



Title: **157-10014-10242_p9.png**

Provenance:

Category: **Uncategorized**

Person:

Date:

CIA-Mafia Link

of Pigs invasion."

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Fees were \$5,000 and \$6,000 was paid by the four gangsters to informants in Cuba for the information.

M. Mafia boss who was convicted just before his hiring by the CIA of conspiring to obstruct justice in lying about a 1957 Mafia summit meet at Apalachin, N.Y.

The money came, at least in part, from a \$750,000 cash wrapped in oilcloth and buried in the ground by Trafficante and Levin just before their hasty departure from Cuba during the takeover by Castro.

The newspaper said the other living informant is George Levin, also known as George Levy, who was described as "governor and manager" of a Mafia gambling interest in pre-Castro Cuba. The Bee said he is reportedly living in Coral Gables, Fla.

It was the rest of this money that Granello, Levin, Trafficante and Plumeri were assured they would be able to recover unhindered if the Castro government was toppled.

The other two were James Plumeri, identified as a "Mafia hijacker, labor racketeer and garment district strongman," and Salvatore Granello, identified as a "Mafia soldier, gambler, extortionist and gangster."

"They managed to get word to hoodlums inside Cuba who knew the whereabouts of the money to start buying strategic information about Castro and associates. The four gangsters were dispatched to the island from Florida for intelligence-gathering sorties."

Plumeri and Granello were identified several years ago of unrelated gangland executions. The newspaper said the Bee's Mafia sources - "ex-CIA-Mafia" links - come from its "CIA sources."

Earlier published reports have said that in preparation for the Bay of Pigs invasion, CIA Director Allen Dulles relied heavily on reports that stressed the unpopularity of the Castro regime and the expectation there realized a massive rebellion at the time of a strike.

During the pre-1959 regime of the former Cuban dictator, Fulgencio Batista, a Mafia gambling flourished in Havana, under the direction and control of the U.S.-granted crime overlords.

When a Castro revolution ousted the mob along with Batista, and the Cuban government's Communist presence became involved, the U.S. has never allowed the resumption of mob activities there.

The four former casino bosses "made periodic reports to the CIA until just before the abortive Bay