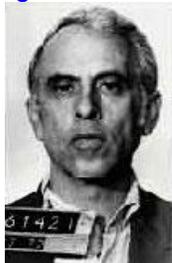


Other Persons of Interest

<p><u>Paulino Sierra Martinez</u></p> 	<p>Martinez was a lawyer employed in the legal counsel's office of the <i>Union Tank Car Co.</i> in Chicago. Before his immigration to the United States, worked in <i>Ministry of Communications in Cuba</i>. Carlos Saladrigas (a minister under Batista) had reportedly employed him, He had also worked with Santiago Alvarez Rodriguez, former senator during Batista's regime. Sierra left Havana in 1960 and settled for a time in Miami where he worked as a judo instructor and a translator. Arriving in Miami in May 1963, Sierra scheduled a series of meetings at a local hotel and invited Cuban exile leaders of all political persuasion to discuss unification for the purpose of military invasion of Cuba. Claimed the Chicago backers (casino owners) were willing to lend assistance to the extent of 30 M\$... with or without the help of the U.S. gvt. It was widely rumored that the money was actually from "<i>gambling interests</i>" of organized crime. Preliminary research also indicated that <i>the Secret Service</i> in Chicago was investigating a "<i>threat to the President</i>" case at the time of President Kennedy's assassination, in which Paulino Sierra was of interest. <i>Union Tank Car</i> (Rockefeller company) had a greater role in the junta. Sierra was also holding discussions with several "<i>action</i>" groups for assistance in a military operation against Cuba. Among those contacted who reportedly signed "<i>pledges</i>" of support were Aldo Vera Serafin of the militant MAPA group (<i>American Patriotic Action Movement</i>); Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo and Antonio Veciana Blanch of the SNFE-<i>Alpha 66</i> alliance; Santiago Alvarez Rodriguez of <i>Comandos L</i>; Eduardo Mor Ruiz, an independent anti-Castro Cuban fighter; and Orlando Bosch of MIRR. (<i>Gaeton Fonzi HSCA report</i>). In April 1963, a retired Allen Dulles had a meeting with him according to his calendar during the months preceding the assassination of JFK. Suspected by the <i>Secret Service</i> to be conspiring to assassinate Kennedy. (<i>Devil's Chessboard</i>)</p>
<p><u>Bernard Barker</u></p> 	<p>(AMCLATTER-1) A graduate of the University of Havana, joined the National Police. Worked undercover for the FBI and the CIA. His pseudonym was Spencer O. Terteling. According to Dallas detective, Seymour Weitzman (who had had a breakdown), Barker was the man on <i>the grassy knoll</i> who was showing <i>Secret Service</i> identification and ordering people out of the area. Watergate burglar. Part of E. Howard Hunt team. Hunt contacted Bernard Barker and invited him to join the team that broke into the Watergate office. In 1997, Barker told <i>The Miami Herald</i> that Hunt "<i>said this would put us in a situation in which we can later ask for help for the freedom of Cuba.</i>"</p>
<p><u>Virgilio (Villo) Gonzalez</u></p> 	<p>Was a driver for Felipe Vidal Santiago (an opponent of Castro's). Part of <i>Interpen</i> (Hemming's group). One of the Watergate burglars. One source claims that Gonzalez was the gunman in the Dal-Tex building and Eugenio Martinez was his spotter. Possible member of <i>Operation 40</i>.</p>

[Eugenio Martinez](#)



Eugenio Martinez was also born in Cuba and left when Castro took power. He also became a Watergate burglar. May have been spotter for Gonzalez in Dal-Tex building. Possible member of *Operation 40*.

[Felix Rodriguez](#)



Father was wealthy landowner in Cuba, uncle worked for Batista as Minister of Public Works, was with *Brigade 2506*, tried to assassinate Castro. He was a former member of Batista's police force (Escalante). Part of *Operation 40* (was recruited by George Bush and linked with David Atlee Phillips). Recruited by David Morales to capture Che Guevara (ordered his execution, took his Rolex). Part of *Operation Phoenix* (Vietnam). Worked with Oliver North (*Iran Contra*). Friend of George Bush senior. While some suspect he played a role in the assassination, there is nothing concrete that links him directly to a conspiracy.

