

CIA Kill Plots Not Demo Work

The planning and attempts at assassinating Cuban Premier Fidel Castro took place under President Eisenhower's administration, according to Las Vegas sources who were principals in the plot.

It was in early 1960 an alliance between organized crime figures and the Central Intelligence Agency was formed for the purpose of killing Castro.

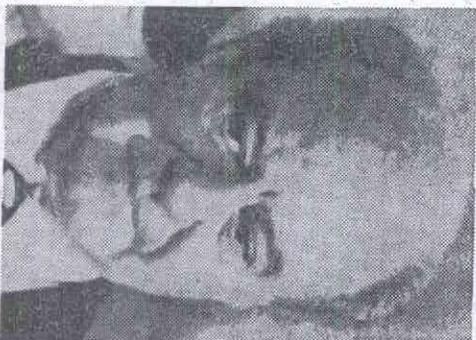
These sources said that if Robert A. Mahen would testify before the Senate committee investigating CIA assassination plots, he would have to tell them the plots were hatched before President John Kennedy ever took office and he had no knowledge of them.

The former kingpin of billionaire Howard Hughes' Nevada empire, Mahen yesterday refused to answer questions of the Select Committee on Intelligence activities, taking the Fifth Amendment.

Other reliable SUN sources said Presi-

dent Ford definitely will not release publicly the part of the Rockefeller Commission report on intelligence activities which deals with assassinations.

There is speculation that the Rockefeller Commission puts the time element of recruiting assassins during



ROBERT A. MAHEN

Democratic administrations and he will turn the report over to the Senate committee so it will be Democrats pointing the finger of Democrats.

But Mahen will explode a bomb if he decides to talk to the committee, according to SUN sources.

"It was actually in early 1960 that plans were made to get Castro," according to those sources.

The committee had not granted Mahen immunity at the hearing, which has already heard CIA Director William E. Colby and other intelligence officials testify under oath.

Mahen, in previous testimony last year in his \$17.5 million defamation suit against Hughes, said he once hired a reputed Mafia figure for "a very sensitive assignment" for the CIA.

The agent, identified as Johnny

(See KILL, Page 4)

CIA Bugging Affidavit

By KEN LANGBELL
SUN Staff Writer

An affidavit from an ex-CIA agent revealing massive bugging and other questionable operations against prominent Americans arrived at the

U.S. District Court in Las Vegas Monday.

It was mailed to Las Vegas by Wyshak and Wyshak of Los Angeles, attorneys for fugitive John Meier, former key aide to billionaire Howard Hughes.

The affidavit was to be forwarded Tuesday to the U.S. District Court offices in Reno, where Meier was due to report for trial on income tax charges but never showed up.

In the affidavit, 15-year

veteran Central Intelligence Agency operative Virgino Gonzales admitted his role in an illegal surveillance and coercion program by the CIA.

Targets of the scheme included Sen. Edward

Tuesday, May 13, 1975

LAS VEGAS SUN 3

vit Arrives In LV

Kennedy, who the CIA tried to place in a compromising situation in a Las Vegas hotel, and Gov. Mike O'Callaghan, former Gov. Grant Sawyer and SUN Publisher Hank Greenspun, victims of illegal wiretap

operations or surveillance activity.

The affidavit was obtained from Gonzales in Mexico City. The original Spanish-language version covered 19 pages with each page signed by Gonzales.

"Further attached," wrote attorney R. H. Wyshak, "is the English draft from which it was translated. It appears that there are several differences in meaning in the translation."

Wyshak did not elaborate as to what those differences might have been.

The cover statement from Wyshak was entitled "Affidavit of Gonzales in support of further disclosure of electronic surveillance."