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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpich

Preface

This book is about the counterintelligence activity behind the JFK story and its role in the death of President Kennedy. It examines how the existence of tapes of a man in Mexico City, identifying himself as Oswald, were discovered before the Kennedy assassination and hidden after the assassination. On November 23, 1963, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover wrote President Lyndon Johnson and the Secret Service chief, telling both of them that the caller was not Lee Harvey Oswald. These tapes showed that the supposed "lone gunman" had been impersonated just weeks before the killing of JFK, tying him to Cuban and Soviet employees in a manner that would cause great consternation in the halls of power on November 22.

The other aspect of this book is about how the importance of the Mexico City tapes collided with the national security imperative of hiding American abilities in the field of wiretapping. These tapes were created by wiretapping the Soviet consulate. World leaders prize wiretapping because it enables them to find out the true motives of their friends and adversaries. It's no wonder that Edward Snowden was castigated for daring to reveal the nature of these jewels. Back in 1963, wiretapping was the domain of the CIA's Staff D, the super-secret division that did the legwork for much of the signals intelligence or 'sigint' that was provided to the National Security Agency.

The hiding of the tapes paralyzed any effort to conduct an honest investigation into what happened. Within days of the assassination, the agencies were flooded with phony evidence tying Oswald to a Soviet assassination team and Red Cuban plots. Lyndon Johnson and Robert Kennedy probably knew little about the tapes, but acquiesced to the cover-up rather than run the risk of a war on Cuba which might include the USSR. This story explains why LBJ was so insistent that Chief Justice Earl Warren chair the investigating commission and prevent the possibility of "40 million dead Americans", and why the Warren Commission was denied access to the investigators, witnesses and documents needed to solve the case.

To win over Warren, LBJ said that "I just pulled out what Hoover told me about a [little incident in Mexico City](#)." The purpose of this book is to bring this state secret into the sunlight. Sunlight on this secret dissipates idle talk of mystery. The more facts we can expose to the cold light of day, the less time is spent feeling our way through the dark.

Counterintelligence is the hidden heart of the story about this era

By counterintelligence, I initially mean the attempts by the CIA to induce defectors from Communist countries, and Communist efforts to induce Americans to defect. Counterintelligence also includes CIA and FBI efforts to penetrate other intelligence services, while other nations tried to penetrate the CIA and FBI. A formal definition of counterintelligence can be found in a [US executive order](#): "Information gathered and activities conducted to protect against espionage, other intelligence activities, sabotage, or assassinations conducted for or on behalf of foreign powers, organizations or persons, or international terrorist activities..."

The counterintelligence game is about penetrating the defenses of the other side, and to prevent the other side from penetrating yours. Penetration is the role of the double agent, which is often the secret role of the defector. For example, high ranking CIA officers placed their trust in a Cuban named Rolando Cubela, who said in 1963 that he was willing to defect to the United States and assassinate Castro. The odds are very good that Cubela was reporting to Fidel the entire time.

If there was anything of greater value than a defector, it was a re-defector such as Oswald. Even if a re-defector had nothing to do with intelligence, such a person was the functional equivalent of a double agent.

This book tells the story of a Soviet defector named Lee Harvey Oswald who returned to the United States, and how he was closely watched over the last four years of his life; the plans to kill Castro during this era; the operations surrounding the Cuban consulate in Mexico City in 1963; and how everything went haywire when Oswald came to Mexico City two months before the assassination.

During his visit, wiretap tapes were created of a man calling himself Oswald and a woman identified as Cuban consulate secretary Sylvia Duran calling the Soviet consulate. After the JFK assassination, the CIA insisted that these tapes had been destroyed prior to the assassination. However, during the 1990s, [two Warren Commission staffers admitted that these tapes were played for them during their Mexico City visit in April 1964](#). After this admission, Mexico City case officer Anne Goodpasture changed her story and

admitted her role in disseminating the tapes after the assassination.

Strong evidence is provided in this book that both Oswald and Duran were impersonated on these tapes. Furthermore, I believe that Goodpasture realized during September 1963 that someone had found out about the CIA's Mexico City wiretap operation. The impersonation of Oswald and Duran meant that the Agency had to take action to ensure its security. Goodpasture got together with the offices of covert action chief Dick Helms and CI chief Jim Angleton and launched an operation to try to figure out who had done it and why. It all blew up in their faces on 11/22/63, when the man who had been impersonated was named as JFK's assassin.

When President Kennedy was shot down in Dallas, the CIA and their colleagues at the FBI were effectively blackmailed. If their Oswald memos written prior to the assassination had been made public in the wake of JFK's death, public reaction would have been furious. If the word got out that CIA officers knew that Oswald had been impersonated prior to the assassination, this would imply both that Oswald had been set up for the assassination (which was presumably carried out by others), and that the CIA could have prevented JFK's death if it had reacted differently. The response would have been tectonic.

Prior to the assassination, the CIA Mexico City station concealed from its own headquarters that Oswald had visited the Cuban consulate, while reporting that Oswald had contacted the Soviet consulate. HQ responded in a similar manner by concealing from Mexico City Oswald's history as a pro-Castro activist. The reason why has been a state secret. Similarly, the tapes had to be buried to hide the fact that the man introduced himself to the Soviets as "**Lee Oswald**", but it was not Oswald's voice. This has also been a state secret.

What it means to be a defector

The heart of the mystery surrounding Lee Harvey Oswald can be dispelled by a meditation on what it means to be a defector. For a spy, a defector is a potential treasure who was worthy of the closest scrutiny. Many things can be learned from the secrets that a defector provides about their former country, as well as one's reaction to their new home. Most people do not simply renounce their original country, even if they move away.

When Oswald defected to the Soviet Union in 1959, it was a closed society behind an Iron Curtain. One estimate was that there were maybe twenty Americans residing in the entire USSR. American intelligence wanted to know everything that there was to know about the Soviet Union.

A re-defector is an extremely rare bird. To defect is an enormous upheaval. Many personal bonds are strained or broken. Most people think long and hard before defecting to another country. Very few people go back on their decision.



James Angleton, Chief of Counterintelligence Staff at CIA from 1954 to 1974

In the words of CIA Counterintelligence chief James Angleton, whose office followed Oswald throughout the Soviet Union and the last four years of his life, the re-defection of Oswald should have been "the highest priority for the intelligence community." Although Angleton tried to deny that he had any serious interest in Oswald, his office tracked a lot of paper regarding the man before the assassination.

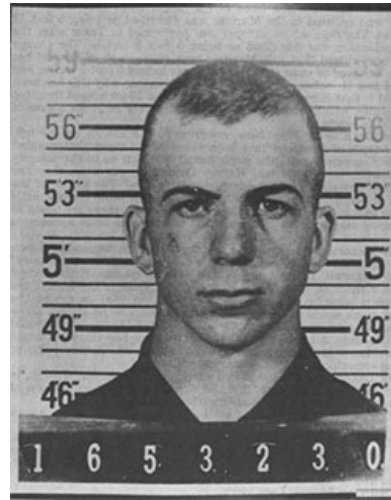
After Oswald returned, he was surrounded by spooky people with intelligence backgrounds for the rest of his life. He had a lot to offer. Even his casual conversation provided new insights to sift through and ponder.

His time in the Soviet Union also could be used to provide protective coloration if he wanted to impress left-wingers with his knowledge, or impress right-wingers by realizing the error of his ways.

Previous studies of the JFK case

Several governmental agencies studied the JFK case. The investigation of the Warren Commission was limited and hampered in 1964, with Angleton saying that he would simply "wait out the Commission". The Church Committee and the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) during the 1970s did more thorough investigations, but they were also denied the essential time, documents and resources needed to get to the bottom of it. Many of the problems were alleviated by the Assassinations Records Review Board (ARRB) in the 1990s, which focused on getting the documents to the public (but not reinvestigating the murder). The big problem – the passage of time – was bigger than ever.

Although we still don't have everything, we have the documents denied to these previous investigations. We now have the ability to conduct a far more complete review, and unprecedented access to the actual



Lee Oswald
HSCA JFK Exhibit F-166

operational material that contains the “sources and methods” guarded so jealously by the CIA. These sources and methods provide important information into how and why JFK died and why the initial investigations by the agencies were so badly flawed. These documents provide a meticulous view into the American secret war on Cuba in the early 1960s.

Oswald’s legend

People who have studied the case are familiar with Oswald’s return to the Dallas area, where he spent a lot of time causing consternation in the White Russian community. Also carefully studied has been Oswald’s time in New Orleans, where he had started a one-man chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Oswald managed to get himself on the radio, television and the newspapers as a pro-Castro advocate, while making less publicized statements in his diary and in private talks that his sympathies were actually with the United States government.

Meanwhile, Oswald and his wife were asking the Soviet embassy in Washington DC to provide them with visas so they could travel to the Soviet Union. Wittingly or unwittingly, Oswald was creating a legend so confusing that it was difficult to tell where his loyalties actually lay. I am less concerned about his loyalties and more interested in his legend. In intelligence circles, a “legend” refers to a story that has been made up about an individual.

We have a legend about Oswald’s visit to Mexico City. The legend goes like this: In late September of 1963, Oswald took a bus to Mexico City in order to obtain visas to visit Cuba and the Soviet Union. His wife was seeking to return to the USSR as a permanent resident. He had written during the summer and asked for her visa to be expedited ahead of his own because **she was having a baby in October**, but with no success.

On Friday, September 27, he visited the Cuban consulate three times and the Soviet consulate once. He told both of them that he had received visas from the other consulate. Members of the two consulates talked on the phone, and learned that he had lied to both of them. On Oswald’s final visit to the Cuban consulate, he started shouting and caused a scene when consul Eusebio Azcue told him that he would not be granted a visa.

On Saturday, September 28, he appeared at the Soviet consulate and caused a similar scene, laying a loaded pistol on the table and starting weeping tears of frustration due to FBI harassment. He was told that he would have to wait several months for a visa, and left the consulate with his now unloaded weapon.

An hour later, Cuban consulate secretary Sylvia Duran telephoned the Soviet consulate, stating that a man wanted to talk to them. **The man got on the phone and said that he had just recently been at the Soviet consulate and had given them the wrong address**, he had returned to the Cuban consulate where he had left his proper address, and wanted to know if he could return to the Soviet consulate and correct his error. After receiving an assurance that he could return, the phone call ended.



*Cuban consulate secretary
Sylvia Duran*

On Tuesday, October 1, two phone calls were placed to the Soviet consulate by a man trying to follow up on his call from September 28. He was asking about the status of his visa request. In the second call, he specifically identified himself as Lee Oswald.

This is the Oswald legend in Mexico City. Records indicate that he left Mexico City the next morning.

A week later, the Mexico City station reported to Headquarters that Lee Oswald contacted the Soviet consulate, while omitting any reference to his Cuban consulate visits. The cable described him as a balding 35 year old man with an athletic build. This “mystery man” was clearly not Oswald, who was a slender 24 year old.

Headquarters then responded with two different memos, to two different sets of readers, with two different descriptions of Oswald, both of them inaccurate. To top it off, Headquarters omitted any reference to Oswald’s pro-Castro background. What kind of game was going on here?

My conclusions

I wrote this book after studying Oswald’s biography, and what I learned along the way can be read in a serialized chronicle **archived at OpEd News**. Oswald was clearly a spy in his own mind, but I have concluded that what he meant to do and whether he worked for anyone else is relatively unimportant. What is more important is how his biography was manipulated by the people who filed reports involving Oswald in the Soviet Union, after his visit to Mexico City, and after the assassination.

Four CIA officers and their aides get the spotlight in this book. Jim Angleton, the counterintelligence chief whose desire to beat back the Soviets whipped up a wave of paranoia that eventually tore the Agency in two; Bill Harvey, who never recovered from being taken down by the Kennedys as the head of Cuban operations before he could take out Fidel Castro; Anne Goodpasture, the Mexico City case officer who did her best to safeguard the secrets and surrendered them reluctantly over the years; and David Morales, a triple-threat hitman, paramilitary trainer and CI chief who may have got the last laugh of all.

11/22/63 radio log transcript
("thirty, five feet 10, 165")

The reason I wrote this book was to study the cover-up of the assassination and the tale of the Mexico City tapes, but I learned a few things along the way. After looking at the evidence, I felt that it wasn't right to write about it without sharing my conclusions. I point the finger at what I think happened and who I think was responsible, while leaving room for other possibilities.

I offer the hypothesis that David Morales ran a piggy-backed operation on top of an anti-Fair Play for Cuba Committee operation run by CIA officer John Tilton and FBI agent Lambert Anderson, outwitted both Angleton and Goodpasture, brought down the President, and got away with it. Whether or not Bill Harvey was part of this operation, his people were all over it and merit further scrutiny.

My essential point is that Harvey brought together a nest of trained assassins within the CIA who hated JFK for two related reasons. One was because of Kennedy's repeated refusal to order a military invasion of Cuba, even after the humiliation at the Bay of Pigs and the horror of the Cuban missile crisis. Two was because Bobby Kennedy directly meddled in Agency operations in an insecure manner. That nest is the most likely place to find the people that were part of the impersonation of Oswald and the killing of JFK.



Bill Harvey, who ran Staff D signals intelligence, the anti-Castro Task Force W operation, and the ZR-RIFLE assassination program.



David Morales, Counterintelligence and paramilitary chief at the CIA station in Miami

Others have argued to me that Angleton and covert action chief David Phillips were part of a plan to kill Kennedy, but my present perspective is that both of them – like Goodpasture and operations chief Richard Helms, who I believe were in on the molehunt – were entrapped by the impersonation.

Angleton and Phillips drove the cover-up for their own protection. Otherwise, their careers and reputations would have been ruined, to say nothing of the future of the CIA. Phillips told investigator Kevin Walsh shortly before he died that he believed American intelligence officers were involved in the assassination. Angleton's last words were filled with regret and sorrow. "I've made so many mistakes."

The evidence I present here does not rule out the possibility that the Soviets or the Cubans ran the Oswald impersonation, or that Oswald killed JFK while acting alone. However, I am persuaded by the sheer weight of the evidence and the analyses by other researchers that these scenarios are very unlikely.

Whether you agree with my Mexico City solution or not, the important thing is to take on this case and other cases like it. We need more historians and researchers that are willing to roll up their sleeves instead of rolling over for another paycheck. This is a live case here, with people still alive who can talk. Thanks to public pressure, the JFK case is one of the only cases that bring CIA operations, their sources, and their methods, into the sunlight.

The cover-up of the President's death is a state secret. The tale of the Mexico City tapes is a state secret. Much of the history of the United States is hidden from us, behind a wall of overclassifications and redactions. By comparison, we know more about the JFK case than I ever thought was possible. Much more of it sits in the [National Archives](#) and on the websites of the [Mary Ferrell Foundation](#), the [Poage Legislative Library](#) at Baylor, the [Harold Weisberg Archive](#) at Hood College, the [National Security Archive](#), the presidential libraries, and many more locations, waiting for us to read it, sift through it, and analyze it. The hyperlinks in this story enable the reader to view the original documents and engage in the hunt. Are we interested in serious work, or would we rather argue about it as a form of entertainment?

The JFK case is not an insoluble mystery, but more of a steeplechase. What we need is access to our history and a passion for tough-minded analysis. It's not a lot different than a clear-eyed examination of the roots of war, or what it will take to end world hunger or global warming. Errico Malatesta was a well-known Italian agitator who spoke throughout Europe about his vision for a better world. Malatesta would often suggest that "everything depends on what the people are capable of wanting."

--Bill Simpich

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State Secret

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Chapter 1: The Double Dangle

What some people don't get is that the JFK story is about justice.

It's not a parlor room game. This case should have been solved a long time ago. The leader of the United States was killed in broad daylight in front of hundreds of eyewitnesses.

The case was given to two of the best investigative outfits in the world. Why couldn't they solve it?

This story will explain that both the CIA and the FBI had been blackmailed and could not carry out an honest investigation. If they had, it would have destroyed their members' careers, their families, and the future of their agencies.

The story of Dealey Plaza has been told over and over again. But no one's ever looked at Oswald hard enough.

Some say he was a spy. Some say he was a lone nut. The truth may be something other than what these labels imply. But one thing is crystal clear from the latest document releases: Whether he knew it or not, he was being used as an intelligence asset.

When Oswald came on the scene, people talked. Other people recorded it.

It is a state secret – but nonetheless true and well documented – that shortly before JFK's death, Oswald was impersonated on a wiretap in Mexico City. A tape of this tap survived the assassination. That tape was returned to the custody of the CIA. That tape has now disappeared, but may still exist to this day.

This state secret has poisoned our society, and will continue to do so until all the facts are out.

New witnesses and documents revealed over the last twenty years explain what really happened.

Here's a good way to start this story. Why did this man Oswald try to defect to the Soviet Union, come back saying he had seen the light, and then try to go back again a year later?

Something was going on with this man. Was he being used in some way?

Oswald and another defector named Robert Webster were used as “dangles” to learn more about Soviet military plans and to unearth “moles”

The first place to look is Oswald's defection to the Soviet Union in 1959. Oswald had just received his discharge from the Marines, where he had served as a radar operator at the U-2 bases in Japan and in the Philippines. He only had some reserve duty to put in before his discharge from the Marines was final and unconditional. His defection resulted in the loss of his veterans' benefits. That would have been a serious blow to anyone, but especially to a low-income and poorly educated guy like Oswald, who had a good IQ and was motivated to make something of himself.

Many people assume that Oswald was a spy of some kind. I think this is the wrong question, because we still don't know whether Oswald was a witting or unwitting ally of US intelligence. I think that the odds are low that Oswald was a paid CIA agent. However, a fair reading of the records shows that the CIA used Oswald's file for operational purposes while he was in the Soviet Union.