Frank Bartes



(AMSERF-1) In 1950s President, important stockholder of *the Consolidated Railroads of Cuba*. Signed a lease for *Crusade to Free Cuba* in February 1962 at 544 Camp Street (*Garrison archives*). Became delegate of CRC New Orleans group in October 1962 (*Mary Ferrell FBI report*) – which was also based near Banister offices for a while. Friends of Bringuier. Crossed Oswald in courtroom after Oswald scuffle with Bringuier. Involved in Anti-Castro propaganda. Was informant for Warren DeBreuys (FBI) as was Oswald. G2 while spying on *the Friends of Democratic Cuba* saw Guy Banister, David Ferrie, Orlando Bosch, Luis Posada, Sergio Arcacha Smith, Antonio Cuesta, Eladio del Valle, Frank Bartes, Carlos Bringuier, Manuel Salvat and Manuel Villafana meeting there. Frank Bartes was a cousin of Doctor Frank Silva, who Oswald claimed to be visiting in Clinton when he was accompanied by Clay Shaw and David Ferrie.

[Rolando Masferrer](#)



Murdered in 1975

(AMBLYGON) Strong backer of Batista, he was an ex-Cuban senator, organized a private army called *Los Tigres* to deal with his critics. Made off with some 10M\$ before leaving Cuba. Involved in plots to assassinate Castro. Had links with *Alpha 66*, Trafficante and Hoffa. According to William Bishop, Hoffa gave Masferrer 50,000\$ to kill JFK. Not trusted by some exiles who saw him as a big talker. Was murdered on 31st October 1975, because of a dynamite bomb being placed in his car. FBI Agents Robert Scherrer and Carter Cornick believed that Guillermo Novo played a key role in the murder of Masferrer... Either because he was not trusted by Cubans or knew too much about the JFK assassination.

[Tony Varona](#)



Died in 1992

(AMDIP-1) Strong backer of Carlos Prio. Part of counter-revolution along with Manuel Artime in Cuba in link with Frank Sturgis and CIA (*Escalante*). Part of CRC, worked closely with Trafficante and Roselli in assassination attempts against Castro. Good friend of E. Howard Hunt according to Jake Esterline who considered Varona and Artime scoundrels. CIA operative William Bishop (involved *with Operation 40*) told Dick Russell that Varona, Masferrer were in on plot to kill JFK.

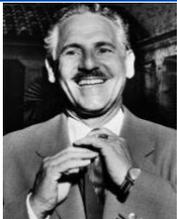
[Manuel Artime](#)



Died in 1977

(AMBIDDY-1) Joined Castro's revolution near the very end. Then became a leading anti-communist, teaming up with Varona and Prio. On 21st October 1959, Artime arranged for Sturgis, flying a CIA plane, to drop thousands of leaflets over Havana, calling for the population to rise up against the revolution. Artime, Tony Varona, Rafael Quintero, Aureliano Arango and Jose Cardona established the *Movement for the Recovery of the Revolution* (MRR Party). He became close to RFK. Worked on plots to kill Castro with E. Howard Hunt. Artime, Rafael Quintero and Felix Rodriguez moved to Nicaragua in 1963, where they formed a 300-man army. Artime also delivered hush money payments to the Watergate burglars. Morales hung with what Ayers called the "circle" - Morales, Roselli, Tony Sforza, Manuel Artime and Rip Robertson. The four were drinking buddies and of like mind on politics. Ayers said they were vicious, too. "*If anyone put together a sniper team to hit the President, Morales, Rip, Roselli and Sforza would have done it.*" Ayers noted that Artime, Robertson, Roselli and Sforza all died just as the HSCA began investigating. ([Christopher Barger, memorandum to Jeremy Gunn \(18th May, 1995\) ARRB](#))

[Carlos Prio Soccares](#)



Murdered in 1977

In 1944, President Ramón Grau appointed him as his *Minister of Labor*. He became a popular minister and in 1948, he replaced Grau as president. Became wealthy and broke promise of getting rid of Mafia in Cuba. Caught up in a wave of corruption in Cuba. He was murdered in 1977, before being questioned by the HSCA. Believed to have some knowledge about the JFK assassination.

