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TO : BLAKEY, G. ROBERT, CHIEF COUNSEL &
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"ASSASSINATION OPERATION".
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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL 1998

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Office of Legislative Counsel

5300

6 October 1978

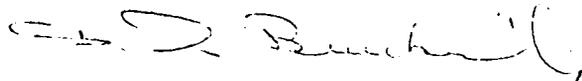
Mr. G. Robert Blakey
Chief Counsel & Director
House Select Committee on Assassinations
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Blakey:

Forwarded herewith is an affidavit by an employee who served as Executive Officer for Desmond FitzGerald when Mr. FitzGerald was Chief of the Special Affairs Staff in the Agency. He has read the affidavit of Mr. LANGOSCH in which Mr. LANGOSCH says, inter alia, that the AMLASH operation was characterized in the Special Activities Staff, by Mr. FitzGerald and by other senior officers, as an assassination operation prior to the death of President Kennedy. The attached affidavit addresses that recollection and describes it as erroneous.

You and your investigators have had access to the Agency's study on this subject. The central question is what the activity was, in what time frame, which determines the relevance of the quality of its security so far as your interests are concerned. The overwhelming evidence is that the relationship with AMLASH did not include any agreement to undertake an assassination during the life of President Kennedy. In fact, it had not yet developed any substance on other matters either. If you have doubts on the documentation on this matter I suggest that you review that portion of the 1977 CIA Task Force study that bears on this, and the documents on which it was based. Mr. LANGOSCH's recollection must be judged as unreliable on this point.

Sincerely,



S. D. Breckinridge
Principal Coordinator, HSCA

Attachment

Distribution:

Orig. - Adse. w/att
1 - Mr. Shepanek w/att
1 - Mr. Sturbitts w/att
1 - OLC/Subject w/att
1 - OLC/Chrono w/o att

AFFIDAVIT

~~KLP~~
I, Kent L. Pollock, a former employee of the Central Intelligence Agency, the above name being the pseudonym I was authorized to use when I was an employee of the Central Intelligence Agency, being duly sworn, make the following statement under oath: I make these statements based upon facts personally known to me.

1. I was present during the hearings of the House Select Committee on Assassinations on 22 September 1978 when reference was made to JFK Exhibit F-512, an affidavit by Joseph H. Langosch, in which he discussed the security of the AMLASH operation. In the affidavit he made the following statement:

"That the AMLASH operation prior to the assassination of President Kennedy was characterized by the Special Affairs Staff, Desmond Fitzgerald (sic) and other senior CIA officials as an assassination operation initiated and sponsored by the CIA."

2. I served as the Executive Officer for Desmond FitzGerald during the entire period in which he was Chief of the Special Affairs Staff (SAS) of the Agency's Directorate of Plans, now the Directorate of Operations, and discussed with him the AMLASH operation as it progressed.

3. To the best of my knowledge, Mr. FitzGerald considered the AMLASH operation to be a political action activity with the objective of organizing a group within Cuba to overthrow Castro and the Castro regime by means of a coup d'etat. I heard Mr. FitzGerald discuss the AMLASH operation frequently, and never heard him characterize it as an "assassination operation." Mr. FitzGerald stated within my hearing on several occasions his awareness that coups d'etat often involve loss of life.

4. In my opinion, the AMLASH operation could have been characterized as an assassination operation when, just prior to the death of President Kennedy, a pen was specially fitted as a hypodermic syringe in response to urgings by AMLASH for a means to start the coup by killing Castro. The case officer offered the pen to AMLASH on the day of President Kennedy's death. AMLASH rejected the pen with disdain.

5. According to JFK Exhibit F-527 (excerpts from the CIA Inspector General Report of 1967, page 94) only four people in CIA knew about the pen. Joseph H. Langosch, Chief of the Counterintelligence Branch of SAS, was not one of the four mentioned there. Neither was the Deputy Chief of SAS, nor the Chief of the Covert Action Branch, nor the Chief of the Foreign Intelligence Branch, nor the Chief

of the Paramilitary Branch, nor the SAS Special Assistants. These, the most senior officials of SAS, as well as other Agency officials, knew about AMLASH as an asset in the context of a political action operation, for as JFK Exhibit F-527 states, "The AMLASH project was probably about as widely known within the Clandestine Services as any project of a similar nature." But to my knowledge, it was neither known nor characterized, as "an assassination operation."

6. For Joseph H. Langosch therefore to state that "the Special Affairs Staff, Desmond Fitzgerald (sic) and other senior CIA officials" characterized the AMLASH operation as an assassination operation is incorrect. *KCP* The terms "the Special Affairs Staff" and "other senior CIA officials" are totally vague. Desmond FitzGerald did not characterize the AMLASH operation as an "assassination operation"; the case officer did not; I, as Executive Officer, never discussed any aspect of the AMLASH operation with Joseph H. Langosch; the Deputy Chief, the other branch chiefs and the special assistants could not have so characterized it since they did not know about the pen.

7. Had the AMLASH operation been considered as an assassination operation, it would have been known only to a few people, witness the fact that only four people knew about the pen. As an operating principle, those few who would know about anything as sensitive as assassination

planning would not have discussed it generally, as is noted in JFK Exhibit F-527.

8. Whatever Joseph H. Langosch knew about the AMLASH operation, he is in error in making the statement quoted above from JFK Exhibit F-512.

Kent L. Pollock
Kent L. Pollock

Commonwealth of Virginia
County of Fairfax

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 5th day of October 1978.

Deborah M. Weigant
Notary Public

My commission expires 17 April 1982.