Whether or not Oswald was a fake defector, the important thing is that any American who defected to the Soviet Union would be watched very carefully. If there was a way to use his defection, American counterintelligence would use it to penetrate the closed Soviet society. That's the approach I'm going to take here.

It's also important to look at the defection in 1959 of another defector, Robert Webster. Webster, a Navy veteran, defected two weeks before Oswald - and returned to the US two weeks before Oswald. Whether Oswald and Webster knew it or not, US intelligence used both men as "dangles" to learn more about Soviet military plans and to try to unearth enemy spies known as "moles".



*Lee Oswald: spy, loner,
or perhaps something else?*

Robert Webster, a materials specialist, was used to learn more about the Soviet needs for plastic and fiberglass in their missile program. Oswald, a radar operator, was used to entice the Soviets with his experience tracking U-2 surveillance flights. Upon arrival, Oswald announced that **he was a radar operator with the Marines and he knew some "classified things" that he was going to give to the Soviets**. Oswald had also brought with him a handwritten statement renouncing his American citizenship that he wanted the Embassy to accept so that he could seek Soviet citizenship. We know that the CIA closely watched both Webster and Oswald.

Military intelligence was also watching these two men. The documents indicate that Air Force intelligence had recently given Webster a security clearance and were following his work with plastic and fiberglass.[1] Naval and Marine intelligence pretended that they didn't care about either Webster or Oswald, but the documents indicate that they **kept an eye on Oswald** in particular.

How to set up a molehunt

During their time in the Soviet Union, Oswald's description was subtly blended with Webster's description for in-house use at the CIA in what is known as a "marked card" in a "molehunt".

A marked card is a technique designed to look for leaks when enemy spies repeat the leaked information. An operation designed to capture infiltrators is known as a molehunt. The CIA used Oswald's altered description to try to unearth infiltrators within the Agency itself.

In a marked card operation, **"falsified bits of information, like bent cards, (are) passed through the system to see where, and by what route, they ended up"**. If any phony information inside Oswald's file fell into the wrong hands, and if that phony information re-emerged in another intelligence document, that marked card would provide a lead as to who was leaking information to the Soviets. Slipping marked cards into someone's case file was one of the techniques used in a molehunt. It's an operation that leads to paranoia within the hunter and the hunted.

The "marked card" technique has been around for a long time. Peter Wright in *Spycatcher* refers to this method as a "barium meal." Tom Clancy in *Patriot Games* calls this trick a "canary trap." Author Peter Dale Scott mentions that the "marked card" was one of the methods used to try to capture the infamous CIA mole Aldrich Ames during the 1990s. The marked card trick didn't work because **Ames himself was the chief** of the Soviet Russia counterintelligence staff.

Ann Egerter handled Oswald's file. She worked at the office that spied on spies.

The person who ran the molehunts was James Angleton, CIA's chief of counterintelligence and a legend in the Agency. An avid fisherman, he specialized in the use of lures. He was known as "the Angler". Angleton's main task was to stop spies from infiltrating the CIA itself. In 1955, he created the Special Investigations Group, known as CI-SIG. Angleton told the Church Committee that CI/SIG's role was **to prevent the penetration of spies into the CIA and the government** by code clerks and others with access to sensitive files. CI-SIG would work with the CIA's Office of Security, who provided them with access to the personnel files of all the CIA employees. No one knew more about the CIA employees than these two offices.

Angleton's intelligence analyst Ann Egerter of CI-SIG (Counterintelligence, Special Investigations Group) opened biographical files – known as 201 files - on Oswald and Webster while they were in the Soviet Union. Egerter's main job as an analyst was to spy on individuals inside the CIA itself. She referred to CI-SIG as the **"the office that spied on spies"**.

Egerter had all of the CIA's documents available to her by working with the **Office of Security**, which also had sole access to CIA employee personnel files. By embedding false statements - the "marked cards" - within Oswald's file, and then tracking those people that had access to Oswald's file, Egerter and her molehunters could determine if this information had surfaced to unauthorized personnel.

Angleton's biographer Edward Epstein revealed that **Angleton was known for using marked cards**. On one occasion, Angleton worked with the Office of Security to prepare "selected bits of information about planned CIA operations passed out, one at a time, to different units of the Division to see which, if any, leaked to the enemy. The marked card in the initial test revealed that an effort would be made to recruit a particular Soviet diplomat in Canada. The Office of Security agents, watching the diplomat from a discreet distance, observed the KGB putting their own surveillance on him on the day of the planned contact, realized that the marked card had gotten to the KGB."

How the double dangle was created

Now that we've discussed how to set up a molehunt, let's discuss how a double dangle was created. As seen below, **Oswald and Webster looked almost exactly the same**.



Lee Oswald and Robert Webster

These photos are particularly eerie. I believe that the similar appearance of Oswald and Webster was designed to entice Soviets to talk about the uncanny resemblance of these two men, or to express their confusion regarding these two men. These conversations could then be picked up by American wiretaps and bugs planted in strategic places such as Soviet government buildings. Covert operations of this type were run by the CIA's Staff D.

The highly sensitive mission of Staff D was to set up the listening devices and provide the fruits of their labor to the National Security Agency. The head of Staff D was Bill Harvey, who had founded Staff D in the forties and had just recently returned after a successful stint at the Berlin Operations Base. I don't know exactly how many Americans were in the Soviet Union back then, but there weren't many. Tim Weiner's *Legacy of Ashes* estimates that the number of CIA sources within the Soviet Union during that era was as low as twenty.



Marina Prusakova in Minsk

One story illustrates how strong this resemblance was between Oswald and Webster. Robert Webster met Oswald's future wife Marina Prusakova at the American Exhibition held in Moscow during the summer of 1959. They saw each other again in 1960. Curiously, Marina spoke English to Webster, while she only spoke Russian when she came to the United States with Oswald.[2] On one occasion, **Marina even confused Webster with Oswald**. Webster and Oswald were used to loosen Soviet tongues, and they may have never realized it.

Marina wasn't the only woman confused by the two men. In the 1990s, the Assassination Records Review Board interviewed Joan Hallett, the widow of the former naval attaché at the American Embassy in Moscow. Hallett remembered seeing Oswald at the Embassy on September 5, right at the end of the American Exhibition. No one could understand the discrepancy

between her strong and clear recollection and the September 5 date. The solution is simple - **Hallett was mistaking Webster for Oswald**. **Webster disappeared on 9/10/59** – six days after the Exhibition ended. Oswald didn't arrive in Moscow until a month later.

After Webster was enticed to defect in 1959, he was used as a dangle to find out about Soviet progress in plastics and fiberglass and the impact on the Soviet military program

Look at the events surrounding Oswald's entry into the USSR, with a special focus on what Webster did after the American Exhibition in Moscow ended in early September 1959. The American Exhibition was the locale for the famous "kitchen debate" between Nixon and Khrushchev, where the two leaders used the setting of a modern kitchen as the theatrical backdrop for a battle over which nation offered a better way of life.

Robert Webster held the fort at the Rand Development Corporation's display booth. He was described as **5 foot 10, about 30 years old, and a "lone wolf"**. He was on good terms with his boss, Rand president James H. Rand, III. Jim Rand was almost certainly not a CIA officer because he had a **"201 number"** – this number is the name of a biographical file that is used for persons of interest to the CIA. However, Rand was

a well-respected CIA source, as seen in this [analysis report cover sheet](#) Rand prepared for the Agency's Domestic Contacts division after Webster's return. I will contrast Webster's movements with Oswald's with the use of italics.

On September 4, Oswald filled out a [passport application](#) saying that he was leaving the US on 9/21/59 by boat. He would be gone for four months to attend school at the Albert Schweitzer College and elsewhere. He indicated that he would begin his tour in Cuba, travel through Europe all the way to Finland, and then cross into Russia. Actually, Oswald was not scheduled to attend Albert Schweitzer College until April 1960.

Oswald's statement about Cuba, Finland and Russia was a red flag for the counterintelligence agents that routinely review passport applications.

Right before Webster's disappearance, he was told by the Soviets that they would accept him as a citizen if he would teach them how to make [the Rand spray gun demonstrated at the American Exhibition](#). When he [agreed to show them](#), the Soviets agreed to provide him with citizenship. One of Jim Angleton's deputies testified that Webster was regarded as a [loss](#) because of Soviet interest in Webster's knowledge about the "specifications of a nozzle that prepared plastic in a particular fashion".

During this summer, Webster had been enjoying the attentions of a Russian woman named Vera. Webster had been suffering with marital problems back in the United States. Jim Rand believed that the Soviets were using Vera to convince Webster to [stay "in order to gain his knowledge of \(the\) plastics and synthetics industry"](#).

Webster knew a lot about the technology that the Soviets wanted for their military and space programs, in order to fabricate their missiles and engines. All signs are that the US wanted the inside baseball on the state of development of Soviet missiles and military hardware - Webster learned during his stay that "Soviet plastics technologies on a commercial and application basis are about [ten years behind](#) those of the US."

This letter between two FBI counterintelligence chiefs is revealing: "Subject does not have access to any classified data, but the Rand Development Corporation has expressed interest in his welfare because of his peculiar knowledge of the plastics and fiberglass industry. The U.S. is ahead of the Russians in the plastic and fiberglass field, and, therefore, the Soviets would have a logical interest in the subject's remaining in the Soviet Union. [We also know that the Soviets have requested information concerning fiberglass and plastics through our double agents.](#)"

Webster's "peculiar knowledge" was not going to make up a ten year disadvantage between the US and the USSR in this field. However, as we will see, Webster became an invaluable source to US intelligence on the state of Soviet technology in these fields.

Webster disappeared after he got his 20 day travel visa

While Webster negotiated with the Soviets, Lee Harvey Oswald received a dependency discharge based on his claim that he was going to take care of his mother, who was supposedly injured months earlier by a falling candy box, and arrived in Fort Worth on September 12, 1959. He would still have to put in some reserve duty before his discharge was final.

After visiting his mother for [three days](#), he abruptly left her and arrived in New Orleans by the 16th. Her story was that Lee was going to resume work at an [import-export](#) business.

Right after Webster [got a 20 day visa](#) for travel around the USSR, he [disappeared](#) on the 10th with Vera instead of leaving the USSR on the 14th as planned. Air Force intelligence described his trip as [a 20 day Intourist tour of Kiev](#), a tourism agency firmly in the [hands](#) of the KGB.

During Webster's disappearance, Oswald traveled from New Orleans to Europe by freighter

On September 16th, rather than return to the world of [import-export](#), Oswald used his knowledge of that world to chart an unusual course by taking a slow boat to Europe. [Oswald obtained a ticket to go to Le Havre, France by freighter for the next day.](#) Although he wrote that he intended to leave on the 21st, he actually left on the 17th.

Oswald skipped his planned trip to Cuba. Was it because Webster had disappeared? For a man on a slow boat, Oswald was in some kind of hurry. No one can prove that Oswald was working as an intelligence agent, or if he was being manipulated in some way. However, the evidence indicates that it was one or the other. Oswald's trip was not a coincidence.

What we do know is that in the eyes of intelligence, it was far better for Oswald to take a slow boat than to fly by plane. Throughout the summer of 1959, CIA officer "William Costille" and KGB officer Gregory Golub – under their cover as embassy consuls – were going out to Helsinki nightclubs for a few drinks, some flirtation with their female companions, and [testing each other and their dates as possible defection targets](#). They would muse about ways to make it easier for Americans to obtain an instant visa to cross the border and enter the Soviet Union.[\[3 \]](#)

It was too early for Oswald to enter the Soviet Union. Webster's whereabouts were unknown. Nor was it known whether Costille had been successful in lining up an instant visa for Americans.

On September 30, just as his visa was about to expire, Webster wrote the American embassy and told them that he was staying in the USSR. On October 6, a diplomat at the American embassy **sent a memo to the State Department, tipping them off that Webster was defecting**. The memo included a handwritten memo sizing up Webster, possibly from a photograph, describing him as **"hgt 10.5, light, looks 165"**. The State Department memo quickly reached **the top echelon at the FBI**.

This is a Form 100, Employment Application, dated 1-1-57. It is filled out with handwritten information. The applicant is Robert Edward Webster, born 10-10-28, residing at 1000 1st St, New York, NY. He is currently employed by the U.S. Air Force, 1st Air Force, as a Staff Sergeant. The form includes sections for personal data, education, and employment history.

Webster's 1957 employment application.
Webster described himself
as 5' 10", 166 pounds.

This is an incoming telegram to the Department of State, dated October 6, 1959. It is from Moscow and to the Secretary of State. The subject is Robert Edward Webster, who has defected to the Soviet Union. The telegram includes a handwritten note: "HGT 10.5, LIGHT, LOOKS 165".

State Dept. memo on Webster defection,
with handwritten note giving this
description: "hgt 10.5, light, looks 165"

When Webster surfaced, Oswald jumped off the boat and got an instant visa to the USSR

Oswald cut short his trip once Webster turned up. Oswald disembarked in France on October 8. Oswald did not stop by the Albert Schweitzer school. Oswald was now on the move.

On **October 8**, a memo from the CIA's Soviet Union division revealed that all components involved with the Webster affair were swearing up and down that he was not their agent. All signs are that Webster's movements were being choreographed by Air Force intelligence, whether Webster knew it or not.

By October 11, Rand flew to the USSR to visit Webster, who was in the **hospital** for reasons that are still unclear. Jim Rand could not get any information, and was so frustrated that he referred to the American consul Richard Snyder as a "jerk".

Oswald sped to Helsinki and arrived during the weekend of October 10. Oswald stayed at the **Klaus Korki and Torni hotels**, places that the CIA referred to as the local **"pink hotels"** - apparently because socialist travelers were attracted to them. The impecunious Oswald lined up his stay through an expensive **Intourist** package, even though his passport application said that **he would not be using any such service**. The KGB was **watching** Oswald.

Shortly before Oswald's arrival, we see memos with the indicators REDCAP and sometimes including LCIMPROVE. REDCAP was used for **monitoring the activities** of Soviet officials and installations outside of the USSR, and also as a defector inducement program. David Murphy, chief of the USSR division, described REDCAP as a "defector inducement program" in his book Battleground Berlin. **LCIMPROVE** was used for **counterintelligence operations directed at the USSR**.

A REDCAP memo recounts how CIA consul William Costille gave his counterpart Gregory Golub **two tickets to see Leonard Bernstein** in an upcoming concert.[4] This was in appreciation for Golub's recent assurance in a REDCAP/LCIMPROVE memo that any American who came to Helsinki with their papers in order would be granted a visa **"in a matter of minutes"** by the Soviets.[5] When a couple of Americans sought instant visas on Costille's advice, Golub called Costille and told him that "he would give them their visas as soon as they made **advance Intourist reservations**. When they did this, Golub immediately gave them the visas." A few days later, Costille gave Golub the Bernstein tickets. Golub had lunch with Costille on the **13th** to say thank you.

Oswald applied for his visa on the **13th** and received his visa in record time by the **14th**, obtained in one day rather than the customary wait of a week or more in Helsinki. Helsinki was considered to be the quickest place in the world for a foreigner to receive a Soviet visa. He then boarded a train, arriving in Moscow on October 16.

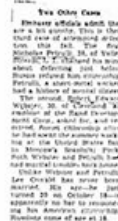
Two good looking six footers were now loose in the Soviet Union, both willing to provide information to the Soviets – with no talk of criminal charges back in the USA

Even though Rand grouched about Webster's defection as **"industrial espionage"**, his friends at Air Force Intelligence were unconcerned about Webster's defection. The Air Force had the most to gain by what Webster learned about the Soviet missile programs. It is documented that Jim Rand **cooperated with Air Force Intelligence**.

A memo of Rand's describes how **Anastas Mikoyan**, Khrushchev's friend and Presidium colleague – the "Big M" – allowed Rand, his assistant George Bookbinder, and consul Snyder to meet with Webster on the 17th and ask him a lot of questions. Webster was given Soviet citizenship, and filled out a form with Snyder renouncing his American citizenship. Webster later followed it up by turning over his passport and receiving a Soviet passport from the Soviets. Curiously, Webster never turned over his passport to Snyder as requested.

On October 17, the New York Times runs a story on Webster's defection on October 17 with Webster's friend Ted "Korkycki" piously exclaiming that Webster could be of "very little help" to the Soviets. However, internal CIA memos reveal that Webster was known as "Guide 223" and Ted "Korycki" was known as "Lincoln Leeds". Webster was also described as part of a project, with the name redacted. It looks to me like Webster was an asset and his friend was an intelligence man.

Two days later, a UPI article about Webster by **Bud Korngold** looks like it caught the eye of the journalist Priscilla Johnson – although her left-wing credentials made her too much of a security risk to get hired by the CIA, the Agency often looked to her to help them with a story. Korngold's article described Webster as a "good-looking 6-footer", with "blond hair and blue eyes". A month later, Johnson described Oswald as a "nice-looking six-footer", with brown hair and gray eyes. Who but a spy agency is interested in the color of a defector's eyes?



Robert Webster: "good-looking 6-footer"

Lee Oswald: "nice-looking six-footer"

A few days later, the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations contacted the CIA and assured them that things were not as bad as they had initially feared. The word was that Webster had no access to any classified military information. Actually, no one ever seemed upset by Webster's defection – nor Oswald's.

Oswald showed up at the American Embassy on October 31 and showed the consul Richard Snyder his handwritten renunciation of his citizenship. He also stated that he was going to provide classified radar information to the Soviets. Snyder assumed Oswald was referring to the U-2. Snyder concluded that Oswald was assuming that the KGB had bugged the American Embassy, and "was speaking for Russian ears in my office." [6]

If Snyder's assumption was right, Oswald may have been wittingly or unwittingly prepped by someone from Harvey's Staff D. As Norman Mailer said, "Oswald was a spy in his own mind."

