

Notes on JFK Killing Released

Castro re-created the assassination and did his own ballistics test to see if Oswald acted alone

Associated Press

Washington

Cuban President Fidel Castro conducted his own ballistics tests and decided that "it took about three people" to assassinate President John F. Kennedy, according to an informant cited in FBI documents.

Castro, who considered himself a sharpshooter, attempted to re-create the shooting, using a high-powered rifle with a telescopic sight, says a memo to the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover from the special agent in charge in New York.

Cuba has long maintained that Kennedy was assassinated by the CIA. But some in the United States believe Castro ordered Oswald to kill Kennedy after discovering a CIA-mob plot to assassinate him.

In the memo, dated June 12, 1964, the agent quoted an unnamed FBI informant as

reporting that "conducting the tests was Castro's own personal idea to prove to himself that it could not be done and that when Castro and his men could not do it, Castro concluded Oswald must have had help."

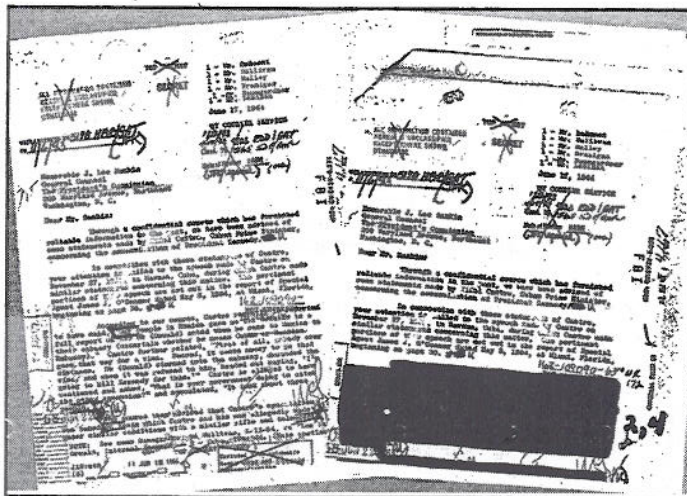
His letter and the agent's memo were among more than 10,000 pages of previously secret documents related to Kennedy's assassination that were released yesterday under a 1992 law.

According to Hoover, Castro also said that when Oswald was refused a visa at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City several weeks before the assassination, he left saying, "I'm going to kill Kennedy for this."

The letter was based on information gleaned by an FBI informant in Cuba; his name was not included in the letter.

"Castro is said to have expressed the conclusion that Oswald could not have fired

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This letter is from J. Edgar Hoover to a government investigator on John F. Kennedy's assassination; the one on the right shows blacked-out portions before they were revealed yesterday

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

three times in succession and hit the target with the telescopic sight in the available time, that he would have needed two other men in order for the three shots to have been fired in the time interval," Hoover wrote. "The source commented that on the basis of Castro's remarks, it was clear that his beliefs were based on theory as a result

of Cuban experiments and not on any first-hand information in Castro's possession."

The documents released yesterday concerned whether Oswald had connections to the Cuban or Soviet governments. Both governments thought Oswald was unstable, the documents indicated.

S.F. CROVIELE - 3/21/95

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