

INSIDE WASHINGTON *Feb. 27* CIA Provides Help *1967* In JFK Death Probe

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WASHINGTON — The Johnson Administration's own investigation of the Central Intelligence Agency's financial aid to private organizations is taking an intriguing turn.

Headed by Undersecretary Nicholas Katzenbach, the CIA study has been expanded to cover aid given Cuban refugee groups and several publication projects, including one dealing with the Warren Commission's inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy.

THE LATTER PROJECT, handled through a publishing firm, entailed the preparation of a comprehensive index by subject and name of the hundreds of persons involved in the Commission's investigation.

The index, now being distributed abroad and in this country, contains descriptive reports on how each of these persons is connected with the case.

For writers, and investigators doing research on the assassination or the Warren Commission's probe of it, the index is the only accurate guide available, although those using it have no knowledge of the CIA's role in its preparation.

The Warren Commission's own index, which was done hurriedly, contains numerous

errors and is far from being complete. It contains only names of witnesses and persons mentioned during the Commission's hearings or in exhibits submitted during these proceedings.

IN ADDITION to the descriptive summaries of all persons involved in the Commission's inquiry, the CIA-financed index lists many FBI and CIA reports and "working documents" of the Commission, now on file in the National Archives. None of these documents is listed in the Commission's index or its 26 published volumes.

In broadening its inquiry of CIA operations, the Katzenbach committee has interestingly singled out for immediate study the agency's links to a Cuban refugee group known as JURE, which at the time of Kennedy's assassination had members in New Orleans, Dallas, Miami and Puerto Rico.

Several Cubans believed to be members of JURE, which in 1963 was headed by Manuel Ray, leftish anti-Castro leader, were involved in several investigations by the FBI ordered by the Warren Commission.

NONE OF THESE probes linked these Cubans to Oswald, although one of the agency's investigations was never completed because of the sudden illness of one of the Cubans, who claimed to have met Oswald with two other Cubans.

The pre-November 22, 1963 activities of at least one of these Cubans are now under investigation by District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans, who claims a plan was developed in that city which culminated in the assassination of President Kennedy. His investigators already have examined several FBI reports involving probes of these Cubans.

Whether the Garrison investigation, which administration officials are carefully watching, had anything to do with the Katzenbach committee's check on CIA involvement with JURE isn't known.

See also Oakland Tribune,
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