Snyder did not accept Oswald's efforts at renouncing his citizenship, telling him that it was Saturday morning and that he would need to come back during normal working hours and he would have the papers prepared for him at that time. Oswald never came back to complete the process.

Within four days of Oswald's defection, both the Office of Naval Intelligence and the FBI decided that they would take no action, despite Oswald's statement at the American embassy that he was a radar operator with the Marines and he knew some "classified things" that he was going to give to the Soviets. [7]

F. L. Jones of the FBI's Foreign Liaison Unit suggested that a "stop" be put on Oswald's file so that an alarm would go off if he tried to return to the United States under any name, and it was done that week by FBI counterintelligence supervisor Bill Branigan in coordination with Angleton's office. [8]

Pursuant to the "stop", also referred to as a "security flash", Oswald was quietly included as one of three hundred US citizens on their "Watch List" under the HTLINGUAL program, so that Egerter, the Office of Security, and her counterintelligence colleagues at the FBI could read his mail. Meanwhile, Priscilla Johnson conducted a starry-eyed interview of that nice looking six footer, Lee Harvey Oswald. [9]

After the CIA's top double agent was captured by the Soviets, Jim Angleton obsessively looked for a mole while Bill Harvey blamed himself

Besides Oswald's value in shaking up the Russians because he looked so much like Webster, there was another game afoot.

While Oswald was a radar operator in Asia, Col. Pyotr Popov was a top double agent for the CIA, providing important Soviet military intelligence to Angleton under the code name ATTIC. In April, 1958, Popov heard a drunken colonel brag about the "technical details" that the KGB had on a new high-altitude spy craft that America was flying over the USSR. Popov concluded that the leak of such details came from within the U-2 project itself. While in Berlin, Popov passed this U-2 leak to the Agency and then returned to Moscow. [10]

During 1958-1959, Berlin chief Bill Harvey was very worried that Popov had been found out and was going to be arrested due to heavy-handed FBI surveillance. During a visit to New York City, a Soviet spy partner of Popov's had noticed that someone had rifled through her bags. Harvey's response was, "Oh shit, oh damn." The quality of Popov's reports decreased during the summer of 1959, always a troubling sign that the source has been discovered by the other side.[11]

Many who have reviewed this case conclude that CIA counterintelligence officers wanted to use Oswald's defection as an opportunity to listen to what the Soviets thought about Oswald's background as a radar operator for the U-2.

But maybe there was more at stake. Perhaps they wanted to see whether the Soviets thought that Oswald might be useful as a possible way to draw out Popov. Or maybe the idea was to dangle Oswald as bait to draw out the mole that had exposed Popov.

On the day Oswald arrived in Moscow, Popov and a key CIA officer were arrested in Moscow. Popov was executed.

Oswald's arrival was on the same date as Popov's arrest. Although Oswald's Moscow arrival was sped up as part of the ongoing drama involving Webster, it may have been part of a hunt for the person in U.S. intelligence who had exposed "Popov's mole."

In any case, Popov's capture had to throw Angleton – a notoriously paranoid man - for a loop.

Angleton's biographer Tom Mangold wrote that the execution of Popov accelerated Angleton's belief that "Popov could only have been betrayed by a mole buried deep within Soviet Division.". Mangold found Angleton misguided, stating that the evidence is clear that a CIA officer gave the game away for good when he was spotted picking up a message from Popov. "Popov was actually lost to the Soviets because of a slipshod CIA operation; there was no treachery." [12]

*The important thing, as brought out by author David Robarge, is that Popov's capture marked **the time when Angleton became "fixed on the mole"**. Angleton wanted to know who was the mole who had exposed Popov.*

Angleton's predecessor as CI chief, Bill Harvey, had returned to his command fortress at Staff D in late 1959. Harvey listened to wiretaps from around the world, including the heavily wiretapped Soviet embassies, in a specialized office with armed guards. Harvey blamed himself for Popov's capture. He knew that the proper security protocol had not been used when Popov's message was picked up.[13] He was much more comfortable in the field than Angleton would ever be.

The plans to bring Webster home were scuttled when the U-2 was shot down

In January 1960, Webster **received word** that his mother had a nervous breakdown and his father has assumed financial responsibility for his children. At that point, Webster made it clear that **he wanted to return home** but the Soviets would not let him.

On April 15, the CIA got word that Webster was going to be in Moscow for the **May Day parade** with the hope of visiting the American embassy. The plan was to begin a lengthy and complicated affair to get him out of the country.

On April 26, Rand called the CIA Cleveland field office and told them that he and Bookbinder were heading to Moscow in the next ten days **to try to get Webster out**.

On April 28, the CIA Miami chief got the word that Rand, Bookbinder, and their colleague Dan Tyler Moore were heading for Moscow. Like Rand and Bookbinder, Moore was ex-OSS. Moore was also the brother-in-law of Washington Post columnist Drew Pearson, and had the savvy to put together a plan to **smuggle Robert Webster into Rand's car and out of the USSR**. The Miami chief ended his message by saying that his note was **"some warning that an accident may be on its way to happen"**. The plan was to smuggle Webster out on **May 4**.

On May 1, 1960, the U-2 was shot down. This caused an international incident that broke up the peace summit that was about to begin between President Dwight Eisenhower and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev. Oswald was familiar with the U-2, as he had picked up its signal when he worked at the Atsugi base in Japan. Upon his arrival to the Soviet Union, Oswald had announced that **he was a radar operator with the Marines and he knew some "classified things" that he was going to give to the Soviets**. Yet Oswald was never punished for making these disloyal statements.

In the wake of the U-2 incident, the Soviet government told Rand to **close down** his Moscow office. Rand lost contact with Webster, and thus the plan to get him out of the USSR never materialized.

After the downing of the U-2, Oswald's usefulness as a dangle was ended, but his case file continued to be filled with marked cards in Egerter's molehunt

Although the downing of the U-2 ended Oswald's usefulness as a dangle, Egerter and other officers in the counterintelligence division of the CIA continued to use the Oswald case file as a marked card to look for leaks in the US security apparatus. These marked cards included the claim that Oswald had successfully

renounced his citizenship, getting his parents' names wrong, and even getting his own name wrong as "Lee Henry Oswald".

Egerton kept a careful eye on Oswald's file for the rest of his short life, even after his return to the United States. As Oswald was going home, a note in the Oswald file says "ZR Webster". ZR is a CIA digraph for intercept operations, and this looks like a directive to check the wiretap records on Webster. Bill Harvey's Staff D tracked people all over the world through intercept operations which used the prefix "ZR".[14]

Webster was debriefed upon his return by various elements of the CIA. Oswald and Webster were joined at the hip, as far as Angleton's people were concerned.

Similarly, F. L. Jones at the FBI's foreign liaison unit and Marvin Gheesling at FBI counterintelligence continued to watch both men during their three years in the USSR.[15]

Here's how the new marked cards entered the Oswald file.

FBI agent John Fain conducted an interview with Lee's brother Robert Oswald. Robert said that the family was shocked when Oswald turned up in the USSR and sought Soviet citizenship.

Fain also interviewed Lee's mother Marguerite. Marguerite said that she was shaken because her letters to Lee in the Soviet Union were being returned and she didn't know how he was doing. Lee had told her during his visit the previous September that he was thinking of going to Cuba, but he had never said anything about the Soviet Union. She had just received a letter from the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland saying that they were expecting him to arrive on April 20, 1960.



Newspaper article announcing Robert Webster's return to US

After these interviews, Fain slipped a couple of marked cards into his memo of May 12, 1960. The records show Fain was working with Egerton. She received a copy of Fain's memo right away. The CIA's records of the Fain memo bounced back repeatedly between Angleton's CI-SIG and the Soviet Russia division.[16]

I should add that on the same day as Fain's memo, Egerton prepared a letter for Angleton's signature to the FBI liaison. This note discussed Rand's failed plan to bust Webster out of the Soviet Union on May 4. An accompanying routing slip indicates that Angleton reviewed Egerton's note a week later and personally acknowledged reviewing it.

One marked card in Fain's 5/12/60 memo is his incorrect reference to Lee Oswald's father as "Edward Lee Oswald", and his mother as "Mrs. Edward Lee Oswald". Oswald's father and mother were never known by this name. The father's real name was "Robert Edward Lee Oswald", as he was named after Confederate general Robert E. Lee.

A second marked card was Marguerite Oswald's inaccurate claim that Oswald was an ex-Marine with an honorable discharge who had renounced his citizenship. This claim became the basis of a Lee Harvey Oswald index card kept in the office of the director of covert operations, and was false in three different ways. Oswald had only received a dependency discharge.[17] Oswald was not an ex-Marine, as he still had Marine duty to perform. Finally, as Marguerite wrote in a letter to the Secretary of State a couple of months earlier, Oswald had not succeeded in his attempt to renounce his citizenship. The American consul Richard Snyder decided to stall, as State Department policy was to proceed slowly with Americans who intended to defect and give them time to cool off. Snyder told Oswald to "come back in a couple days" and get his renunciation papers. Oswald never followed up.[18]

Fain's memo resulted in Oswald's undesirable discharge from the Marines three months later, which haunted Oswald for the rest of his short life.[19] Fain's superiors were forced to agree that Oswald had never renounced his citizenship, but the Marines refused to change their ruling on Oswald's discharge. I don't think Oswald ever got over getting a bad discharge. It made getting a job and going back to school much more difficult. For whatever reason, it was as if the gods of Olympus had decided to punish this mere mortal, making him more vulnerable to do their bidding.

During December 1960, Egerton finally opened a 201 file for Oswald when the Office of Security put together a list of defectors and it noticed that Oswald had no biographical file.[20] I think, however, that the Office of Security was spurred to make this observation only after finding out from various sources that Oswald was interested in returning to the USA.[21] Angleton's successor George Kalaris noted many years later that the 201 was opened because of Oswald's defector status and because of Oswald's "queries about possible reentry into the United States".

Egerton named him "Lee Henry Oswald", and supplied the head of covert operations with a separate Lee Henry Oswald index card with the note "CIT?", asking whether Oswald was a citizen. Egerton knew Oswald's real name and was staying on top of his story, as shown by a late 1960 note signed by Egerton after reviewing the Soviet division's latest memo on Oswald's background. Oswald's 201 file could now be used to keep track of Oswald's alleged biography.

As mentioned earlier, the covert operations desk had a separate Lee Harvey Oswald index card that was based on Fain's interviews with the Oswald family. This card states flatly and falsely that Oswald was now a Soviet citizen! In the limited but important world of CIA record-keeping, there were now two different



Ann Egerter opened a 201 file on Lee "Henry" Oswald

Oswalds by the end of 1960.[22]

The physical differences between Oswald and Webster were blended for molehunt purposes

The following discussion is important because it shows the game that was played by blending the identities of Oswald and Webster. I am convinced Fain misrepresented some of the "minor details" that Marguerite Oswald told him, as part of an approved CI-SIG operation conducted for molehunt purposes by Angleton's division. Keep in mind that Angleton's job was to prevent penetration of the CIA, and he had been focused on the Soviet branch since the blowing of the Popov operation.

Here's Marguerite's supposed description of Lee to Fain: "5' 10", 165 lbs., light brown and wavy hair, blue eyes". Except for the hair color, this is a description of Robert Webster, not Oswald. Webster's job application in 1957 describes him as five feet ten, 166, blond hair, blue eyes.

Oswald's weight never got anywhere close to Webster's 165 pounds. Although Oswald was known to exaggerate and write that he weighed 150 or 160 on two separate occasions, Oswald's documented weight for the last seven years of his life varied between 131-140 pounds. [23]

Webster's hair was slightly wavy. Oswald also had slightly wavy hair. However, in contrast to Webster's 5 feet, 10 inches, Oswald's height was generally described as 5 feet, 9 inches, as shown in this photo.

After Fain's memo, Oswald's height is only described as 5' 10" in one fateful event - a critical memo about an Oswald sighting in Mexico City shortly before the assassination, with Egerter as an acknowledged co-author. As we will see, the way that Oswald was described in Mexico City will take us to the heart of the drama in Dallas.

Oswald exaggerated his height to 5 feet, 11 inches starting with his application to the Switzerland college in March 1959 and continuing until his return from the Soviet Union. After his return, Oswald reported himself as 5 feet, 9 inches to prospective employers...except when dealing with government officials, where he described himself as 5 foot 11. This maneuver kept his records with the government consistent. It doesn't prove that Oswald was a government spy. It indicates that Oswald was a spy in his own mind, and would exaggerate his own description. There is no record that Oswald ever described himself as "5 foot 10, 165".[24] CI-SIG may have noticed that Oswald was toying with his own measurements, which may have elevated him in their eyes as a prime candidate to have his biographical data used in a molehunt.

This phony description of Oswald as "5 foot 10, 165" came back into play three years later. In Mexico City, Oswald tried again to get an instant visa – this time, to visit Cuba and the Soviet Union. On October 10, 1963, Egerter was the co-author of two memos describing a man known as "Lee Henry Oswald" – the name that Egerter had used for him back during his time in the Soviet Union.

The first memo describes Oswald with the blended/Webster description from his time in the USSR...Five feet ten, 165, hair is light brown and wavy, eyes blue. (Memo 1, directed to Mexico City)

The second memo blends this description with the photo of a six foot man who was a probable KGB officer. Six feet, receding hairline, age 35, athletic build. (Memo 2, directed to the headquarters of the FBI, State Dept., and Navy - and note that the KGB officer was 35 years old and well built.)

Egerter prepared these two memos with two different descriptions of Oswald that went to different agencies. One said that he was a defector seeking to re-enter the US. The other one, responding to the Mexico City station, added that the realities of life in the USSR had a "maturing effect" on Oswald. The reasons why will be explored in the Mexico City chapter.

My conclusion about the blending of their identities was to get the Soviets to talk about Webster when Oswald was on the scene, since they looked so similar. Webster was used in a dangle designed to ensure that US defense capabilities were not being undercut by the Soviets in the plastics and fiberglass fields. What the US got from the Webster operation was peace of mind. The US was ten years ahead in these areas.

Similarly, Soviets who knew the two men might talk about Oswald when Webster was on the scene. In either instance, more intelligence would be obtained. After the downing of the U-2 on May 1, 1960, Oswald the man had little value in any dangle for the Soviets. It was a good time for Egerter and Fain to turn to Oswald's file for use in a molehunt.

Fain's marked card memo led to Bill Bright suggesting there might be an Oswald imposter

The writer John Newman suggests taking a look at the routing slip for the aforementioned 5/12/60 Fain report. It shows how a Soviet section officer named Bill Bright silently directed his Soviet section colleague "IEL" to keep an eye on Oswald's birth certificate, and to watch for the possibility that an imposter might

get ahold of this certificate.[25] Bright was the first to suggest that someone might try to create a “second Oswald” – all the way back in 1960.

Rather than write anything down, Bright directed IEL to p 6 of the Fain memo – you can see where double hashmarks are written along the margin in this memo - where Marguerite says that her son Lee brought his birth certificate to the USSR.[26] It's fair to assume Bright wrote those double hashmarks to highlight the importance of Oswald's birth certificate.

Bright also did something else. The routing slip reveals that "WB" (William Bright) told the registry to "index page 7", which is the page in the Fain memo that has an inaccurate hand-written description of Oswald as "CIT: USSR, Res. Moscow, USSR, ex-U.S. Marine, who upon his discharge from Marine Corps, Sept 59 traveled to USSR and renounced his U.S. citizenship." Marguerite Oswald never said that Oswald was a Soviet citizen – only that Oswald had “apparently sought Soviet citizenship”.

See how these notes from Fain's memo were preserved on this index card; however the clerk accurately fixed the writing to say that Oswald traveled “to renounce his US citizenship” rather than “renounced his US citizenship”. The claim that Oswald was a Soviet citizen, however, was not corrected. Did Bright write the note himself? Based on a quick review of the meager amount of Bright's handwriting that is available, I can't rule it out yet.

This inaccurate handwritten description was on the same page as the physical description as "5 foot 10, 165 lbs, light brown wavy hair, blue eyes".[27] Now, if anyone turned from the index card to page 7 of Fain's memo, the reader would immediately see Oswald's inaccurate physical description.

The FBI's version of page 7 does not include the handwritten description. It's also possible that page 7 was indexed specifically for the “5 foot 10, 165 pounds” description, the handwriting was added later, and the index card was created last.

In either case, Bright had now successfully shoehorned the Webster-like description of Oswald into the CIA's indexing system. Thanks to Bright focusing on this particular page to be indexed – rather than another page that did accurately describe Oswald's citizenship status - the CIA now had quick access to an inaccurate description of Oswald's citizenship status and an inaccurate physical description of Oswald.

The “5 foot 10, 165” description was now easily accessed by the CIA's Records Integration Division, which would now come up whenever an officer used the index card to investigate Oswald's citizenship status. During the sixties, Egerter's division had a dozen officers spying on the file clerks at the Records Integration Division to fend off enemy moles.

Bright's suggestion led to Hoover's warning about an Oswald imposter

The New York FBI field office took Bright's advice and took a look at Oswald's file. When they saw that Oswald's mother Marguerite was having her letters returned undelivered, they suggested that since Oswald had his birth certificate in his possession, someone might have assumed Oswald's identity.

On June 3, 1960, with Oswald file-handler F.L. Jones at his side, J. Edgar Hoover took Bright's advice to the next level. Hoover wrote a memo to the State Department, where he warned that an imposter may be using Oswald's birth certificate. Hoover's initials of JEH can be easily seen on this memo. A follow-up memo also clearly bears Hoover's signed initials. This memo was overlooked by the Warren Commission, but must have kept Hoover awake at night. Whether or not Hoover believed that Oswald was impersonated, he certainly didn't want the American people to find out that he had been worried that Oswald was the victim of an impersonation back in 1960.

