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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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REPORT ON CASTRO'S TELEVISION SPEECH REGARDING PRESIDENT
KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION

44 USC 2107(5)(g)(2)(D)(i)

FR Havana: [Redacted]

24 Nov 63

TO [Redacted]

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Msg Nr: 42

For: First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

[Redacted]

No. 29.

1. In connection with the accusations in the U.S. press that OSWALD, accused of assassinating KENNEDY, was a pro-CASTRO communist, Prime Minister CASTRO spoke before Cuban television, a summary of which follows.

2. Cuba is remorseful and has gained no advantage by the assassination of KENNEDY.

3. The accusations of the U.S. press have no foundations whatsoever, and are only the activities of the ultra reactionary group in the U.S. whose intentions are to depreciate the names of Cuba and the Soviet Union.

4. CASTRO thinks that JOHNSON will not be as strong as KENNEDY since he was not elected president by the people directly. He will not be as influential as KENNEDY in damning up the strength of the ultra reactionaries in the U.S. who pursue policies which are extremely hostile and very dangerous to the Soviet Union and Cuba.

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5. In short, that was the speech.

The interesting thing is that while the Soviet Union only answered these accusations with an article in the newspaper and expressed their sorrow in a meaningful manner by sending Deputy Prime Minister MIKOYAN to Washington, CASTRO considered it necessary to answer the accusations of the U.S. press officially as Prime Minister in a speech at a time when friends and enemies of the U.S. generally were expressing their respect for KENNEDY. Also interesting is the fact that he not only defended Cuba but the Soviet Union as well.

44 USC 2107(5)(g)(2)(D)(i)

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