[Felipe Vidal Santiago](#)
Executed in Cuba in 1964



[Roy Hargraves](#)
Died in 2002

A Cuban naval officer who fled the country when Castro took power. John Martino was personally involved with Felipe Vidal Santiago, Frank Fiorini/Sturgis, and others within the Miami exile community including individuals who had been part of the "casino" scene in Havana.

Vidal mentioned he had had several meetings with General Walker during 1963. Walker himself had limited personal funds and relied on his connections to right-wing organizations and in particular, to H.L. Hunt who was largely responsible for funding Walker's campaign for governor in Texas. There is no documented account of Vidal meeting with Hunt or Hunt's representatives. However, Hunt's behavior after the assassination suggests that he may have been concerned about somehow being implicated, at least by his associations or remarks.

Gerry Hemming places Hunt, Murchison and Gordon McLendon, a close friend of David Phillips and supporter of Phillips' intelligence agent organization at a *Petroleum Club* meeting in Dallas where Texans introduced the subject of eliminating John Kennedy along with Fidel Castro. Hemming also stated that Vidal dealt with the Hunts but that they maintained an arm's length relationship and did not want to know any details of Vidal's activities. (*Someone would have talked*).

Exile militant Felipe Vidal Santiago, arrested on a 1964 sabotage mission into Cuba, told his captors that in Washington, D.C. in December 1962 he'd met with a lawyer/lobbyist connected to a "*Citizen's Committee to Free Cuba*." This lawyer informed Vidal Santiago of a conversation he had had with Republican Henry Cabot Lodge, soon to be U.S. ambassador to South Vietnam, who said he had heard from Kennedy aide Walt Rostow of "*a plan to open a dialogue with Cuba*."

"*Vidal told us he was very surprised*," says Escalante. In fact, Vidal, infuriated and betrayed, had alerted his exile cohorts, as well as a CIA contact, Colonel William Bishop. "*It was almost like a bomb, an intentional message against Kennedy*." Vidal was also an information conduit for General Edwin Walker, the ultra-right Texan paramilitary leader at whom Oswald had allegedly taken a shot in April 1963. FBI files call Vidal a "*very close friend*" of Miami mobster John Martino, who intimated to family and associates that he had foreknowledge of the JFK assassination... (*Escalante*).

Hargraves was close friend of Vidal. He was a member of *Interpen* (founded by Gerry Patrick Hemming and funded by the CIA) involved in training anti-Castro groups in Miami and Louisiana. Had confided to his neighbor that he had been in Dallas in late 1963 with *Secret Service* credentials and was involved in something very big, the biggest thing this country has ever seen. Volunteered to help Garrison. Confirmed De Torres efforts to sabotage investigation. (*Nexus*)

[John Martino](#)



Died in 1975

Worked in a Trafficante casino in Cuba in 1956 (*the Deauville*)... Where Louis McWillie (Ruby's close friend) also worked. Arrested in 1959 in Cuba. Admitted seeing Oswald in New Orleans. Martino told his friend, Fred Classen, that he was not telling the truth about the Cubans being behind the assassination of Kennedy. He admitted that he had been involved in the conspiracy by acting as a courier delivering money. He also told the same story to his wife Florence Martino.

Shortly before his death in 1975, Martino confessed to a *Miami Newsday* reporter, John Cummings, that he had been guilty of spreading false stories implicating Lee Harvey Oswald in the assassination. He claimed that two of the gunmen were Cuban exiles. Martino certainly did have CIA connections in 1963, primarily Morales and Rip Robertson. (*Hancock*)

[Bernardo De Torres](#)



Left Cuba in 1956, was strong opponent to Castro. Very acquainted with *Interpen* members and Frank Sturgis. Became a Miami detective. Daughter confirmed he worked for the CIA to investigate the Kennedy assassination. He infiltrated and sabotaged Garrison's investigation for the benefit of the CIA. Shortly after de Torres was given the assignment to question del Valle, del Valle's brutalized body was discovered near de Torres' Miami apartment.