For the rest of 1960, Marguerite kept knocking on the doors of government officials trying to find out if her son was alive or dead. She finally decided to see if she could get any action from the new administration in Washington. On January 23, 1961, three days after JFK was sworn in, Marguerite boarded a train to Washington, DC. Upon her arrival, she met with a State Department official. Marguerite asked if her son was an agent of the US government. A few weeks later, after a year of silence, the government finally told Marguerite that her son Lee was alive in the USSR and had an actual address. Now she was able to write to him, and did.

The writer Peter Dale Scott offers us an early 1961 snapshot of this ex-Marine, just turned 21, identified as someone who might have been impersonated by J. Edgar Hoover himself: “(Oswald now had) a legend with an ambiguous U.S.-Soviet background, whose citizenship and whose ideological alignment were now both in question...The documentary record on Oswald, beginning with the UPI story on the weekend of his defection, was salted with references to his interest in going to Cuba...in 1963 the products of the Oswald (marked card) operation were used to double for a propaganda operation whose purpose was to neutralize the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.”[28]

That propaganda operation will eventually take us to Mexico City just two months before the assassination, where Oswald was impersonated when he tried once again to get an instant visa – this time, to go to Cuba



Hoover to State:
"there is a possibility that
an imposter is using
Oswald's birth certificate"



Peter Dale Scott's 1996 essay
"The Hunt for Popov's Mole"
discussed the possible use of
Oswald's file in a number of
different molehunts.

as well as the Soviet Union.

First, however, we should take a look at how Bill Harvey's people tried to take over the Oswald case in 1961, before realizing that Egerter controlled the Oswald file. After that, they continued to monitor it.

Read Chapter 2: *Three Counterintelligence Teams Watched Oswald*

NOTES

1 *Air Force Intelligence gave Webster a security clearance:* Ann Egerter was tipped off that when an FBI liaison officer asked about the extent of **Agency interest in Webster**, he was told that "there was some back in May 1959, but not now" and that there was no record of any security clearance for Webster. On the other hand, Webster's boss Jim Rand recounts that May 1959 was when Webster was in the midst of getting his **security clearance**, which was granted on June 5. I conclude that Webster's security clearance came from Air Force intelligence.

2 *Curiously, Marina spoke English to Webster:* Interview by Dick Russell with Robert Webster, 1997, recounted in John Armstrong's *Harvey and Lee*, p. 267.

3 *They would muse about ways to make it easier for Americans to obtain an instant visa to cross the border and enter the Soviet Union:* See my article "*The JFK Case: The Twelve Who Built the Oswald Legend*" (Part 2), p. 2.

4 *This memo recounts how CIA consul William Costille gave his counterpart Gregory Golub two tickets to see Leonard Bernstein in an upcoming concert:* Memo from the Chief of Station, Helsinki to the Chief of Station, Western Europe and Chief of Station, Soviet Russia, 10/9/59, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 5/NARA Record Number: 104-10051-10194**.

The following two memos, read side by side, make it clear that Costille is the pseudo for an agent named Robert Fulton, and that Roodine is the pseudo for Frank Friberg, the Helsinki chief of station:

Memo by Harry Sundvik to Frank Friberg, late April, 1961, re trip to Leningrad, p. 7, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 7: Duque - Golitsyn)/NARA Record Number: 104-10262-10106**.

Drafts of accounts of Leningrad trip, where Costille's name is substituted for what I believe to be "Bob Fulton", p. 4. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 7: Duque - Golitsyn)/NARA Record Number: 104-10262-10111**.

Fulton is identified as "Robert Fulton" in Tom Mangold's *Cold Warrior*, at p. 211.

5 *Golub's recent assurance that any American who came to Helsinki with their papers in order would be granted a visa by the Soviets "in a matter of minutes":* Dispatch – REDCAP/LCIMPROVE - Procuring of Female Companionship for Gregory T. Golub, Memo from Chief of Station, Helsinki to William Costille, 8/28/59, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 8: Golitsyn - Hernandez)/NARA Record Number: 104-10172-10294**.

6 *Snyder concluded that Oswald was assuming that the KGB had bugged the American Embassy, and "was speaking for Russian ears in my office":* Interview of Richard Snyder by Scott Malone and John Newman, 9/1/93; see John Newman's *Oswald and the CIA*, p. 530.

7 *Oswald stated at the American embassy that he was a radar operator with the Marines and he knew some "classified things" that he was going to give to the Soviets:* Testimony of consul John McVickar at the Warren Commission Hearings, Vol. 5, p. 301. Also see: Message from Office of Naval Intelligence, Moscow, to Central Naval Operations, 11/3/59.

8 *The "stop" was put on Oswald's file by FBI counterintelligence supervisor Bill Branigan in coordination with Angleton's office:* John Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, pp. 25-26. When the FLASH was posted, Jones' 11/4/59 memo is referenced. **FBI FLASH**, 11/4/59.

Also see Gheesling's statement that the FLASH was opened on 11-10-59. *Oswald was still on the watchlist, as Gheesling says that "he inadvertently did not remove the stop" upon Oswald's return to the United*

States: Memo from W. Marvin Gheesling to James H57690. Gale, "Lee Harvey Oswald, Internal Security – R", 11/26/63. Copy of this memo at National Archives.

Alan Belmont, the #3 man at the FBI, had a different approach than Jones, saying that the FLASH was set to go off if Oswald was arrested after returning to the US. *Testimony of FBI supervisor Alan Belmont, Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 5, p. 7.* Also see this memo showing that the FLASH was cancelled on 10/9/63, taking a spotlight off Oswald. *FBI Cancellation of FLASH, 10/9/63.*

As seen in Chapter 5, Gheesling was in on the decision to shut it down. A day later, on 10/10/63, Egerter caused the sending of two memos, both containing phony items about Oswald's background. This information would have put a spotlight on Oswald if the FLASH was still on.

9 Oswald was quietly included as one of three hundred US citizens on their "Watch List" under the HTLINGUAL program, so that Egerter and her counterintelligence colleagues at the FBI could read his mail: The stop was done in coordination with the HTLINGUAL program. See the note on Jones' 11/4/59 memorandum saying "flash postal iden 11/10/59". Memorandum, Branigan to Belmont, 11/4/59, p. 2.

Priscilla Johnson conducted a starry-eyed interview of that nice-looking six-footer, Lee Harvey Oswald: Priscilla Johnson's recollections of Oswald interview to State Department, 12/5/63, Volume 20, Warren Commission Hearings, p. 294.

The attached memo is a good short summary of how HTLINGUAL operated. *Memorandum from Inspector General William Broe to Director, CIA, 5/22/73.*

10 While in Berlin, Popov passed this U-2 leak to the Agency and then returned to Moscow: Mark Reibling, Wedge, pp. 154-155.

11 The quality of Popov's reports decreased during the summer of 1959, always a troubling sign that the source has been discovered by the other side: David Martin, Wilderness of Mirrors, pp. 91-95; Reibling, pp. 154-155.

12 The execution of Popov accelerated Angleton's belief that "Popov could only have been betrayed by a mole buried deep within Soviet Division": Tom Mangold, Cold Warrior: James Jesus Angleton, the CIA's Master Spy Hunter (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1992), p. 250.

13 Harvey knew that the proper security protocol had not been used when Popov's message was picked up: Id., also see David C. Martin, Wilderness of Mirrors, pp. 91-92, 102.

14 As Oswald was going home, a note in the Oswald file says "ZR Webster": See John Newman, Oswald and the CIA, p. 498, re file number 200-8-14, Routing Sheet, 5/17/62, NARA Record Number: 104-10322-10043.

Originally, I thought this note just meant "please wiretap Webster". But this memo shows that it means "overall" in the context of Staff D; other operations in Luxembourg and the Congo are referred to that are generally associated with the ZRRIFLE assassination plots run out of Staff D.

Also see a similar reference to "ZR Ruby" on July 1967, in response to a rumor that Jack Ruby was hypnotized. Since Ruby had died during January 1967, such a note appears to suggest looking at Ruby's "ZR file". Routing sheet, circa September 1967. *Oswald 201 File, Vol 55.* Routing Sheet re FBI Letterhead Memo, 7/18/67, NARA Records Number: 1993.06.22.16:59:56:210380.

FBI Letterhead Memo, 7/18/67, id.

Hypnotism was apparently considered to be an "intercept operation", see the reference to ZRALERT. (With all this said, I think a tap is more likely) Memo from Bruce T. Johnson, DDA, to General Counsel, 5/17/78, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 59/NARA Record Number: 104-10146-10294.*

15 F. L. Jones at the FBI's foreign liaison unit and Marvin Gheesling at FBI counterintelligence continued to watch both men during their three years in the USSR: Neither Jones nor Gheesling were revealed in this 1976 list of all FBI personnel who supervised the Oswald case. Gheesling had a supervisory role during Oswald's time in the Soviet Union and afterwards, and Jones was critical in the handling of the file. Note that the 1960 memo about Oswald has the initial "G" on it, which I believe is Gheesling. The 1962 memo about Webster is written by "WMG", W. Marvin Gheesling.

16 The CIA's records of the Fain memo bounced back repeatedly between Angleton's CI-SIG and the Soviet Russia division: Routing and Record Sheet, 5/25/60, re DBF-49478, Oswald 201 File, Vol 1, p. 137.

17 In September, 1959, Oswald received a dependency discharge...: McVickar, Memo for the Files, 11/17/59, Warren Commission Exhibit 911.

18 Oswald had not succeeded in his attempt to renounce his citizenship, because the American consul Richard Snyder wisely decided to engage in stalling tactics...: Interview of Richard Snyder by John Newman, 2/26/94, recounted in Newman's Oswald and the CIA, p. 6.

19 Fain's memo resulted in Oswald's undesirable discharge from the Marines three months later; which haunted Oswald for the rest of his short life: John Newman, Oswald and the CIA, pp. 164-167.

20 During December 1960, Egerter finally opened a 201 file for Oswald: 201 file request by Ann Egerter, 12/9/60, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 7/NARA Record Number: 104-10054-10204](#).

For details on some of the obscure code used in Egerter's creation of this 201 file, see 8/24/78 memo, NARA Record Number: [104-10051-10130](#).

21 I think, however, that the Office of Security was spurred to make this observation only after finding out from various sources that Oswald was interested in returning to the USA: See the very intriguing discussion in John Newman's *Oswald and the CIA*, pp. 168-198.

22 For the limited but important purpose of CIA record-keeping, there were now two different Oswalds: By the time 1963 rolled around, a "Lee H. Oswald" index card would also be created based on his activity in New Orleans. This card had "P2" on it, which referred to page two of the report describing Oswald as a "(member) of the New Orleans chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee at 799 Broadway, New York City. See doc re distribution of Cuban propaganda". This phrase is quoted on the index card itself.

The CIA agrees that all three of these index cards were in existence as of 11/22/63), one for his 201 file, and the other two based on FBI reports from 1960 and 1963. The question is whether these cards were used for different legends of the man.

23 Oswald's weight never got anywhere close to Webster's 165 pounds. Oswald's documented weight for the last seven years of his life was between 131-140 pounds: As late as 1963, when a young man of 23 would be expected to have "filled out", Oswald exaggerated his weight on at least one occasion as high as 150. When Oswald exaggerated his height to 5' 11" in March, 1959, he also exaggerated his weight to 160 on that one occasion, probably to create more flexibility in his legend.

This point is so important that it requires emphasis. No one other than Oswald ever estimated Oswald's weight at greater than 140, except Fain's report quoting Marguerite Oswald, which was picked up three years later by Egerter. By way of contrast, here's the FBI's description of Oswald after his August 1963 arrest in New Orleans: **Five feet nine, 140, hair is light brown, eyes blue-hazel, slender build.**

The FBI reported Oswald's weight in Dallas at the time of his arrest as 140. Oswald's body was weighed at 131 pounds the day after his death. Even the Warren Report is consistent with this analysis.

24 Oswald was a spy in his own mind, and would exaggerate his own description. There is no record that Oswald ever described himself as "5 foot 10, 165": In the last three months of Oswald's life, on two separate occasions, even the description of his eyes was toyed with by either Oswald or the FBI. Oswald described his eyes as grey, but government officials described Oswald's eye color as blue in all documents I have seen except as grey on his final passport. During Oswald's two arrests in 1963 in New Orleans and Dallas, his eyes were described as blue-hazel and blue-gray.

Those are very odd descriptions. In particular, the New Orleans arrest didn't warrant that amount of detail. Did someone take action designed to knit together the two different bodies of evidence? Or did Oswald self-report those odd descriptions, knowing that he had disguised his identification in the past? I'd put my money on Oswald.

25 A Soviet section officer named Bill Bright silently directed his Soviet section colleague "IEL" to keep an eye on Oswald's birth certificate, and to watch for the possibility that an imposter might get ahold of this certificate: See [Routing and Record Sheet](#), 5/25/60, re DBF-49478, Oswald 201 File, Vol 1, Folder 2. p. 137.

26 Rather than write anything down, Bright directed IEL to p 6 of the Fain memo – you can see where double hashmarks are written along the margin in this memo - where Marguerite "volunteers" that her son Lee brought his birth certificate to the USSR: [Memo by John Fain](#), 5/12/60, p. 6.

27 This inaccurate handwritten description was on the same page as the physical description as "5 foot 10, 165 lbs, light brown wavy hair, blue eyes": [Memo by John Fain](#), 5/12/60, p. 7.

28 The documentary record on Oswald, beginning with the UPI story on the weekend of his defection, was salted with references to his interest in going to Cuba: Peter Dale Scott tracks this history in "The Search for Popov's Mole", Fourth Decade, Vol. 3, Issue 3 (March 1996), an article which stretches out and digs into the depth of the molehunt. Footnote 136 cites a Washington Post story, 11/1/59, where Oswald's sister-in-law says, "He said he wanted to travel a lot and talked about going to Cuba."; the aforementioned Fain report of 5/12/60 that quotes Marguerite as saying that Oswald told her the previous September that he was thinking of going to Cuba; and how Cuba was the first country mentioned on Oswald's 1959 passport application.



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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpich

Chapter 2: Three Counterintelligence Teams Watched Oswald

Bill Harvey was the king of wiretaps and the assassinations czar

Why would CIA chief Bill Harvey's people try to take over the Oswald file in 1961? Oswald had contacted the American Ambassador and let him know that he was ready to return home. A Soviet defector like Oswald who was ready to return to the USA would be an intelligence bonanza. The Oswald file looked like it could be run by Harvey's people, until Ann Egerter reasserted her control.

By early 1961, at least three different counterintelligence teams were watching Oswald. One team was the molehunters from Ann Egerter's CI-SIG, discussed in the previous chapter. The second team came from the CIA's Soviet Russia division, where Bill Bright was studying Oswald's biography.

The third team was a husband-and-wife team known as the Potockis. Anita and Will Potocki were personally loyal to Harvey, going back to their days together in Berlin.[1] To understand the relationships among these three teams, you have to know just who Bill Harvey was.

Bill Harvey was the only real rival to James Angleton in CIA counterintelligence during this era. An ex-FBI agent who got into a tussle with Hoover, Harvey moved over to the CIA and became known to JFK as the Agency's pear-shaped version of **James Bond**, due to their mutual penchant for sex, guns and alcohol.[2] Harvey and Ian Fleming knew each other. Harvey would get memos on his assassination tasks saying "EYES ONLY". That command went right to the title of Fleming's *For Your Eyes Only*. Like Fleming's creation, Harvey had explicit permission to assassinate foreign nationals. Both Ian Fleming and Bill Harvey may have got the idea of a "license to kill" from their personal relationships with William Stephenson, the Canadian spymaster known as the legendary "Intrepid" who helped crack the German codes during the second world war.[3]

Harvey had run the CIA's **counterintelligence division** prior to Angleton, and then served a stint as head of the prestigious base in Berlin. Harvey knew many of the same secrets as Angleton, and availed himself of the same tradecraft. Harvey was a busy man.



William Harvey

Back in late 1959, Harvey had been placed in charge of Staff D, the CIA's **top secret communications office**. Communications intelligence was referred to as "an extremely sensitive and inadmissible source". Because of Staff D's work on codes, its work was known more generally as signals intelligence, or 'sigint'. The reflexive protection given to wiretaps and similar techniques created much of the secrecy that surrounds the events of this story.

Staff D's mission was to tap communications lines, steal foreign cryptographic material with **safecrackers** and other means, recruit foreign code clerks, and plant audio devices in government offices.[4] This illegal "procurement" was done for the benefit of the National Security Agency (NSA), which did not have experienced agents who could obtain direct access to these foreign assets. The story is that Staff D captured intelligence in order to **avoid** NSA having to capture it and then share it with its British counterpart GCHQ pursuant to a US-UK agreement. Harvey obtained wiretap intelligence from all over the world. Mexico City had one of the best wiretap operations in the world, and provided the NSA with some of its best data.

Tucked inside the **top-secret Staff D** was an even more sensitive **vest-pocket program** known as ZRRIFLE. Harvey had prepared what he called the "executive action capability" to murder America's enemies du jour, such as the Belgian Congo's emerging leader Patrice Lumumba, Dominican Republic dictator **Rafael Trujillo**, and Cuba's new leader Fidel Castro. These **January 1961** notes show Harvey's **discussions** with covert action chief **Richard Bissell** on taking these men out. Both Lumumba and Trujillo were dead by mid-1961.

