, working on behalf of a Cuban intelligence service. The following excerpts from the transcript of his talk with Garrison also merit citing in this regard:

Pp. 3 - 4: QUIROGA: "That's my fight against the Warren Commission." Garrison: "... Do you disagree with them?" QUIROGA: "Oh yes. I do actually. I -- you know -- tried to infiltrate this organization which -- this is not for the authorities...."

P. 6. "... I told Juan /not further identified/ the other day this man's name and the names of all the people I have been carrying in my pocket for the last four years ...."

P. 12. "I'm a Cuban and I don't want to betray my country."

P. 23. "I want to Cuba in 1960 ... first of all, to see my father, who's in this revolution."

l. Jorge RODRIGUEZ. A Cuban about whom nothing more is known except that Garrison asked QUIROGA if he knew him. QUIROGA did not. (Enclosure 27.)

5. Gordon NOVEL, a salesman of electronic equipment, formerly owner of a night club in New Orleans, worked for Garrison on a contract or fee basis (counter-audio checking) before the investigation started but moved to Columbus, Ohio, thereafter to avoid a Garrison subpoena. A report of the New Orleans office of the FBI, subject: Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Dallas, Texas, 11/22/63, undated but forwarded to CIA on 27 February 1967, is based on information provided by NOVEL. He said that in 1961 he and others met in the apartment

of David W. FERRIE with FERRIE himself, two young Cubans, and two young ex-marines. NOVEL also said that in 1961 he, his wife (now ex-wife Marlene, nee MANCUSO), an unidentified partner, Sergio ARCACHA Smith, David William FERRIE, two unidentified Cubans, two unidentified ex-marines, and another unidentified man who drove a laundry truck, robbed a bunker at the abandoned Houma Air Base, Louisiana, of explosives, including hand grenades, bombs, ammunition, etc. and brought them back to New Orleans for use by Cuban refugees in Cuba. NOVEL was sure that neither of the ex-marines was Lee Harvey Oswald. He described one of them as named Jerry or Andy LNU, white male, age 19 to 23, 5' 11", 165 pounds, dark curly hair, light complexion, nice looking", dressed in green marine fatigues and white T-shirt, both arms tattooed. (Comment: This person may be Gerald -- called Jerry by friends -- Patrick HEMMING. See Enclosure 14.) NOVEL also alleged, falsely, that this robbery was directed by CIA.

6. Reference II contains some information about Cubans but more about Americans, including some ex-marines, who have been involved in Cuban operations and in providing Cubans with instruction in guerrilla warfare. Garrison and his staff have also shown a keen interest in these persons, allegedly have photographs linking two of them with military training given some Cuban refugees, and have interviewed some of them. The persons who appear in Reference II, and their roles, are as follows:

a. Charles R. ASHMANN, an attorney from Miami who appeared on 27 November 1963 with Gerald Patrick HEMMING and others on a radio show. (Enclosure 2.)

b. Leroy COLLINS, an ex-marine, associate of Gerald Patrick HEMMING Jr., appeared with HEMMING, ASHMANN, and others on the above-mentioned Miami radio program. Leroy COLLINS may be the Roy LNU concerning whom Michael W. LABORDE has furnished information to Garrison's office and to the FBI. (Enclosure 5.)

c. Howard Kenneth DAVIS. Appeared on the Miami radio program described above. He told the FBI in 1963 that he had been involved for the past six years in Cuban revolutionary activity. (Enclosure 6.)

d. Lorenzo (or "Skip") HALL. See Lorenzo PASCILLIO, below.

e. Gerald Patrick HEMMING Jr., an ex-marine, now living in Baton Rouge, who was apparently engaged with anti-Castro Cuban refugees for some years in military training activities, armed smuggling, etc. He may be identical with the "Jerry" described by Gordon NOVEL (see para. 5, above) and the "Jerry Patrick" discussed by Michael William LABORDE. (Enclosure 14.)

f. Laurence Joseph LABORDE. A former merchant marine engineer and sometimes acting captain