[Frank Fiorini aka Frank Sturgis](#)



Died in 1993

In U.S. Marines during WW2. Was in Cuba 1956. Outed by E Howard Hunt and Marita Lorenz (both CIA) in JFK assassination. Worked as an undercover agent for the agency. His control officer was Sanjenis. At first supplied arms for rebels, and then turned on them. Arrested for gunrunning and got off. May have known Louis McWillie (Ruby friend). Was a Watergate burglar via E. Howard Hunt. Sturgis formed the *Anti-Communist Brigade*- financed by Batista linked Casino owners from Havana. Participated in anti-Castro leaflet-dropping raid over Cuba with Pedro Diaz Lanz, former chief of the *Cuban Air Force*, in October 1959. Run by Bernard Barker. Part of *Operation 40*. Told reporter Jim Buchanan that he had met Oswald in Miami shortly before assassination. Bernard Fensterwald claims that Sturgis was heavily involved with the Mafia, particularly with Santo Trafficante and Meyer Lansky in Florida. Very involved in Castro framing for the assassination. Confirmed existence of *Operation 40 (Nexus)*. In August 1978, Victor Marchetti published an article about the assassination of John F. Kennedy in the *Liberty Lobby* newspaper, *Spotlight*. In the article, Marchetti argued that the *House Special Committee on Assassinations* (HSCA) had obtained a 1966 CIA memo that revealed Sturgis, E. Howard Hunt and Gerry Patrick Hemming had been involved in the plot to kill Kennedy.

[Gerry Patrick Hemming](#)



Died in 2008

Joined U.S. Marines in 1954. Went to Cuba in 1958 to help rebels. Then changed sides. In 1961, Hemming established *Interpen*. Funded by CIA to train Cuban exiles. Other members included Loran Hall, Roy Hargraves, William Seymour, Lawrence Howard, Steve Wilson, Howard K. Davis, Edwin Collins, James Arthur Lewis, Dennis Harber, Dick Whatley, Bill Dempsey, Ramigo Arce, Ronald Augustinovich, Joe Garman, Edmund Kolby, Ralph Schlafter, Manuel Aguilar and Oscar Del Pinto. Probably met Oswald in Japan and California. (*Oswald and the CIA*) Hemming volunteered to help Garrison- Concerned about proof of shooter in Dal-Tex building. (*Nexus*). In August 1978, Victor Marchetti published an article about the assassination of John F. Kennedy in the *Liberty Lobby* newspaper, *Spotlight*. In the article, Marchetti argued that the *House Special Committee on Assassinations* (HSCA) had obtained a 1966 CIA memo that revealed Sturgis, E. Howard Hunt and Gerry Patrick Hemming had been involved in the plot to kill Kennedy.

[William King Harvey](#)



Died in 1976

Joined the FBI in 1940. Later the CIA. Worked for Ted Shackley in Germany. Part of Cadre that removed Arbenz. Wrote [ZRRIFLE](#) (Executive action). Was a leader of *Operation Mongoose* along with Lansdale. Exiled to Rome after frustrating Kennedys by almost destroying peace talks with Russia during Missile Crisis. Despised the Kennedys. Very close friend of Roselli. Worked closely with Morales (top assassin of the CIA). Played key role in alliance with Mafia to kill Castro. Involved Tony Varona in plot to kill Castro. According to Richard D. Mahoney: "*William K. Harvey, a squat, balding tank of a man with eyes that bulged because of a thyroid condition... began assembling a squad of assassins recruited from the ranks of organized criminals in Europe.*" According to David Talbot, a Rome based assistant confirmed Harvey was in Dallas shortly before the assassination. Hancock argues that Harvey meetings with Roselli synchronized well with the build-up towards the assassination of JFK. Outed by E. Howard Hunt.