The story on Lumumba was that an **American intelligence officer** succeeded in cajoling Lumumba to leave the confines of his compound, where he was captured by his enemies and put to death. The roots of the **Trujillo** assassination can be found among the Americans who handed over **carbines and revolvers** to Trujillo's enemies. It was known that **Trujillo was going to die very soon**. Trujillo's car was cut off at the



William Harvey's memo on project ZR-RIFLE (click image to view)

crossroads, and then he was cut down.

Fidel Castro was made of sterner stuff, and Harvey knew it. A CIA-Mafia group, led by the CIA's Office of Security chief Sheffield Edwards, had gone to great lengths to plant a poison pill in the food at Fidel's favorite restaurant right before the Bay of Pigs. Castro had excellent survival instincts, and continually dodged Harvey's numerous attempts to kill him. Fidel's method was to pick apart US intelligence by offering up double agents that would triple right back and tell him what the Americans were up to now.

Harvey did not underestimate the Cubans' abilities. When Bissell asked Harvey to lead the effort to kill Castro in November 1961, Harvey cabled Mexico City chief Win Scott to request the return of David Morales to the Miami station known as JMWAVE, the field station for operations against Cuba.[5] Morales had a reputation

as one of the Agency's top assassins – he was forced to leave the American embassy in Cuba because of an indictment for murdering two Cuban officials. JMWAVE was the largest CIA station in the world during that era with about five hundred officers and 4000 Cuban agents. A flowchart shows how JMWAVE's components included paramilitary (PM, or special ops), foreign intelligence (FI), and covert action (CA). JMWAVE was overseen by Harvey's Task Force W, which operating as an autonomous unit. With a staff of two hundred, Task Force W was the largest section at the Langley headquarters.

Harvey made sure that Mafia veteran Johnny Roselli became part of his get-Castro program. Roselli had been part of the initial operation in 1960, and worked with Harvey in several attempts to poison Castro with pills in his food during 1962. Morales and Roselli had been close drinking partners in the Florida Keys for a long time – working with Harvey was a natural fit.[6] In May 1962, Roselli was given the cover of an Army colonel and a small base for his unit in Key Largo. Morales and Roselli would “drink till the sun came up, usually joined by Rip Robertson, the hard-bitten Texan and decorated veteran of World War II who was the favorite “boom and bang” guy among the exiled Cubans”.[7] Harvey told the Church Committee years later that “the Roselli operation” was the only operation to kill Castro that he “had personal knowledge of”. Roselli had no love for JFK. Roselli and JFK shared Judith Campbell as a mistress during 1961, and Roselli knew about her relationship with JFK during this time.[8]



Johnny Roselli

David Morales was one of the most feared men in the CIA

David Morales was an Arizona native who spoke fluent Spanish. His Latin and Native American heritage was relatively unusual in the CIA's ranks, and was a major asset in all operations south of the United States border. After serving as an Army CI officer for five years, he joined the CIA and assumed the pseudonym of Stanley Zamka.[9] In 1954, he played a key role in the “highly sensitive” PBSUCCESS operation that led to the overthrow of the left-wing Guatemala government.[10] In 1956, he worked in the International Organizations division, which was steeped in covert action to the extent that it merged with the covert action division a few years later.[11] He established cover in Los Angeles in 1958 for two years as a marketing consultant, “traveling extensively” during this time and working at the American embassy in Cuba.[12]



David Sanchez Morales
aka "El Indio"

Morales was a military attache at the American embassy at the time of Castro's takeover, and was forced underground in May, 1959 after an arrest warrant was issued against him for the death of two Cuban officials. Morales had been issued an official business card by Batista's intelligence service which had been deposed by the new Cuban government four months earlier.[13] Morales slipped repeatedly between the US and Cuba to smuggle out well-known Batista supporters and other enemies of Castro. By May, 1960, Morales was working on maritime Cuba operations with the new CIA base for Cuban operations in Miami known as JMWAVE.[14] By November, he was organizing paramilitary operations inside Cuba.[15]

Morales wrote in his bio that in the early 1960s he advised the USAF, foreign governments and their military and police personnel. This advice included the protection of personnel, installations and equipment, the use of investigative techniques, small unit tactics, and counter-guerilla activities. He also helped to set up specialized schools and training cadres. This service was performed primarily in Florida and in Washington D.C.

Morales was not only a hitman, a trainer, and an escape artist. He was the Miami station's counterintelligence chief in the days leading up to the Bay of Pigs. As part of his contribution to the invasion effort, Morales became the founder of the Cuban exiles' shadow intelligence service known as Operation 40 or the “AMOTs”.[16] Morales' abilities and resources in

counterintelligence put him in the same league as old pros like Angleton and Harvey.

The role of the AMOTs was to serve as the rearguard of the invasion force at the Bay of Pigs. The plan was for them to “purge pro-Castro officials, seize documents, and take over administration of “liberated” towns and villages.”[17] JFK’s aide Arthur Schlesinger wrote about his concern about **Operation 40** in the immediate aftermath of the failed invasion, saying that he had heard that “the CIA agent in charge, a man known as Felix, trained members of the group in methods of third-degree interrogation, torture, and general terrorism.” The principal group was described as “39 selected, highly educated Cubans, who were trained as case officers to form the future Cuban intelligence service”. There were about 150 AMOT officers, all funded by the CIA and stationed in Miami. Besides the AMOTs, they had 100 back-up intelligence reserves known as the AMCHEERS, and 100 fledgling counterintelligence officers known as the AMFASTs.[18] The AMOTs handled men such as the well-known terrorist Luis Posada, also known as AMCLEVE-15, who the CIA used as a trainer. Morales lost his chief AMOT field officer, Vicente Leon Leon, who killed himself at the Bay of Pigs rather than be captured.[19] Morales told his friend Ruben Carbajal that he was there on the beach watching as the Cubans killed the men that he had helped recruit and train. He held Kennedy responsible.[20] The consensus among many CIA officers was that JFK betrayed them by not providing sufficient air power to ensure the invasion’s success.



Cuba rallied against the Bay of Pigs invasion



Interrogation of a captured Bay of Pigs invader by Cuban militia

After the Bay of Pigs, Morales worked with Angleton’s office to reorganize the AMOTs into a unilateral anti-Castro security service, while plans remained for the AMOTs to administer the Cuban government after Castro was overthrown. Sometimes referred to as the Anonymous Organization Group, it was considered the most valuable operation at the Miami base. The AMOTs performed tasks that the primarily Anglo CIA officers could not, such as counterintelligence (not listed on the JMWAVE flowchart), and were paid with CIA funds even though they were not CIA employees. They spotted and recruited potential assets, and handled debriefings, investigations, surveillances and penetrated Cuban exile groups. One officer explained that the AMOTs “could do things we were not aware of.” These shadow intelligence officers were tucked away in a portion of the Miami base known as JMDUSK.[21]

The AMOTs were able to run secure operations without eavesdropping by other divisions of the Agency. Tom Mangold revealed in Cold Warrior that Jim Angleton had his own indexing system for his documents, which were not merged with the Agency file documents. The AMOTs did the same, using an autonomous file system that was separate from the CIA’s larger system. They communicated in Spanish, with millions of cards and tens of thousands of soft files that contained a wide variety of information on Cuban and American citizens. A larger group focused on the collection of intelligence, while the smaller group conducted counterintelligence and other operations. There was a central index for all these documents in the sixties.

By mid-1961, Morales had become the #2 man as the deputy chief of station; he often referred to himself as Chief of Base. Two witnesses said that he was known for frequently going off to Mexico City to work with his colleague, covert action chief David Phillips.[22] He went from the chief of operations in 1961 to paramilitary chief in 1962. He worked closely with the chief of station Ted Shackley, a Harvey acolyte from Berlin. Captain Bradley Ayers, a military man involved with training and operational planning at JMWAVE, said that Morales “ran all the station’s activities with a heavy hand and was famous for his temper. We soon learned that no one, save Ted Shackley, argued with Dave.”[23]

Morales’ right-hand man with the AMOTs was Tony Sforza, a foreign intelligence and paramilitary officer at the Miami base. The head of the AMOTs, Joaquin Sanjenis, answered to Sforza. HSCA investigator Gaeton Fonzi saw a memo stating flatly that “Sforza is a hit man and should be regarded as dangerous.”[24] One of Sforza’s many pseudonyms was Henry Sloman, probably because he was a “staybehind agent” after Castro took power. He was literally the slow man, one of the last CIA officers to leave Cuba.

Harvey’s plan was to split the Castro regime

As of March 1962, Harvey was wearing a third hat as the head of Cuban operations at Headquarters, in addition to his roles as czar of Staff D and ZRRIFLE. He named his team Task Force W after William Walker, the 19th Century adventurer who conquered Nicaragua and raised the American flag. He even took on the Walker name as an alias for Cuban operations. He then joined in with Edward Lansdale at Defense to form Operation MONGOOSE, a plan to overthrow the Cuban government. Harvey made three separate attempts to poison Castro with pills during the first half of 1962.

The center of Harvey’s plan was to split the Castro regime. One memo describes eleven defections and recruitments that had been conducted successfully in the previous two years, mostly from the Cuban

Embassy. A June 1962 memo shows Harvey's plans to recruit Fidel's sister **Juanita Castro**. Sforza was a central player in the successful recruitment of Juanita.[25] At the same time, Harvey was mulling over about whether and how to use the titular #4 man in the Castro government, the former student leader **Rolando Cubela**.

Che Guevara, Cubela and Fidel were three of the key military leaders who wrested control of Cuba from the dictator Fulgencio Batista in the last days of 1958. Cubela had already distinguished himself by **assassinating the head of Cuban military intelligence** in 1956. Cubela was disaffected and had made comments going back for years about **wanting to kill Castro**. During June 1962, a memo from CIA Miami station chief Ted Shackley to Harvey stated that Cubela was **planning to defect after a youth festival in Helsinki**, and was trying to find a way to meet with his friend Carlos Tepedino to get into the United States. Francisco Wilfredo Varona (pseudonym **AMCONCERT-1**) vouched for Tepedino's credentials, while **Tony Sforza** said that Tepedino's father had hidden him for five days while in Cuba.[26]

Harvey made a plan for a pitch to Cubela at a youth festival in Helsinki for early August. If it was successful, it would be a public relations coup. **Carlos Tepedino** was a New York jeweler that had helped the Agency in the past. Tepedino's pseudonym was **AMWHIP**, and Cubela's was **AMLASH** - the idea was to deliver a whiplash to Castro.

Tony Sforza kept in touch with Tepedino on the **progress** of the Cubela effort in Europe. Sforza had unsuccessfully tried to **smuggle Cubela out of Cuba** in 1961, and the CIA had sent out a **warning** that they believed the Cuban authorities were aware of Cubela's defection plans.

Tepedino had previously set up a **friendly** but **unsuccessful attempt at recruitment** of Cubela by a Mexico City officer in 1961. A CIA agent in Mexico City, LITAMIL-3, reported that Cubela had been drinking heavily while residing at the Cuban consulate during this period.[27] The CIA was concerned that Cubela might have **tipped off Castro** about this approach. Harvey oversaw a memo giving the younger officers the go-ahead in a defection effort with Cubela, but **"play it so no possibility of future blackmail of (the CIA)"**.



Che Guevara and Fidel Castro



*Rolando Cubela (at right)
with Fidel Castro*

When the scheduled meeting with Cubela was conducted in Helsinki in early August, contact was made by calling **the same two "pink hotels" Oswald stayed at** before his entry into the Soviet Union. That would indicate a particular Agency interest in those hotels. Cubela's case officer **Richard Fallucci** was known as both **Bill Thompson** and **Harvey Thompson**. That would indicate a particular interest by Bill Harvey in Cubela. The decision made in Helsinki was that instead of Cubela defecting and coming to the USA, he could do more good by "defecting in place" and working from within Cuba to bring down Castro.[28]

Despite Harvey's reputation as a brawler and gunman, he was viewed as the opposite of reckless by those who worked closely with him. Harvey was highly security-conscious. Harvey once reminded his colleagues to follow top-secret protocols while looking for a ZRRIFLE spotter. He brought up the code word RYBAT – CIA lingo for "secret" – and said that "the use of the RYBAT slug alone ain't what it used to be." [29] With Cubela's repeated history of failed recruitments, it's hard to imagine why anyone in Task Force W felt that they could trust Cubela in any way, shape or form. I don't believe Harvey trusted Cubela.

Harvey worked with the FBI in Miami on the ZRKNICK wiretapping operation that listened to the Cuban espionage net that was spying on the FBI and CIA.[30] His awareness of American spies being spied upon by Communist spies forced him to use extraordinary measures to maintain the security of his operations.

Oswald had three teams of officers handling his file – CI-SIG molehunters, Harvey's People, and Soviet Realities analysts

It's well established that Ann Egerter of CI/SIG, Angleton's counterintelligence analyst, had full control of Oswald's biographical file. Egerter answered to CI-SIG chief Birch O'Neal and to Angleton himself. Two other teams of counterintelligence officers were also keeping an eye on Oswald.

The second team was the husband-and-wife team of Anita and Will Potocki. Anita was **Harvey's chief aide at Staff D**, while also working counterintelligence at Headquarters in the **Cuban division**. Bill's title was **"CI/OPS"**, indicating that he worked in the operations group in Angleton's division. He also had a second title as **"CI/OG/SS"**, indicating that he wore a second hat as Angleton's security staff for the operations group. [31] Will Potocki had experience as a **molehunter**. [32]

A third team included the CIA's Soviet Russia division officers Stephan Roll and Bill Bright, who spent much of their time analyzing defectors from the USSR. We saw in the previous chapter how Bright's tip convinced J. Edgar Hoover that Oswald might have been impersonated back in 1960.

Bright was with the counterespionage unit that reviewed Oswald when John Fain and Egerter began using the Oswald file in their molehunt during May 1960.[33] We know that Bright shared Egerter and Fain's interest in Oswald, but was Bright privy to the molehunt that they were conducting with Oswald's file? Given the careful attention Bright paid to Oswald's birth certificate, the story that Oswald was a Soviet citizen, and his description of Oswald as "5 foot 10, 165", as described in the previous chapter, I conclude that he was in on it.

Meanwhile, Anita Potocki was quietly keeping an eye on Bright. Anita described Bright as a member of Soviet counter-espionage projects "who has nominal responsibility for keeping track of the members of the domestic Soviet installations and their activities".[34] Bright was in charge of biographic data, which meant that he played a big role in the handling of 201 files of Americans like Oswald.

Anita was the right person to evaluate Bright, as her husband Will was currently serving in the same section as Bright.[35] Anita was studying Bright's SR/6/Biographics, which kept 201 files on people of interest in the Moscow region. Anita's memo indicates that she didn't want SR/6 to know that Staff D was interested in their work.

Three CI teams watched Oswald after his return to the USA



Lee and Marina Oswald on a train leaving Russia

During May 1961, Oswald announced to the Ambassador that he had just married Marina Prusakova, a pharmacy student who lived in Minsk. Operations officer Will Potocki spent days pulling together all the references to Oswald until he learned that Egerter was in charge of Oswald's file.[36] After that incident, Egerter resumed her primacy over the file as Oswald spent the next year trying to obtain visas for his family to come to the USA.[37] An informal pecking order was established. The Oswald file generally went first to Egerter, then to Potocki, then to Bright.

After Oswald's return to the US, Gheesling told the Dallas FBI to interview him to see if he made any deals with the Soviets. Bright received Fain's 8/30/62 memo where Oswald essentially agreed to be a potential security informant if he ever heard anything from the Soviets.[38] CI officer Dottie Lynch referred to Egerter as the person who held Oswald's "full file".[39]

Bright now had a new job – he was described as SR/CI/RED. There were a wide array of "RED" operational activities used by the Soviet division. Bright may have been working on an activity known as REDWOOD, designed to examine how to use a Soviet

citizen who was outside of the Soviet Union.[40] Oswald's wife Marina fits the REDWOOD description. And, in a funny way, Oswald could be squeezed into that category. Oswald had, in a certain sense, defected from the Soviet Union as well as the United States. Also, as discussed, one of the CIA's own index cards listed Oswald as a Soviet citizen. Another possibility is that Oswald was used within the REDSKIN program, which was used to follow the activities of legal tourists to the Soviet Union. Even a year after his entry, CI files referred to Oswald as a tourist.

During 1962, the chief of SR/CI/RED was Stephan Roll, who worked closely with Egerter later on in this story. This routing slip shows how the August 1962 interview of Oswald upon his return to the US by FBI agent Fain passed among all three teams – first to Egerter of CI/SIG, then to Potocki of CI/OPS, then to several members of the Soviet Russia division, including Bright. The Oswald interview wound up in the hands of SR/6/Biographics on October 15, 1962, days before the height of the Cuban missile crisis, and was not passed to anyone else until after the assassination a year later. When Potocki got the Oswald interview after the assassination, he wrote a big question mark on the routing slip.

Oswald had just begun work at a photographic firm in Dallas, doing highly classified work for the Army Mapping Service as it analyzed maps of Cuba obtained by U-2 flights.[41] Oswald's employment at a sensitive position in a key industry was the very work that the FBI was designed to watch out for and prevent. If Hoover had known that a known Soviet defector was working at a sensitive position at a key industry right in the middle of the Cuban missile crisis, he would have gone into orbit.[42]

Both the FBI and Oswald were playing games here. FBI agent John Fain had closed Oswald's file just two months earlier, after the aforementioned interview, even though he knew that Oswald had lied to him earlier that summer several times. Most significantly, Oswald denied ever trying to renounce his citizenship. Fain discovered that Oswald told the same lie in a letter to a Marine brigadier general protesting his undesirable discharge. Lying to an FBI agent was then and remains a federal crime under 18 USC 1001. If Oswald was ever recruited as an FBI informant, this would have been the moment of maximum leverage to get it done. Fain's report says that Oswald agreed to report to the FBI any attempt by Soviets to contact him. Despite the affidavit filed saying that Oswald was never recruited as an informant that day, Oswald may have a "137 file" somewhere as a Potential Security Informant, or PSI, based on that statement alone, which was highlighted at the beginning of Fain's report.

