JFK Assassination System Identification Form

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FROM:

BRIG. GEN. LANSDALE

TO:

SPECIAL GROUP (AUGMENTED)

TITLE:

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL GROUP (AUGMENTED)

DATE:

07/25/1962

PAGES:

8

SUBJECTS:

ECONOMIC RESTRICTIONS - CUBA

COVERT ACTION - CUBA

OPERATION MONGOOSE - PHASE I

POLITICAL ACTION - CUBA

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08/18/1998

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COMMENTS:

McNamara Papers, Box 86 (42), Mongoose (Cuba). Memo from Lansdale to Special Group

(Augmented) re: review of Operation Mongoose Phase I actions.

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- b. Undertaking all other political, economic, and covert actions, short of inspiring a revolt in Cuba or developing the need for U.S. armed intervention.
- c. Be consistent with U.S. overt policy, and remain in position to disengage with minimum loss in assets and U.S. prestige.
- d. Continue JCS planning and essential preliminary actions for a decisive U.S. capability for intervention.

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Elements of the U.S. government were organized to reach the goals set for Phase I. My assessment of where we are on each objective is noted under appropriate sub-headings below. In general, this has been a remarkably quiet operation, well within the "noise" and "visibility" limits imposed.

Higher authority has been kept informed of progress through the Special Group (Augmented), by frequent reports. The Special Group has provided policy guidance, as required, in Phase I.

The Chief of Operations has coordinated the efforts of participating departments and agencies, through meetings of the Operational Representatives and by constant review of progress. The Operational Representative of each major U.S. participant in Operation Mongoose are William Harvey (CIA), Robert Hurwitch (State), Brig. Gen. Benjamin Harris (Defense), and Don Wilson (USIA).

My assessment of the organization, planning, and actions to reach the goals in Phase I:

Intelligence. CIA had the main assignment to acquire the "hard-intelligence" desired. The headquarters and field staff of CIA are now well organized for a major effort for this aspect of Operation Mongoose, being strengthened by a number of CIA officers experienced in "denied area" operations elsewhere in the world. Planning and actions rate superior, in a professional sense of intelligence collection.

CIA established the Caribbean Admission Center at Opa-Locka, Florida, and an interrogation activity in Spain. It undertook a priority (4)

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