



kindex[®]

< Scan QR to view this original record online, or visit <https://jfk.kindex.org/s/444944>

Title: **157-10014-10151_p531.png**

Provenance:

Category: **Uncategorized**

Person:

Date:

TOP SECRET

-21-

cy were not aware of the effort and did not authorize it. The explanation may lie in the fact that orders concerning overthrowing the Castro regime were stated in broad terms that were subject to differing interpretations by those responsible for carrying out those orders.

plots "were completely authorized at every appropriate level within and beyond the Agency", although he had "no personal knowledge whatever of the individuals' identities, times, exact words, or channels through which such authority may have passed". Harvey stated that he had been told by Richard Bissell that the effort against Castro had been authorized "from the highest level", and that Harvey had discussed the plots with Richard Helms, his immediate superior. Helms testified that although he had never discussed assassination with his superiors, he believed:

The various Presidents and their senior advisors

NW 50955 DocId: 32243539 Page 531

"... that in these actions we were taking against Cuba and against Fidel Castro's government in Cuba, that they were what we had been asked to do... In other words we had been asked to get rid of Castro and... there were no limitations put on the means, and we felt we were acting well within the guidelines that we understood to be in play at this particular time.

The evidence points to a disturbing situation. Agency officials perceived the effort to assassinate Castro to have been within the parameters of permissible action, but Administration officials (including McCone) responsible for formulating poli-