

**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM**

AGENCY INFORMATION

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR: FBI
FROM: HAV
TO: HO
TITLE:

DATE: 02/29/1956

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN CUBA

DOCUMENT_TYPE: PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT

ORIGINAL
CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified

NEW
CLASSIFICATION:

REVIEW_DATE: 06/24/1998

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STATUS Redact

RESTRICTIONS:

JFK Act 6 (4)

COMMENTS: MEMO

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 29, 1956

FROM : Legat, Havana (144-2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/10/82 BY SP4TAM/STP
1-18-97 (JFK) 5668

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SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL CUBAN HOSPITAL SWEEPSTAKES

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF LOTTERY TICKETS

General Investigative Intelligence File - Cuba

Re Havana letter dated 1/10/56 stating Oriental Park Race Track officials in Havana, Cuba, are attempting to expedite issuance and sale of International Cuban Hospital Sweepstakes Tickets to raise additional revenue to support the track. Information was set out that the track was going broke under the management of JOSEPH G. LEASE, President of the Cuban Racing Company.

Reference is also made to Havana letter of 2/27/56 captioned "CARMINE DI BIASE, Fugitive; UFAP (Murder)," Bufile 88-8893, setting forth that since 2/3/56 GEORGE LEVINE was back in Cuba and has a part in running the gambling casino at the Jockey Club of Oriental Park Race Track.

On 2/9/56 the Cuban Racing Company management of JOSEPH G. LEASE was dissolved and the DELCA Racing Company was formed with Dr. MARIO DEL CAÑAL as president. LEASE's name did not appear as connected with this company in any way.

On 2/15/56 PCI [redacted] advised that Dr. CAÑAL had been associated with the track since the beginning of its operation as general manager and that he had been made president of the new racing company to gain the support and confidence of the Cuban public.

According to the source, the track was more than \$200,000.00 in debt at the time the DELCA RACING COMPANY was formed. Source also stated that since the appearance of GEORGE LEVINE at the track on 2/3/56, LEASE has not been seen around. Source said that LEASE was reported to be in the States trying to raise money.

Source advised one HAROLD GROSS, a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, used car dealer and big-time gambler, appeared to be running things at the track and was considered to be the power and money backer in the company.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Class. & Ext. By SP-1/SLK/LMS
Reason FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 2/18/86
3/12/82

OTHER 4

2 - New York AAC:nk
2 - Miami (8)
3 - 5-86, 17/1/1000 acc 137-10A

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