Michael W. LABORDE, the son of Laurence LABORDE, has told both Garrison and the FBI that his father, Gerald Patrick HEMMING, and one Roy LNU (perhaps Leroy COLLINS) worked with anti-Castro Cuban groups but that CIA dismissed the latter-two for cheating the Cubans out of money. On 25 June 1962 Laurence LABORDE, Gerald Patrick HEMMING Jr., and Howard Kenneth DAVIS paid a visit to a Cuban in New Orleans, Frank BARTES, and reached an agreement to train anti-Castro Cubans as guerrilla fighters and demolition experts. Michael LABORDE has also said that his father's contact among the Cubans was Alberto FERNANDEZ of Key Biscayne, Florida, a member of the Unidad Revolucionaria. (Enclosure 17.)

g. Michael William LABORDE. Has provided information to Garrison and the FBI. To date there are no indications that he has been personally involved in pro- or anti-Castro activity. (Enclosure 18.)

h. Lorenzo PASCILLIO, aka Lorenzo HALL and "Skip" HALL. He and HEMMING pawned a rifle and set of golf clubs with a private detective. Both told him that they had fought with Castro in the mountains of Cuba, had later been active against him. (Enclosure 23.)

**1. Steve WILSON. Another participant in the radio program mentioned earlier. (Enclosure 26.)**

**7. Reference III is by far the least significant of the three Bureau reports cited at the outset of this paper. One A. Edward HORSEY of Kalamazoo, Michigan, is apparently an assassination buff, in touch with others of the same views, convinced that the Warren Report was a whitewash, enlarging Zapruder film to find new faces behind the stone wall, etc. HORSEY and his group have been in touch with Garrison since 15 May 1967. One of their allegations requires enough attention to check it out. See para. 7.b below. A second allegation is repeated herewith.**

**a. One of the assassins behind the stone wall was one Al GROAT.**

**b. "They know that Lee Harvey Oswald met in Mexico City, Mexico, quite some time before the slaying with a member of the Central Intelligence Agency whose alias is Bill Medina and whose true name is not known."**

**8. The following action is now being taken or will be undertaken in the immediate future:**

**a. Traces are being run on all previously untraced persons listed in this report.**

**b. On the basis of this report [redacted] is requested to check its own files and those of [redacted] against the names listed in the following enclosures and to inform [redacted] of the results: 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, 18, 23, 24, 25, and 27.**

**c. It is requested that the Office of the Director, Domestic Contact Service, ask the New Orleans-office of the DCS, by a separate memorandum, to provide any information on file concerning the persons named in the following enclosures: 8, 14, 18, 20, 21, 25, and 27.**

[redacted]

d. By separate memorandum [redacted] has been provided with the information about @ William MEDINA (Enclosure 19) and the ex-Nazi described in Enclosure 22 and has been requested to ask the Station to check against these two items.

e. The FBI has been informed by a separate CSCI of our derogatory information on Carlos QUIROGA.

Originated by: [redacted] (2 August 1967)

Distribution:

Orig - ADDP	w/encls.
1 - General Counsel	"
1 - A/DCI	"
† - [redacted]	"
1 - Director of Security	"
† - Domestic Contact Service	"
1 - [redacted]	"
1 - [redacted]	"

[redacted]

[REDACTED]

Enclosure 1

ARCACHA Smith, Sergio

Reference 1.

Tracing Status : NR.

Prior References : (1) Enclosure 2 to [REDACTED]  
Memorandum, 26 April 1967,  
subject: "Garrison and the  
Kennedy Assassination".

(2) Enclosure 1 to [REDACTED]  
Memorandum, 1 June 1967,  
subject as above.

Remarks: In 1961 Carlos QUIROGA, then a student, met David FERRIE through ARCACHA, who was often with FERRIE. In fact, FERRIE lent ARCACHA money. The Cuban group (Democratic Revolutionary Front) in New Orleans threw ARCACHA out (he had been the leader) in early 1962. He had been very active and had made sacrifices for the anti-Castro cause, according to QUIROGA, who gave money to ARCACHA's family for food. Sometime after ARCACHA left New Orleans, he returned for two trunks stored with QUIROGA's parents-in-law. When ARCACHA left New Orleans, he borrowed a car from fnn MILLA, and he did not return it. (MILLA appears to be a Guatemalan.) Some Cubans said ARCACHA stole money entrusted to him for the counterrevolution. The office of the Revolutionary Council was in the Newman Building. When ARCACHA left, the rent was unpaid.

[REDACTED]



Enclosure 2

ASHMANN, Charles R.

Reference II.

Tracing Status : Not traced.

Prior References : None.

Remarks: See HEMMING, Gerald Patrick.