[Ed Lansdale](#)



Died in 1987

Part of OSS during WW2. Highly involved in Special Ops in Philippines (via Dulles) and Vietnam. Won medal for his counter-insurgency methods. When President John F. Kennedy took office, Lansdale was appointed as *Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations*. He argued that the CIA should work closely with exiles in Cuba, particularly those with middle-class professions, who had opposed Fulgencio Batista and had then become disillusioned with Fidel Castro because of his betrayal of the democratic process. Lansdale was also opposed to the Bay of Pigs operation because he knew that it would not trigger a popular uprising against Castro. Kennedy respected the advice of Lansdale and selected him to become project leader of *Operation Mongoose*. (*Operation 40* was an adjunct to *Mongoose* after the failed Bay of Pigs invasion). His wife, Victor Krulak and Fletcher Prouty identified Lansdale in photo with three tramps.

<p>George Bush</p> 	<p>(Born June 12, 1924) Served as the 41st President of the United States from 1989 to 1993. Prior to assuming the presidency, Bush was the 43rd Vice-President of the United States from 1981 to 1989. A member of the <i>Republican Party</i>, he had previously been a congressman, ambassador and <i>Director of Central Intelligence</i>. Was most likely a CIA member convoked by Hoover after the assassination concerning Miami-based Cubans. Claims to have forgotten where he was during the assassination. Knew George de Mohrenschildt who pled with him for help. Helped hamper the HSCA investigation. Cubans accuse him of helping <i>Operation 40</i> with Jack Crichton (financing and recruitment). Orlando Bosch was given safe haven within the U.S. in 1990 by Bush, who in 1976 as head of the CIA had declined an offer by Costa Rica to extradite Bosch. Very close friends of Felix Rodriguez. May have had a hand in the Nixon downfall. (<i>Family of Secrets</i>) Tried to frame James Parrott as a scapegoat</p>
<p>Allen Dulles</p>  <p>Died in 1969</p>	<p>April 7, 1893 – January 29, 1969) was an American diplomat and lawyer who became the first civilian <i>Director of Central Intelligence</i> (DCI), and its longest-serving director to date. As head of the <i>Central Intelligence Agency</i> (CIA) during the early Cold War, he oversaw the 1954 Guatemalan coup d'état, <i>Operation Ajax</i> (the overthrow of Iran's elected government), the <i>Lockheed U-2</i> aircraft program and the Bay of Pigs Invasion. Following the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Dulles was one of the members of the Warren Commission. Between his stints of government service, Dulles was a corporate lawyer and partner at <i>Sullivan & Cromwell</i>. His older brother, John Foster Dulles, was the <i>Secretary of State</i> during the Eisenhower Administration (<i>Wikipedia</i>). Corresponded with Batista, helped coordinate Cuban intelligence on the Island. Pushed out by Kennedy after failed Bay of Pigs. Met with Paulino Martinez and some CIA colleagues during months leading up to assassination. Hid key information about Castro-Mafia/CIA assassination plots – his links to de Mohrenschildt and the Paines from Warren Commission commissioners. Had close ties to both the power brokers and the CIA-Mafia-Cuban network. Was in CIA bunker during days in and around assassination (<i>Devil's Chessboard</i>).</p>
<p>Loran Hall</p> 	<p>He joined the U.S. Army and later became a mercenary who joined the rebels led by Fidel Castro. Hall fell out with Castro and in 1959; he spent several months in prison at the same time as Santo Trafficante. Joined <i>Interpen</i>. Gerry P. Hemming introduced Hall to John Martino. A few days later Hall met with Trafficante, Sam Giancana and Johnny Roselli at a Miami Beach hotel. Hall later reported that Giancana gave Eddie Bayo \$15,000 as a down payment for a raid on Cuba. Hall re-established contact with Trafficante in Florida in 1963. On September 16 1964, FBI agent Leon Brown interviewed Loran Hall on behalf of the Warren Commission. Brown claims that Hall admitted that he, Lawrence Howard and William Seymour made a visit to a woman who could have been Silvia Odio. However, when Hall was re-interviewed on September 20 and was shown a photograph of Odio, he claimed she was not the woman he met in New Orleans.</p>