

The Central Intelligence Agency and The New York Times

by Samuel F. Thurston

[Article on the CIA's "New Team," set up by Robert Kennedy "following the Bay of Pigs 'fiasco' by the CIA 'Old Team.'"]

p. 55: " The 'New Team' at the [CIA] was being planned by [Robert Kennedy] even before the Bay of Pigs 'fiasco' in 1961. In fact, [a former Ambassador with close ties to CIA Director Richard Helms] said, the Attorney General had a special group of his own 'monitoring' the Bay of Pigs operation to determine which persons, not yet projected for the 'New Team', would 'pass the test'.

"Although the 'Bay of Pigs' was a national disaster, the source said, Robert Kennedy exploited it within the Government to accelerate building the 'New Team.'"

[Author says a member of the New Team was Harding A. Bancroft, at time of writing Executive Vice President of The New York Times.** See this file 25 Apr 66 (series of articles on the CIA), and 2 Jun 66, story on President Kennedy having said to Turner Catledge, then managing editor of NYTimes, "If you had printed more about [preparations for the Bay of Pigs invasion] you would have saved us from a colossal mistake."]

*Bay of Pigs invasion

** NYTimes 17 Apr 72 lists Bancroft (Harding F.) as executive vice president.