[REDACTED]

Enclosure 3

**BATISTA, Laureano**

**Reference L.**

**Tracing Status : Not traced.**

**Prior References: None.**

**Remarks:** See DAVIS, Rudolph Richard. Laureano BATISTA was said by DAVIS to be a Cuban living in Miami who sent nineteen Cubans to Louisiana for training at a military camp. The timing was ca. 1963.

[REDACTED]

**Enclosure 4**

**BRINGUIER, Carlos Jose**

**Reference I.**

**Tracing Status** : Contact of New Orleans office of Domestic Contact Service.

- Prior References** :
- (1) Enclosure 6 to [REDACTED] Memorandum, 26 April 1967, subject: "GARRISON and the Kennedy Assassination".
  - (2) Enclosure 6 to [REDACTED] Memorandum, 8 May 1967, subject as above.
  - (3) Para. 5c of [REDACTED] Memorandum, 1 June 1967, subject as above.
  - (4) Para. 3a of [REDACTED] Memorandum, 20 June 1967, subject as above.

**Remarks:** On 18 July 1967 BRINGUIER went to the New Orleans office of the FBI and provided an alleged transcript of a GARRISON-QUIROGA discussion of 21 January 1967:

ENCLOSURE  
Enclosure 5

**COLLINS, Leroy**

**Reference II.**

**Tracing Status : Not traced.**

**Prior References : None.**

**Remarks:** See HEMMING, Gerald Patrick. It is possible that Leroy COLLINS is the Roy LNU described by Michael LABORDE as a companion of HEMMING.

[REDACTED]



Enclosure 6

DAVIS, Howard Kenneth

Reference II.

Tracing Status : Not traced.

Prior References : None.

Remarks: See HEMMING, Gerald Patrick.



[REDACTED]

Enclosure 7

DAVIS, Rudolph Richard (or Ricardo)

Reference L.

Tracing Status : NR.

Prior References : Has not previously appeared in these reports. However, the following material is on hand:

(1) [REDACTED]

During an interview on 1 October 1963 Davis advised that in January 1961 he was in New York, where he served as a coordinator between the MDC and the N. Y. police department. He also said that some 19 men had been sent from Miami to New Orleans by Laureano BATISTA in response to a request by DAVIS for men to work in a lumber business with which he was connected in Guatemala. The men stayed at a home near Lacombe, La. When the FBI seized dynamite and other explosives nearby, the men became disgruntled and were unwilling to proceed to Guatemala. So the lumber company paid their fare back to Miami. Some of their names were as follows: Victor PANEQUE, Leoderino INTERIAN, Fernando FERNANDEZ, and Inu FORNES. DAVIS was born 9 September 1934 in New York, 5' 11", 177 lbs, dark brown hair, medium complexion, married, was a general agent in New Orleans for Western Life Insurance Company of St. Paul.

(2) [REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d

Enclosure 7 cont'd.

(3) New Orleans office of the FBI, 3 July 1964, subject: **Movimiento Democrata Cristiano (MDC)**. Interviewed on 23 June 1964, DAVIS said that he had had no intention of promoting an air raid but had merely hoped that if he could get publicity, funds would come in, as donations, which he would then have sent to Laureano BATISTA to be used in the fight against Castro. Davis works for Encyclopedia Britannica in New Orleans. He lived in Cuba too long and lost his U.S. citizenship.

(4) Houston office of FBI, report of 17 July 1967, subject: **Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, November 22, 1963, Miscellaneous -- Information Concerning**. A source said that Davis had come to the U.S. ca. 1961, that while he lived in New Orleans his expenses were paid by an anti-Castro organization known as the Minutemen, and that Lee Harvey OSWALD was somehow connected with the Minutemen. Interviewed the same day, DAVIS said that he had never been associated with an organization called the Minutemen and knew nothing of any such association on OSWALD's part. He met OSWALD twice in the fall of 1963 in New Orleans in connection with anti-Castro activities. He met him once when OSWALD was passing out pro-Castro handbills and later when he went to OSWALD's apartment and tried to question him. OSWALD refused to have anything to do with him. DAVIS said that ca. May 1967 representatives of Garrison got in touch with him in Houston about the training camp at the De La Barre Estate at Lacombe, Louisiana. He got a lawyer and refused to talk to them.