Whether or not Fain, Bright, or other government officials actually used Oswald during this time, it's clear that Oswald could be used in some way as a witting or unwitting asset. There is no legal obligation to pay an asset or even maintain any kind of a record in a file. Most importantly, I don't think it matters much whether Oswald knew that he was being used as an asset or not. What Oswald did – or what was done with the Oswald file – was the important thing.

Read Chapter 3: *The Cuban Compound in Mexico City Was Ground Zero*

NOTES

1 *Anita and Will Potocki were personally loyal to Harvey*: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 295.

2 *The agency's pear-shaped version of James Bond*: Bill Kelly, "007, LHO, and JFK", *JFK Countercoup*, 5/4/12.

3 *The idea of a license to kill*: John S. Craig, "Where Did Ian Fleming's License-to-Kill Idea Come From?" On Stephenson, see *A Man Called Intrepid* (1976), p. 270. (Ian Fleming); Peter Wright, *Spycatcher*, p. 161.

4 *In late 1959, Richard Bissell placed him in charge of Staff D*: Memo to Chief, Personnel Security Division, 10/7/59, NARA Record Number: 104-10106-10583.

Tasks performed by Staff D: Secrets of Signals Intelligence in the Cold War and Beyond, Matthew M. Aid, Cees Weibes, p. 41.

5 *Harvey asked Morales to join*: Harvey's request and Scott's reply are chronicled in Debra Conway's essay "Three Phases of Assassination".

6 *Morales and Roselli had been close drinking partners in the Florida Keys*: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, pp. 170-171.

7 *Roselli was given the cover of an Army colonel....*: Stockton, p. 179; Robert Blakey and Richard Billings, *The Plot to Kill the President*, p. 179ff.

8 *Roselli and JFK shared a mistress*: Taylor Branch, *Parting the Waters*, pp. 569, Larry Hancock, *Someone Would Have Talked* (2010), pp. 250-251.

9 *David Morales was known as Stanley Zamka*: "Recommendation for Award for David Morales", date unknown, p. 1, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10140

Memo from George Loker, Chief, Special Security Branch, to Chief, Inspection Security Staff, 1/18/50, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10339.

10 *Morales' work in PBSUCCESS led to the overthrow of the Guatemala government*: 3/4/54, Memorandum for the File, Re: David Morales. *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10171.

11 *In 1956, he worked in the International Organizations division, which was steeped in covert action to the extent that it merged with the covert action division a few years later*: Promotion Action: David Morales, 9/6/56, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 1: Manuel Artime Buesa)*/NARA Record Number: 104-10162-10195.

The merger of the International Organizations division with the covert action division: Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, "After Action Report on the Findings of the Working Group", 10/23/62, p. 13. *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 50*/NARA Record Number: 104-10118-10427.

12 *Morales established cover in Los Angeles in 1958 for two years as a marketing consultant, "traveling extensively" during this time and working at the American embassy in Cuba*: Memo from Paul T. Auden to SAC, Los Angeles, 10/18/60, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10148.

13 *In May, 1959, Morales was forced to leave Cuba after an order was issued for his arrest for a matter that resulted in two deaths....*: Memo by David Morales (Stanley Zamka) to the Ambassador, 5/6/59, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10169.

Also see memo by John L. Topping, Chief of the Political Section, U.S. Embassy, Havana, 5/7/59, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10255.

14 *By May, 1960, Morales was working on maritime Cuba operations with JMWAVE*: Memo to Chief, Investment Director, 5/2/60, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 44*/NARA Record Number: 104-10121-10253.

15 *By November, he was organizing paramilitary operations inside Cuba*: Memo from to WH/4/PM to C/WH/4/PA, 11/1/60, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 28: MIRR - MRP)*/NARA Record Number: 104-10193-10367.

AMYUM refers to **paramilitary** activity.

16 *A post-Bay of Pigs memo reveals that Morales was not only a covert action expert (and for that matter, an expert in paramilitary activities and propaganda), but he was also the chief of the CI section at the Miami base:* CIA memorandum for the record, by R. D. Shea, 2 June 1961, Subject: Interview with Dave Morales, GS-14. Chief of CI Section, Miami Base, 25 May 1961, NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10020.

17 *The plan was for the AMOTs to purge pro-Castro officials, seize documents, and take over administration of “liberated” towns and villages:* Don Bohning, “Indoctrination U”, 6/11/08, *Washington Decoded* website. While citing Bohning’s article, I should add that I do not agree with his criticism of the Education Forum website, which is a great resource for historians and casual readers alike.

18 *Besides the AMOTs, they had 100 back-up intelligence reserves known as the AMCHEERS, and 100 fledgling counterintelligence officers known as the AMFASTs:* Memorandum for the Record re interview with Dave Morales (AMFASTs are misspelled as AMFATS) by R.D. Shea, 6/2/61, FILE:DDCI DOCUMENTS, NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10020.

19 *Vicente Leon killed himself at the Bay of Pigs rather than be captured:* Don Bohning, *The Castro Obsession*, p. 144.

20 *Morales said that he was on the beach at the Bay of Pigs watching as the Cubans killed his friends that he had helped train:* Larry Hancock, *Someone Would Have Talked* (2010 edition), p. 111. The aforementioned “Felix” could have been Felix Rodriguez, known for his role in the capture of Che Guevara and also known as “Max Gomez” during the Iran-Contra scandal. Also conceivable that “Felix” was Felix Gutierrez, described as second in command to Sanjenis. Either man could have been a “CIA agent in charge”.

21 *The AMOTS also had a covert base on the Miami campus - their base for shadow intelligence was known as JMDUSK:* Memo from Theodore Shackley to Desmond FitzGerald, 4/2/64, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 2/NARA Record Number: 104-10048-10124.

Also see references to the “JMDUSK payroll”: Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 12/14/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 17/NARA Record Number: 104-10077-10015.

“JMDUSK buildings”: Cable from Director to JMWAVE, 9/30/61, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 68: AMBUD, CRC)/NARA Record Number: 104-10233-10316.

“CIA funds”; “CIA employees? No sir...”; “could do things we were not aware of”. See Deposition of William Sturbitts, 4/16/75, pp. 59 and 62. NARA Record Number 157-10011-10083.

22 *Two witnesses said that Morales was known for frequently going off to Mexico City to work with his colleague, covert actions chief David Phillips:* Noel Twyman, *Bloody Treason*, p. 451, 458.

23 *Bradley Ayers, who was stationed at JMWAVE, said that Morales “ran all the station’s activities with a heavy hand and was famous for his temper. We soon learned that no one, save Ted Shackley, argued with Dave”:* Bradley E. Ayers, *The Zenith Secret* (Brooklyn: Vox Pop, 2006), p. 19.

24 *Sforza is a hit man and should be regarded as dangerous:* Gaeton Fonzi, *The Last Investigation*, p. 384.

25 *Sforza was a central player in the successful recruitment of Juanita:* Sforza was known to Juanita as “Enrique”; she became known as AMSTRUT-2.

26 *Francisco Wilfredo Varona vouched for Tepedino’s credentials, while Tony Sforza said that Tepedino’s father had hidden him for five days while in Cuba:* Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 6/18/62, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 50: Alpizar - Cubela)/NARA Record Number: 104-10215-10107.

Note that AMCONCERT-1 is Francisco Wilfredo Varona Alonso: “List of Names re Kennedy Assassination”, List of crypts provided to researcher Leslie Wizelman, p. 49, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 9/NARA Record Number: 104-10061-10115.

Also see the CIA Inspector General’s Report of 1967, p. 82, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 48: Defectors, 201 Files, CI/SIG, IG Report, AMTRUNK, Ortiz, ...)/NARA Record Number: 104-10213-10101.

27 *A CIA agent in Mexico City, LITAMIL-3, reported that Cubela had been drinking heavily while residing at the Cuban consulate during this period:* “Weaknesses (and Derogatory Information)” a chronology re Rolando Cubela, 10/24/63, P. 5, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 50: Alpizar - Cubela)/NARA Record Number: 104-10215-10235.

Note that LITAMIL means “Cuban operations”. Compare the HSCA’s Subject Card File: (Card #9: LITAMIL), with the HSCA’s Black Notebook (Item #9: Cuban operations).

28 *The plan quickly changed for Cubela to “defect in place”:* 1967 IG Report on Plots to Assassinate Fidel Castro, p. 83, NARA Record Number: 104-10213-10101.

SAS officer Nestor Sanchez testified that the policy to encourage Cubela to defect in place remained throughout 1963. *Testimony of Nestor Sanchez*, 7/29/75, p. 23.

29 *Harvey once reminded his colleagues....*: HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 20: ZRRIFLE, AMMUG)/NARA Record Number: 104-10185-10046.

Harvey's office was 1502 L – and it looks like his initials of “wkh” on this routing slip: Id.

In the memo above, Harvey referred to this directive in OIRW 18582 in setting forth his desired secrecy protocol while looking for a spotter for the ZRRIFLE operation: Dispatch from William Harvey, Chief, Staff D to Chief of Station, Rome, ATTENTION: DESMOND OR SHERIDAN, OIRW 18582, 6/8/61, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 20: ZRRIFLE, AMMUG)/NARA Record Number: 104-10185-10045.

Harvey asked for the memo OIRW 27542 to be a permanent fixture in the ZRRIFLE file. The link is to a memo whose subject, when interviewed, was apparently shown a photo of QJWIIN. Memo from REDACTED to REDACTED, OIRW 27542, 5/10/61, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 20: ZRRIFLE, AMMUG)/NARA Record Number: 1994.03.11.16:07:16:500005.

30 *Harvey worked with the FBI in Miami*: Memorandum for the Record, “ZRKNICK Operation”, LAD/JFK Task Force, 2/27/77, LA Division Work File, NARA Record Number: 104-10308-10257.

31 *Potocki was part of Angleton's security staff for the operations group*: As shown earlier, Potocki was CI/OG/SS. “OG” stands for “Operations Group”. Russ Holmes, for example, was CI/OG; see memo to Counterintelligence Chief, 1/25/77, NARA Record Number: 104-10147-10322.

“SS” stands for “Security Staff”. C/SS is common in CIA documents.

32 *Will Potocki had experience as a molehunter*: Peter Dale Scott describes in some detail Potocki's role in a molehunt conducted with Oswald's file in 1961, as well as molehunts involving Richard Snyder. See “The Hunt for Popov's Mole”, *Fourth Decade*, March 1996, the ground-breaking article on molehunts in the JFK case. I discuss one of Snyder' molehunts in my essay “The Twelve Who Built the Oswald Legend” (Part 3), relying on Scott's work.

33 *Bright was with the counter-espionage unit that reviewed Oswald in 1960*: That unit was SR/CE. Routing and Record Sheet, 5/25/60, re DBF-49478, Oswald 201 File, Vol 1, p. 137. Routing and Record Sheet, 7/3/61, re DBF-82181, ARRB 1995 Releases/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10041.

Also depicted in John Newman's Oswald and the CIA, pp. 493-494.

Betty Stacey is repeatedly included within the routing slip of the 7/3/61 Fain memo on Oswald; see Newman, p. 226, 494. Also seen once again are Brady and Bright, now working in the SR/RISB division.

34 *Bright was described in a CIA document from that era as a member of SR/CE/Projects “who has nominal responsibility for keeping track of the members of the domestic Soviet installations and their activities”*: Anita Potocki, Memorandum to File, 9/1/60, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 12: Rolando Masferrer)/NARA Record Number: 104-10176-10107.

35 *Bright worked in the same division (SR/CE/P) as Will Potocki during 1960*: Anita Potocki, Memorandum to the File, 9/9/60, NARA Record Number: 104-10176-10153.

36 *Will Potocki spent days pulling together all the references to Oswald, until he learned that Egerter was in charge of Oswald's file*: Routing and Record Sheet, 5/26/61, NARA Record Number: 104-10322-10043.

Peter Dale Scott opines that Potocki may have conducted a molehunt about this time. See “The Hunt for Popov's Mole”, *Fourth Decade*, March 1996.

37 *Egerter resumed her primacy over the file*: Egerter is seen in these routing slips of November 1961 and April 1962.

38 *William Bright was part of SR/CI/RED when Oswald met with Fain in August 1962*: See Bright's initials on line 7 of the attached Routing and Record Sheet, DBA-20883, 8/30/62, Oswald 201 File, Vol 1, Folder 2, p. 35. In contrast, this is a full copy without redactions.

Fain denied ever filling out any forms designating Oswald as a potential security informant or of any type of source.

39 *At the time of Oswald's “debriefing” with Fain the previous year, Bright was included on the routing sheet of this meeting. Bright's boss at that time was C/SR/CI/RED Stephan Roll*: Id.; also, see Newman, p. 499. For another reference to C/SR/CI/RED, see Louise M. Lyon, SR/CI/RED and Paul R. Cawood (C/WE) to Chief of Station, London, 5/22/62, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 17: Ruiz - Webster)/NARA Record Number: 104-10181-10054.

40 *“RED” is shorthand for REDWOOD, a program designed to examine how to use a Soviet citizen who was outside of the Soviet Union*: This description of REDWOOD comes from Angleton aide Edward Petty, told to researcher A. J. Weberman.

41 *Oswald had just begun work at a photographic firm in Dallas, doing highly classified work for the Army Mapping Service as it analyzed maps of Cuba obtained by U-2 flights*: Warren Commission Hearings, Lee

Oswald's time sheets at JCS, 10/12/62-10/31/62; John Graef testimony: "highly secret work?...yes...Army Map Service." Warren Commission Hearings, [Volume 10, p. 191](#). Robert Stovall testimony, "cleared through Navy Bureau Materiel...charting of coastal areas, sea bottoms..." Warren Commission Hearings, [Volume 10, pp. 168-169](#).

Also see Edward Epstein, "[Reading Oswald's Hand](#)", Psychology Today, April 1978, on how Jaggars Chiles Stovall had long lists of city names typeset and then placed on maps, based on satellite and U-2 surveillance.

Just some random hits showing Oswald's work for AMS (Army Map Service)... [October 16, 1962](#), [Nov. 8, 1962](#), [Nov. 10, 1962](#), [March 25, 1963](#).

42 Oswald's employment at this photographic firm at a safety-sensitive job in a [key industry](#) was the very single factor that would have put the FBI in orbit if they had known that a known Soviet defector was working there right in the middle of the Cuban missile crisis: [Deposition of Warren de Brueys](#), 1/8/76, p. 126.



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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpich

Chapter 3: The Cuban Compound in Mexico City Was Ground Zero

Introduction

Bobby Kennedy had the CIA focused on covert actions directed at Cuba throughout his brother's presidency. Both of the Kennedys wanted some kind of resolution to the continuing drama. After the Cuban missile crisis, a major disconnect emerged between what the Kennedys wanted and what the CIA's Miami station wanted. This disconnect set the stage for the day when a man called Oswald visited the Soviet and Cuban consulates in Mexico City during late September of 1963.

During this chapter, the spotlight will slowly shift to the Cuban compound in Mexico City and the role of the CIA's Mexico City station, which had a close relationship with the Miami station in the war on Cuba. The Cuba compound contained both the Cuban embassy and the consulate where travelers obtained their visas. [Win Scott, the Mexico City station chief](#), reported on their Cuban compound operations in early 1963: "We intercept their mail, photograph all people who go in and out of the Embassy, cover their telephones completely, and within a few hours of the conversations have resumes of all the telephone calls. We cover their trash, and this has been found to be useful."

It should not be much of a surprise that CIA reports on the Cuban compound in Mexico City during 1963 are repeatedly sent to Harvey's people. Harvey had a long history as the CIA's wiretap czar, and the phones and movements of Cuban government employees in the Mexican capital were monitored on a daily basis. Harvey's confidant Anita Potocki and her colleagues wrote few reports while they quietly watched Cuban press secretary Teresa Proenza, UN ambassador Carlos Lechuga, and Lechuga's mistress Silvia Duran. These incidents and these confidants merit close scrutiny. Duran and Proenza, who had a long mutual history of working for Cuba-Mexico friendship, suddenly had bulls-eyes on their backs while working at the Cuban compound in Mexico City.[\[1 \]](#) The espionage surrounding the Cuban compound was intense. It was ground zero.

The Kennedys had Bill Harvey removed as chief of Cuban affairs

Bill Harvey at the CIA and Edward Lansdale at Defense had been working throughout 1962 on [Operation Mongoose](#), a plan to overthrow Castro that was run right out of Bobby Kennedy's office. Harvey and Bobby Kennedy worked very closely during this period, with the two men even sharing CIA officer Charley Ford as a key aide.[\[2 \]](#) Harvey would tell Ford to pass certain information on to RFK because [he didn't want to do it himself](#). Harvey increasingly started referring to Bobby as "that fucker".[\[3 \]](#) Nor was Harvey reluctant to taunt Bobby when they were face to face. CIA exec Sam Halpern thought it was hilarious. "We heard that Bobby said to Harvey 'I could train agents at my house in Virginia!' And Harvey retorted 'as baby-sitters?'"[\[4 \]](#)

Harvey lost his job as head of Cuban operations after a blowout with Kennedy during the Cuban missile crisis. Bobby had recently advised the CIA that JFK was unhappy with Mongoose's progress, and that he wanted to meet with Harvey, Lansdale and company [every day at 9:30 am](#). At roughly the same time, Harvey had secretly inserted [commando teams AMTORRID and COBRA](#) into Cuba with orders to blow up key facilities and conduct intelligence. A recall order was issued by the White House during the [height of the crisis](#), but some of Harvey's men were unreachable. RFK had a famous face-off with Harvey, where he demanded a [short explanation](#) for Harvey's actions. When Harvey couldn't meet Bobby's time limit and kept talking, [RFK walked out of the meeting](#).

