Merry-Go-Round

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Kennedy's Death



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AFTER President John F. Kennedy was struck down on Nov. 22, 1963, the Central Intelligence Agency received evidence suggesting that Cuban Premier Fidel Castro arranged the assassination in retaliation for the attempts on his own life.

Yet sources privy to the secret discussions at the highest levels of the CIA during those hectic days now tell us that the CIA deliberately withheld the evidence from the Warren Commission.

ONLY a few key people knew about the CIA plot to assassinate Castro. One was President Kennedy's brother, Robert, who was also his personal watchdog over the CIA. It has now been established that Robert Kennedy was briefed on May 7, 1962, about the use of underworld killers to knock off Castro.

Two days later, Kennedy cautioned the CIA not to go ahead with the assassination without consulting him. As the President's watchdog brother, Robert rode herd on the CIA.

The anti-Castro plot was still on Kennedy's mind the following day. Records now available show that he informed then FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover of the plot on May 10, 1962. Yet neither Kennedy nor Hoover later devulged this important information to the Warren Commission.

Of course, various CIA officials also

knew about the assassination scheme. Not the least of them was the late CIA chief Allen Dulles, who approved the original plan. He later served on the Warren Commission. Yet he sat silently throughout the investigation of the Kennedy assassination without mentioning the Cuban angle.

Within hours after President Kennedy's death, the U.S. embassy cabled information from Mexico City suggesting that the Cubans may have been behind the assassination. Our sources say that the CIA developed similar information in Washington.

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THE FIRST person to reach Robert Kennedy's side after the shooting was CIA director John McCone, who remained alone with Robert at his McLean, Va., home for nearly three hours.

McCone swore to us that Castro's name was never mentioned during the three hours. But CIA records show that the next day McCone not only mentioned Castro to the new President, Lyndon Johnson, but briefed him on the information from Mexico City.

Yet incredibly, no one brought the Cuban connection to the attention of the Warren Commission. We were the first to get word of the anti-Castro plot to Chief Justice Earl Warren, the commission chairman, four years later.