Remarks: QUIROGA claims that one David DAVIS, who he later agreed was really Ricardo DAVIS, got aid from Americans. He said that DAVIS got a group of Cubans from Miami who were in a camp. DAVIS allegedly told QUIROGA that the men in the camp were not getting enough food, were angry, and were going to kill him (DAVIS). This happened when the FBI found arms "and all the stuff" in a house near the camp. One member of the training group, Fernando FERNANDEZ, was found to be a spy. Fnu PENEQUE was the Cuban in charge of the camp. QUIROGA claims he bought bus tickets for four of the men, who had no money, to return to Miami. QUIROGA's source for the statement that Fernando FERNANDEZ was a Communist spy in the training camp was DAVIS. The camp was near the farm of Carlo DeARMAS. Training was conducted



Enclosure 7 cont'd.

ca. August 1963. DAVIS lived in the Parkchester Apartments in New Orleans. DAVIS first came to New Orleans in 1961. He had trouble about money and/or with his wife. He was "the contact man" between the Cubans at the camp and the Americans, but the latter were not CIA. They, or some of them, were members of the John Birch Society.



[REDACTED]

Enclosure 8

FERNANDEZ, Alberto

Reference II, 3.

Tracing Status : Not traced.

Prior References :

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Remarks: Per Reference II, Michael W. LABORDE told Garrison investigator Louis IVON on 12 July 1967 that his father, Laurence Joseph LABORDE, had worked [REDACTED] in Cuban activities and that the head of the Cuban organization with which Laurence LABORDE worked was Alberto FERNANDEZ. He also said that Jerry Patrick (Gerald P. HEMMING Jr.) and Roy (identity unknown, but a Mr. I. A. ROY and his son, I. A. ROY Jr.), were part of a group that bought a ship, the Elsie Reichart, from Laurence LABORDE in 1962. The schooner was to be used for anti-Castro clandestine operations between Cuba and the U.S.) had told him about the activity of his father and FERNANDEZ with Cuban organizations. (Comment: Michael LABORDE's remarks about Roy may also have concerned Leroy COLLINS, an associate of Gerald Patrick HEMMING Jr.)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Enclosure 9

FERNANDEZ, Fernando

Reference L

Tracing Status : Not traced.

Prior References : None.

Remarks: See DAVIS, Rudolph Richard. According to DAVIS, Fernando FERNANDEZ was one of 19 Cubans who arrived at a military training camp from Miami in 1963. DAVIS also asserted that it was ascertained later that Fernando FERNANDEZ was a spy working for Cuban intelligence as a penetration of the group.

[REDACTED]

**FERRIE, David**

**Reference L**

**Tracing Status** : NR; deceased.

**Prior References** : Numerous.

**Remarks:** According to Carlos QUIROGA, answering questions from Garrison, FERRIE was a friend of Sergio ARACHA Smith and through him was associated with the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front, for which he obtained two rifles and some mortars. He lent ARACHA money. ARACHA lost his post as leader of the group about January or February 1962, and FERRIE's contact also ceased then. Garrison: "Did you know that there was a discovery of a cache of arms bound for Cuba and Sergio Aracha Smith and David Ferrie were involved in that cache of arms?" QUIROGA: "That's right." Under questioning, QUIROGA said that FERRIE and two others "came up with" (and probably stole) a large cache of arms: grenades, bullets, explosives, caps. A Miami group picked up the cache and hauled it in a U-Haul back to Miami, QUIROGA loaded the U-Haul. This happened in 1962. The group was from the Christian Democratic Party. There were 31 boxes of grenades.

  
Enclosure 11

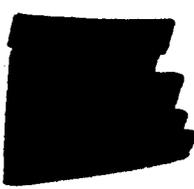
**FORNES, fnu**

**Reference L**

**Tracing Status : Not traced.**

**Prior References : None.**

**Remarks:** See DAVIS, Rudolph Richard. FORNES was one of nineteen men who arrived in 1963 from Miami at Lacombe, Louisiana, where a Cuban military training camp had been organized.





Enclosure 12

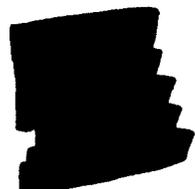
GROAT, Al.

Reference II.

Tracing Status : Not traced.

Prior References : None.

Remarks: See HORSEY, A. Edward.





Enclosure 13

HALL, Lorenzo,  
aka HALL, "Skip"

Reference II.

Tracing Status, etc. See PASCILLIO, Lorenzo, whose alias is HALL.