Mr. Harvey:

Sam Hines gave me the attached approval for ZRRIFLE. Since we retain no files on the project, I am sending this to you with the suggestion that this be incorporated in your project folder.

Helen Vigness

"we retain no files on the project [ZRRIFLE]"

Operation Mongoose was [over](#). Harvey's Task Force W was [dismantled and reorganized](#). Desmond Fitzgerald stepped in to provide new leadership to the Cuban division at Headquarters, renamed as the Special Affairs Staff (SAS). [Harvey stepped down as chief of Staff D](#), but continued to work in the top-secret wiretap office at CIA Headquarters. Harvey was also still running the ZRRIFLE program – when his people weren't planning for assassinations, they "rifled" through foreign embassies in the middle of the night,

cracking safes for codes and ciphers so that the National Security Agency could decipher encrypted communications and listen in on conversations around the world.[5] A finance officer reminded Harvey that **no files were kept on ZRRIFLE**. The burglars given this license to steal were known as the Second-Story Men.[6]

In the middle of all this, Harvey remained trapped in limbo for eight months, disgraced in the Langley basement, while his bosses tried to figure out what to do with him. After much hesitation, he was finally **reassigned** in March and shipped off to Rome in **June** as the new Chief of Station. Ironically, this put him even closer to many of his **Sicilian** and **Corsican** friends in the gangster underworld. Many of his colleagues were angry.

Years later, Harvey said that **he detested Robert Kennedy** and resented his boss Richard Helms and FitzGerald. A member of the Special Group Augmented (the **planning group for MONGOOSE**), said that Harvey “hated Bobby Kennedy’s guts with a purple passion”. He added that “some attributed the appointment (to **Rome**) to a desire to get Harvey out of the country as soon as possible, never mind where...**he would never again be allowed near an operation** in which the brothers Kennedy were likely to have an interest.”

Ed Lopez, a lead researcher of the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA), wrote that the committee considered Harvey to be a “**possible suspect**” in the assassination because of his “**known hatred of the Kennedys**”. Ted Shackley, one of Harvey’s people from back in the Berlin days, had been working alongside Harvey throughout 1962 as the new chief of the JMWAVE station in Miami. Shackley said that Harvey never recovered from being fired. Harvey’s prodigious drinking of **five martinis at lunchtime** began to surface as a serious and visible problem.[7]

ject, William Harvey, and the Kennedys. 1/ Even though the Church Committee Interim Report concluded that the ZRRIFLE program was never implemented this Committee believed that Harvey, due to his contacts with the La Cosa Nostra and the anti-Castro Cubans, and his known hatred of the Kennedys coupled with his position as the head of the CIA's executive action project made him a possible suspect in the Kennedy assassination.

Harvey's "known hatred for the Kennedys" made him a suspect for the HSCA

Harvey's people were watching Teresa Proenza, Silvia Duran, & Carlos Lechuga at the beginning of 1963 in efforts to split the Castro regime

As he shed his responsibilities at Headquarters, Harvey wrote a telling memo on the importance of penetrating Castro’s leadership if there was going to be any realistic chance of **splitting the regime**. Harvey’s distrust of the Kennedys was clear. He didn’t believe that they were willing to commit to the military force it would take to overthrow Castro. Harvey complained that since a no-invasion deal had been cut with the Soviets in order to end the Cuban missile crisis, there could no longer be a “pretext of a **contrived provocation**” at Guantanamo. To put it in English, Harvey and others had seriously considered launching a false-flag attack on the US base in Guantanamo and using that provocation as the basis to take over Cuba. Even Bobby Kennedy had considered the idea during the Cuban missile crisis.[8] George McManus, the executive assistant to the CIA director, said that Bobby Kennedy, General Maxwell Taylor and other policy makers reviewed MONGOOSE and agreed that they would avoid a military intervention.[9] When asked in a general way about McManus’ statement, **Harvey agreed** that the “policy makers” took that position.

On the other hand, when one of Castro’s double agents entered the country, Harvey treated him with kid gloves. Other CIA officers were not so careful. During **December 1962**, Cuban housing leader Jose Ricardo Rabel **stole an airplane from an agricultural agency** and defected to the USA. Rabel had been running the peasant housing program **Viviendas Campesinas** for the past three years. Harvey knew that Rabel was **preparing to defect**.

Rabel was debriefed for some time. He had grown up with Fidel. He said he was now being **hounded** by the Cuban Communist Party. Rabel’s predecessor at the housing program was Eusebio Azcue, a famous architect and the Cuban consul.

Just weeks after Rabel’s defection, Harvey proposed that Mexico City **make a play to recruit the Cuban consul Eusebio Azcue**. Such a bold move, if successful, would reveal a great deal about the inner workings of Castro’s leadership team. In the days following the Azcue memo, there was an explosion of activity led by two Harvey confidants from their days in Berlin, Neill Prew and Anita Potocki. Prew was a man of action, described by Harvey’s biographer as “recruit(ing) agents in the Cuban community, ran raids, and landed men in Cuba”. Despite his background, Prew was not enamored of the situation in Miami: “Bill and Shackley tried to bring (Berlin) people to JMWAVE because they trusted them...but our people were scared shitless of Shackley, because he simply went too far. I thought the whole thing was an exercise in treading water by a bunch of jerks.”[10]

Potocki **explored** ways to use Cuban cultural attaché Teresa Proenza to split the Castro regime. Proenza was a respected figure who came to Mexico as a **political refugee** from Cuba in 1934, after **a bomb detonated in her home** and the police accused her family of manufacturing explosives. Proenza had worked at the Cuban embassy in Mexico City since Castro took power. Azcue had worked for Proenza in the past as a **bodyguard** on loan from Cuban intelligence. She had many contacts in **the arts and entertainment world**, as well as a long history as a **foreign correspondent** for the Overseas News Agency covering the Spanish Civil War and World War II.



Teresa Proenza with Frida Kahlo, 1952

Potocki hoped to recruit this veteran Communist Party journalist, despite extensive warnings that success seemed highly unlikely. Before the Cuban Revolution, Proenza made herself many enemies in certain quarters as the secretary to famed muralist **Diego Rivera** and as a **friend of Frida Kahlo** for many years, including during Kahlo's final days at Blue House.[11] CIA memos noted Proenza's **assignment to the Cuban embassy** as early as 1960.[12]

Nonetheless, if their efforts to win over Proenza didn't work out, they could still go after Azcue as a second prize. A memo during **January 1963** shows three officers **watching Silvia Duran very carefully** during her affair with Cuba's UN Ambassador Carlos Lechuga.[13] The officers were Prew, Potocki, and Lou De Santi, a counterintelligence officer working the Cuban beat with Potocki at Langley. The story, true or not, was that officers of the Cuban embassy had convinced Duran and another woman to **influence** Lechuga. Harvey's people and **the FBI**

thought they had convinced **Mrs. Lechuga to defect**, but that effort ultimately failed. Prew, Potocki and De Santi were **copied on numerous memos** in the following weeks as they monitored Proenza and other key officers working at the Cuban embassy.[14]

There was a political reason to make Silvia Duran look bad. It was **well known** among certain circles throughout 1963 that Duran had been not only Lechuga's secretary, but also his **paramour**. **It was reported in February 1963 that Lechuga had offered to marry Duran**. The records show that **Duran's sister-in-law Lydia** was a CIA agent, although the records I see don't show her being used **since 1959**. Given indications that the CIA unsuccessfully tried to recruit Silvia, if Lydia was used at all in the sixties, it was to report on Silvia. Proenza convinced Duran to **resign** from her post at their Cuba-Mexico solidarity group "for the good of the revolution".

AMTRUNK was organized by critics of the CIA

Ironically, Bobby agreed with Harvey about the importance of **splitting the Castro regime**, although my reading of the documents does not convince me that RFK was willing to use assassination as a way to get it done. A quick look at how the Kennedys tried to organize an internal coup reveals that Bobby had no idea how to put together a secure operation. In a context where Cuban exiles were talking openly about their plans and continuously subdividing into smaller fiefdoms rather than working together, the situation was already an intelligence nightmare. Having Bobby Kennedy come down to Miami and tell the JMWAVE officers how to do their job was a disaster. Kennedy's conduct drove CIA professionals like Harvey or Morales just crazy.

At the beginning of 1963, with Harvey out of power, the Kennedys decided on their own plan to depose Castro by **recruiting some of his key leaders and staging a coup d'etat**. AMTRUNK was not your usual CIA operation. The leaders of AMTRUNK were **critics of the CIA**. AMTRUNK was born **inside the State Department**, run by the Army, and the CIA's Cuban division was pretty much being forced to go along for the ride.

A **principal initiator** of the AMTRUNK operation was New York Times reporter and Kennedy confidant Tad Szulc, best known for his writings on national security issues. JFK once asked Szulc his opinion on assassination, and was pleased when Szulc told him what a bad idea it was.[15] Szulc was a fine journalist and an excellent analyst, but needed some first-rate support to put together an operation of this magnitude. He didn't get it. Harvey's colleague David Morales **made sure to attend one of the very first meetings in February 1963**. I have seen no indication that Morales ever came back to a second meeting, and AMTRUNK never had enough skilled and trustworthy hands in Miami to get anywhere near its objective.



Jack and Bobby Kennedy

The American who did much of the day-to-day work with JURE was **Jorge Volsky** of the **USIA**, the State Department agency for public relations. Szulc admired Volsky's knowledge of Cuba and called him "**our man in Havana**" even though Volsky lived in Miami. Both men were journalists and had great rapport.

Szulc and Volsky worked with JURE (**Junta Revolucionaria Cabana**), a left-wing Cuban exile group that had a special place in the heart of the Kennedys. Bobby told Miro Cardona, perhaps a more popular leader among Cuban exiles, that **he believed in JURE's leader**, as one who could direct the anti-Castro movement from within Cuba itself. Bobby's statement caused **consternation** within the CIA and was the first step that resulted with Cardona breaking relations with the White House.

The JURE leader, Manolo Ray, was trained as a civil engineer at the University of Utah. His skills came in handy as a saboteur in bringing down Batista's government. JURE was also well to the left of most of the anti-Castro groups in Miami. Ray frequently said that he believed in "**Fidelismo without Fidel**". Ray's other

famous quote was that CIA agents “were **more dangerous than the Kennedy Administration...** the Kennedy Administration would end but CIA agents always stayed, and their memory was longer than elephants and they never forgot or forgave.”

On March 30, 1963, the Administration barred Cuban exile groups from launching attacks on Cuba from the United States. But JURE and the more conservative MRR (**Movimiento de Recuperacion Revolucionaria**) headed by Manuel Artime were assured that **Customs** would cut them some slack when heading towards a raid on Cuba. Both groups were known within policy circles as “autonomous operations”, which meant that the US government would offer them protections, but would **deny any participation** in a group’s activities if there was media exposure or enemy capture.

The CIA worked with **two types of groups** in the Cuban conflict – unilateral teams like Artime’s that were CIA-trained, and political groups like JURE that simply relied on the CIA for supplies. The CIA had little control over these political groups. Jim Hosty of the FBI told an interviewer: “(JURE) was the group they were going to use when they were going to overthrow Castro...the Customs men were going after the ones who weren’t part of that operation. Customs was working with JURE.”[16].

As AMTRUNK got underway, **JURE** had its intelligence unit **spy** on the CIA. Special officer Alfonso Rodriguez already had his ace agent **AMTAUP-2** (Ernesto Alanis Angulo) in place, providing **dozens** of reports on JURE to the Cuba division.[17] As soon as the Administration’s March admonition was issued, JURE began a program designed to **infiltrate other Cuban exile groups and other US governmental agencies**. This made it inevitable that others would do the same to JURE. Morales’ paramilitary colleague and close ally **Tony Sforza**, using his aforementioned **Henry Sloman** pseudonym, wrote a **number** of AMOT field **reports** on **JURE** for the JMWAVE chiefs throughout 1963.

An insecure AMTRUNK operation was forced on an unwilling Miami station

A better cryptonym for AMTRUNK would have been Operation Mickey Mouse. A very insecure AMTRUNK operation that relied on JURE was forced upon a very unwilling Miami station.[18] Chief Ted Shackley’s attempts to **terminate AMTRUNK** in April due to **lack of control** over Szulc and Volsky were futile. Despite Shackley’s warning that Volsky will “**go behind the CIA’s back**” to his colleagues, the State Department, or even JFK, Shackley’s boss Desmond FitzGerald at CIA Headquarters was **in favor** of the AMTRUNK operation. FitzGerald, allegedly a distant white-shoe relative of the Kennedys, got along with Bobby despite the terrible problems that came with the territory. Miro Cardona was so frustrated with Bobby Kennedy that he **resigned** from his position as an exile leader.

Manolo Ray of JURE and Cuban defector Jose Ricardo Rabel (AMLEO-3) were key forces within AMTRUNK, even though it was supposed to be CIA-controlled.[19] The would-be defector Rolando Cubela also came back into view as discussions began about finding him a role within AMTRUNK. On May 16, 1963, a memo indicated that the Agency was getting ready to use Cubela to reach out to other Cuban leaders.[20]

CIA officials saw JURE as pro-JFK, anti-CIA, and trying to **penetrate** JMWAVE’s operations. Many top Agency officials saw AMTRUNK as not only a very insecure operation, but also recklessly exposing their employees and assets to death and injury. Those suspicions were justified.

Ironically, many of the leaders of JURE were also CIA informants. They believed they had to work all corners of the plate in order to stay in the game. Two of these informants were JURE chief **Manolo Ray** and Ray’s #2 man **Rogelio Cisneros**.[21]

During June 1963, the Joint Chiefs approve plans for an internal coup in Cuba

The top officers at Headquarters’ Special Affairs Staff (SAS) and at JMWAVE generally assumed that Castro’s assassination was necessary for the internal coup to be successful. In May 1963, the CIA’s Office of National Estimates evaluated **what would happen if Castro was killed**, and concluded that the gains could be heightened if a **conflict broke out between the Cuban nationalists and the Moscow-line Communists** shortly after his assassination. FitzGerald got a note from the psychological warfare chief that this is the “**long-awaited memo on Castro death contingency**”.[22] The plan for an “internal coup” was finally proposed by the CIA to the Joint Chiefs in June 1963, saying that “several promising operations are already underway”, and received JFK’s approval on June 19.[23] We do know that the Kennedys were deeply involved in AMTRUNK and AMWORLD (a plan to foment an internal uprising, followed by small landings by Cuban exiles launched from Nicaragua and Costa Rica). We don’t know, however, if the Kennedys knew anything about AMROD (falsely branding Moscow-liners as CIA agents), AMLASH (Cubela as assassin), and the ZR-RIFLE assassination efforts of Harvey, Morales and Roselli.

AMTRUNK’s plans for an internal coup was now blended with military plans for infiltration and **sabotage** aimed at **oil refineries, electrical plants, and the transportation and manufacturing infrastructures**. Cuban installations that had been owned by American companies before Castro took over were no longer off-limits. When former CIA director Richard Helms testified before the Senate in 1978, he said, “We had task forces that were striking at Cuba constantly. We were attempting to blow up power plants. We were attempting to ruin sugar mills. We were attempting to do all kinds of things in this period. **This was a matter of American government policy.** This wasn’t the CIA alone.”

this, then I will back up and say we ought to enumerate every single item that conceivably had to do with the invasions of Cuba which we were constantly running under government aegis. We had task forces that were striking at Cuba constantly. We were attempting to blow up powerplants, we were attempting to ruin sugar mills, we were attempting to do all kinds of things during this period. This was a matter of American Government policy. This wasn't the CIA alone.

CIA Director Helms testifying to HSCA on terror program aimed at Cuba

The other Kennedy plan was a paramilitary program known as AMWORLD. My colleague Larry Hancock summarized it so well in a quick note that I will offer it here. "In order to ensure some amount of ongoing pressure against the Castro regime, and still overtly honor its missile crisis agreement with the Soviets, Robert Kennedy and his advisers endorsed a covert support program for selected exile groups.

"In practice, the effort centered on a group headed by Manuel Artime. The small, highly compartmentalized CIA project which funded and provided deniable logistical support for Artime was designated as AMWORLD. It was hoped that Artime's paramilitary activities, conducted entirely away from American shores, would maintain the image of an active anti-Castro insurgency. It could be brought into the mix if other efforts to stimulate an internal coup against Castro proved successful. The effort was a mixture of psychological warfare and limited paramilitary action."

This separate effort to overthrow Castro had the added benefit of coaxing exiles to leave the US mainland for the AMWORLD training camps. The leaders of this effort were MRR chief Manuel Artime and Harry Ruiz-Williams, with CIA veteran Harry Hecksher as the main case officer. Morales had "recruited, safehoused, and exfiltrated (Artime) black" in Havana in 1959 -- "black" meaning that it was done secretly and illegally, and "exfiltrated" meaning that Morales used clandestine means to get Artime out of Cuba and into the United States. Artime was seen as loyal to the Agency, an asset in the mercurial world of Cuban exiles.[24] The plan to create this junta in exile was not a well-kept secret. Associated Press ran a story on this junta as early as May 1963.[25] Morales, Shackley, and Hecksher (using his pseudonym "Nelson L. Raynock") got together with Artime to plan AMWORLD on June 23, 1963.[26] The bilingual Bernard Barker, best known as one of the Watergate burglars, was to serve as AMWORLD's principal, taking on "important and investigative duties...He will be in charge of a Cuban underground organization, managing and directing its political and paramilitary effectiveness." [27]

In an interview, SAS case officer Nestor Sanchez said that FitzGerald had divided Cuba responsibility between "internal" and "external" operations. In other words, Sanchez had the "internal" assignment for AMTRUNK and Cubela. Henry Hecksher had the "external" assignment, which meant AMWORLD and Artime.[28] Whether defined as an internal or external assignment, it is clear that SAS special officer Alfonso Rodriguez was given the duty to watch over Manuel Ray and JURE. Another way to look at it is that Hecksher and Rodriguez watched over the autonomous operations of Artime and Ray, while Sanchez largely ignored the Kennedys' pet assignment AMTRUNK but focused on the demon seed within -- Rolando Cubela.

Matters went from bad to worse when FitzGerald allowed the would-be defector Rolando Cubela to be run out of Langley as an essential AMTRUNK member in the summer of 1963. Bill Harvey would never have allowed such a thing to happen. The odds are high that Cubela was merrily reporting to Castro all of the CIA's plans on how to infiltrate his inner sanctum, and was used as a provocation agent against the CIA.[29] A 1973 CIA watchlist described Cubela as "DGI" -- Cuban intelligence.

Harvey had been thinking along another path, having concluded that the only way to gain power was by a muscular internal coup because the Kennedys had decided that there would be no invasion organized from the mainland. One of the key tools needed for such a coup was "maximum intelligence and counterintelligence." [30] After Harvey's Task Force W transmuted into FitzGerald's Special Affairs Section (SAS) in early 1963, FitzGerald agreed with Harvey's assessment.[31]

A memo entitled "Efforts to Split the Regime" was almost certainly written by Harvey. The focus of the memo is on the "loci of power", a phrase seen in other Harvey memos. "Efforts to Split the Regime" outlined the power groups in Cuba, and listed the defectors, possible recruits, and failed recruits. These defections were aided and abetted by the CIA's political and psychological staff known as KUWOLF. The CIA Inspector General wrote that "a major objective of station operations is the recruitment of personnel in the Cuban Embassy." [32] The Inspector General also wrote that at least twenty Cuban embassy personnel were believed to be Cuban intelligence officers. "Efforts to Split the Regime" recounts that as of 1962, eleven Cuban officials had defected since the revolution, mostly from the Cuban embassy in Mexico City, but they weren't sure whether Rolando Cubela was really a defector or not.[33]

As the number four man in the Cuban hierarchy, Rolando Cubela was highly prized by the Agency. Cubela had assassinated Cuba's intelligence chief during the Batista years. During 1963, Cubela was invited by Fidel to stay at a beach house right next to his own. A well-placed long-range rifle shot would provide Cubela with the chance to do the deed and escape with his life.

Another gunman debriefed for his knowledge of Cuban officials during the height of the AMLASH operation was Herminio Diaz Garcia. Like Cubela, Diaz was a hitman. He had assassinated Cuban secret police chief Rogelio Hernandez Vega in 1948 and then escaped from Mexico with the aid of the painter Diego Rivera. Diaz was the head of security at the Havana Riviera hotel from 1959 to 1960 and was then

apparently demoted to cashier. He was also **held in custody for 80 days** in the aftermath of the Bay of Pigs, like many other dissidents. He left Cuba in June 1963, and was interviewed by the AMLEPTON team in September. It is described as a “**JMWAVE/KUDESK station asset**” – which I interpret as a group of counterintelligence specialists with JMWAVE, maybe AMOTs, maybe not - **locating, investigating and surveilling persons of interest in Miami**. The goal was to spot refugees in Miami “who can serve as intermediaries to reach and ultimately **recruit**” in Cuba for counterintelligence purposes. AMLEPTON conducted surveillance and were available for hire by other CIA divisions. I have found AMLEPTON reports for **September** and **December**, but the reports for October and November have not turned up.

Author Anthony Summers has a witness, an old friend of Diaz, who states that Diaz **admitted** that he was part of the JFK assassination. All I can say is that Diaz had access to many sensitive people, that he traveled in narcotics circles between **Miami and New York City**, and that he frequently visited a local Mexican police chief. This fits the description given of Diaz as “**a daring person**”. The story is that Diaz **was killed** in Cuban waters years later while on a mission to assassinate Castro.

Earlier, during Harvey’s time at the Cuban desk in 1962, it had been **determined** by the Cuban division counterintelligence chief Harold Swenson that **Cubela was too much of a security risk to be trusted**. It was obvious that Cubela could easily be a double agent for Castro. Cubela was put on ice, and Harvey kept him at arm’s length. However, right after Harvey’s departure for the Rome station in June 1963, Cubela was brought into the fold. FitzGerald and Cubela’s case officer Nestor Sanchez gave the wannabe Castro assassin **the benefit of the doubt**.

AMTRUNK became even more troubled when recent defector **Jose Ricardo Rabel was brought in to help identify likely Cuban leaders** that would turn against Castro. **Even the CIA admitted years later** that Rabel was “possibly” planted into the US by Castro himself. Cubela’s friend Ramon Guin was brought into the planning group as AMTRUNK-10. Rabel (cryptonym AMLEO-3) **provided the lead** that led to the recruitment of Guin.[34]

Guin, who had been **planning to assassinate Castro since 1961**, was yet another insecure addition to the AMTRUNK team. Guin was approved to be the principal recruiter within high level Cuban military ranks in 1963, despite distrust within CIA counter-intelligence.[35] Rabel was eventually captured by the Cubans and given a 30 year sentence **but only served two years**. Between Cubela and Rabel, Fidel Castro might as well have been camping out in the Langley basement.

Although Bill Harvey may have used a lead from Rabel to probe Azcue, Harvey was a stickler for security. Harvey claimed that he was always worried that **Castro agents had penetrated his assassination plans**. Harvey would never have let Rabel or Cubela anywhere near any program as sensitive as AMTRUNK. Did Harvey kick off the attempt to recruit Azcue as a way to get Rabel into the game? Did Harvey have a fleeting hope that Rabel would steal the AMTRUNK plans and humiliate the Kennedys?

Besides the plans for a coup, the Kennedys also had plans for peace with Fidel

The Kennedys were clear that they wanted the issue of Cuba resolved before the elections in 1964. Accordingly, they had a two-track approach. Overthrow Castro if it was possible. If that was impossible, reach rapprochement with Castro. In a television interview on May 10, 1963 with ABC’s Lisa Howard, Castro said that he was willing to reach such a rapprochement.[36] The CIA **debriefed** Howard after the interview. Throughout the spring and summer of 1963, the CIA’s top officials at the Cuban desk such as **Desmond FitzGerald** were at meetings where a **policy shift towards rapprochement** with Castro was under discussion. Orders were given in June that **channels of communication to Castro had to be kept secret** within the Agency and elsewhere. The CIA chiefs knew that if word got out among the officers, they would consider it a “stab in the back”. I believe that top officers like Morales got wind of it and did take it as a stab in the back. JFK was letting Castro know that peace was possible.

The Joint Chiefs did not want peace with Fidel

Shortly after Castro got air time on American television, the Joint Chiefs weighed in with their own opinion. Chaired by General Maxwell Taylor, the Joint Chiefs declared their belief “that US military intervention in Cuba is necessary” and wanted to lead that effort.[37] Taylor was known as GPPHOTO, the man with the best picture on the Kennedys’ plans for military action. The brothers were known as **GPIDEAL (JFK)** and **GPFOCUS (RFK)**. LBJ was known as **GPLOGIC**.[38] It would be fascinating to know who chose these cryptonyms.

Taylor had concluded in 1962 that **an internal uprising in Cuba would be unsuccessful**, and that more forceful means were necessary. Four days later, Jim Angleton provided his own white paper on “Cuban Control and Action Capabilities”, and **sent it to the heads of the military**. What is odd is that this memo is signed by JJA “for” the DDP – the deputy director of plans (operations), Richard Helms. It was highly unusual for Angleton to address any documents to military leaders, or to offer any opinions on Cuba at all. He usually deferred to the Cuban division.

During the summer of 1963, Morales and his boss formed the Comandos Mambises, working with the military to stage armed attacks on Cuba

As mentioned earlier, **Mongoose's COBRA and AMTORRID teams** were the teams that Bill Harvey infiltrated into Cuba during the missile crisis that got him into that big fight with Bobby Kennedy. The

COBRA team appears to have been linked with military intelligence, which had its own history of trying to kill Castro. A little background is helpful here.



Lt. Cmdr. Hal Feeney

Navy lieutenant commander Hal Feeney was involved in unsuccessful plans to kill Castro in 1961 during his stint as the Guantanamo intelligence chief. Feeney and his ONI ally Lt. Jack Modesett worked with the gunman Luis Balbuena in Operation Patty. Operation Patty was an attempt to assassinate the Castro brothers and simultaneously ignite a skirmish at Guantanamo Naval Base on the national holiday of July 26.

Luis Balbuena's fellow shooter was supposed to be Alonzo Gonzalez. However, the operation was busted up by the Cuban government, with strong indications that Gonzalez was a double agent answering to Castro.[39]

Alfredo Izaguirre de la Riva has been described as the leader of Operation Patty.[40] Izaguirre's cryptonym was AMPUG-1.[41] A CIA memo refers to an entire "AMPUG net". Izaguirre was working under the control of a Navy lieutenant commander, which is obviously Feeney.[42] Feeney was equipped to run a hands-on operation, as he was an excellent Spanish

speaker. CIA documents show that Izaguirre was arrested on July 22, four days before the planned attack.[43] Balbuena later told the Miami police that he "was involved in an attempt to assassinate Fidel Castro" and had to take sanctuary in Guantanamo when Operation Patty was busted by Cuban intelligence.[44]

Right about the time of the failed attempt in 1961, Feeney was reassigned to Norfolk, Virginia. Two of the Operation Patty leaders went to Miami to debrief with Rocky Farnsworth (using the pseudonym Dominick Pantleone), Morales' predecessor as JMWAVE paramilitary chief. The Patty leaders planned the also-unsuccessful Operation Liborio, where Castro narrowly escaped being killed by a bazooka in an operation led by Army intelligence agent Antonio Veciana. Veciana escaped thanks to a warning by his cousin-in-law on the other side of the fence, Cuban intelligence officer Guillermo Ruiz.[45] Veciana is best known as the leader of the anti-Castro exile force Alpha 66, where he allegedly collaborated with Ruiz. Ruiz will re-enter this story at the Cuban compound later in this chapter.

Feeney continued to mull over ways to overthrow Castro. A memo to Harvey in early 1962 states that "Modesett and Commander Hal Feeney of ONI at Guantanamo have in the past loaned considerable assistance to counter-revolutionary groups operating on the base and in the general area surrounding the base", and that Balbuena needed a new method of receiving tommy guns and sniper rifles now that he couldn't simply obtain them from Guantanamo. Harvey wrote a note to his deputy Bruce Cheever to "please take any necessary actions", and a routing slip assures that this matter has been "taken care of".[46]

In 1962, COBRA was Feeney's new plan to take over Cuba, a program set up by the brand-new Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). One aspect of COBRA was air raids from Guatemala aimed at strategic Cuban targets. Feeney met with Julio Garceran - a former Cuban supreme court judge - and discussed a COBRA plan to overthrow Castro by using US military aircraft to take out Cuban production and supply facilities. Meanwhile, David Morales met with Jack Modesett in May 1962 at Guantanamo Naval Base. The two men hit it right off.

Rocky Farnsworth also met with Garceran about this time, referring to the ex-judge as "the Constitutional thesis". A little long-winded, but more complimentary than the CIA's counterrevolutionary handbook, labeling Garceran as the "pretender...to the Cuban presidency". Many plans were designed for Garceran to gain the throne.

During the Cuban missile crisis, Feeney was appointed head of the Cuba branch of the DIA. Harvey put great weight in his good-bye letter on the two successful black infiltration teams of COBRA and AMTORRID. He also mentioned that they would ultimately extricate them from Cuba "by relying on our maritime assets". Those would be assets such as the Navy, the DIA, and possibly Commander Feeney himself.

By the summer of 1963, Feeney and the DIA were working within Unconventional Warfare Program Alfa, designed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to plan sabotage attacks on Cuba. Feeney also served as an advisor to the executive committee of the NSC.

The plan was to coordinate the Joint Chiefs' plans through the Special Group 5412/2, established by the National Security Council to give policy approval to major CIA covert operations. The request was that they should give consideration to this outline plan for covert ops by DOD.

The Joint Chiefs' memo said that although there was no US plan to deliberately invade Cuba, the plan "could lead to a provocation by Cuba which could require such action". The CIA was running psychological operations and small-scale externally-launched operations during this time.

The Alfa Special Task Force (STF) had responsibility for all unconventional warfare matters related to Cuba, and would include "CIA elements". This is a clear reference to a special paramilitary unit, David Morales' Comando Mambises (CM). CM was a small, elite anti-Castro force financed by the CIA.[47] The STF and the CM had the same targets - ports, highways, rail, petroleum. Cyrus Vance at the State Department asked the Joint Chiefs if there could be prearranged support for CIA officers if there was hot

pursuit. Fletcher Prouty of the Special Operations Division responded that there should be a **case-by-case decision** for each operation to ensure that the services were able to plausibly deny involvement in case of capture. Prouty then ticked off **the previous Comandos Mambises missions**, as well as one that was coming up.

CM was the ideal group to work with Feeney and the Alfa Special Task Force. CM was JMWAVE's response to the AMTRUNK operation, which was considered to be making **little concrete progress**. The main reason that AMTRUNK continued in the face of JMWAVE opposition was because of the Kennedys' strong support and because **the Army was the key coordinator** of AMTRUNK's Cuban operations. A memo states that "(f)or Cuba, CIA presents its requests for support to the Secretary of the Army who transmits them directly to the services concerned."**[48]**

Shackley went so far as to label AMTRUNK as an anti-CIA operation, and later concluded that the AMTRUNK leader Jorge Volsky should be considered a possible communist agent.**[49]** A CIA study years later found that AMTRUNK was riddled with Cuban government informants, such as AMTRUNK-9, who re-defected back to Cuba after JFK's death.**[50]**

Meanwhile, many sources were providing derogatory reports to JURE about the CIA, including JURE leader Manolo Ray himself. Ray was vocal about his dislike for the "Jimmies" (the former Cuban station chief Jim Noel, pseudonym Woodrow C. Olien) and the "Benders" (Western Hemisphere covert action chief Gerry Droller, pseudonym Frank Bender), and how he preferred to work with the State Department and Latin American governments.**[51]**

Starting in August 1963, David Morales and the Comandos Mambises were undercutting the Kennedys' peace overtures to Castro. "Mambises" were **the people who fought Spain** for the liberation of Cuba.**[52]**

CM was departing from Miami to conduct its hit-and-run attacks and sabotage without full coordination with the Kennedy Administration. All hands agreed on **the need to blur the "CIA signature"** in these professional operations. Castro knew that these attacks were being conducted by CM. He addressed the Cuban people at great length on the nature of CM's terrorism.**[53]** The CM attacks of **August 18 and October 21** delayed the commencement of substantive talks with Castro until the last days of JFK's presidency.

Historian John Prados accurately describes Comandos Mambises as Shackley's "phony Cuban exile group". CM's prominent members were Shackley, Morales and paramilitary officer Bob Simons.**[54]** Grayston Lynch, a leader at the Bay of Pigs, stated that he was CM's case officer.**[55]** Shackley and Morales would plan these raids while hanging out at Shackley's pool in the evenings, not while hanging out with Bobby.**[56]** Leading Cuban exile figures did not know who the group was, or anything about CM's "spokesman" Rafael Martinez Pupo.



*The emblem for
Comandos Mambises*

A month after a CM raid that **bombed a sugar mill and a crude oil reservoir** in Cuba, FitzGerald reported to the Joint Chiefs. I believe FitzGerald was looking for a way to harmonize AMTRUNK and the almost rogue CM operations. He told them that the AMTRUNK program had ten Cuban "high-level military personnel who are **talking with CIA** but as yet are not talking to each other". He also emphasized the importance of attacks on electrical systems, sugar centrals, and oil refineries by the end of 1963. He referred to the danger that **the mother ships might be captured rather than sunk** in the midst of the CM attacks. The meeting closed with FitzGerald and the generals agreeing to figure out **how the military could assist in supporting these operations**.

The LITAMIL network and an impersonation during the summer of 1963

The CIA's Mexico City station was always looking for Cubans who were willing to defect in place. The CIA's **Cuban operations** were known as **LITAMIL**. The LITAMIL network was spread out throughout Mexico and Central America, with at least two informants inside the Cuban embassy in Mexico City during 1963. This network was created by a Mexico City station officer during the 1959-1960 period.**[57]**

LITAMIL-1 was **Manuel Machado Llosas**, who worked as UN **Ambassador Lechuga's assistant** during the summer of 1962. LITAMIL-1 realized that it was going to be tough to convince Lechuga to defect.

LITAMIL-7 was Consuelo Esperon Perez, a Cuban **embassy press secretary**.**[58]** Although she is the subject of many memos, her role remains carefully hidden. We know that she was a penetration agent for the CIA, and that her case officer was not the station's Cuban penetration specialist Bob Shaw – looking at the **length of the redaction** in reviewing a description of her case officer, it may have been David Phillips.

LITAMIL-13 worked in an effective "split the Castro" regime program known as MHVIPER, FitzGerald's campaign of economic warfare against Cuba that even included an attack on the price of **sugar**.

The most important informant of all was LITAMIL-9, better known as Luis Alberu, a cultural attaché at the Cuban embassy.**[59]** Bill Harvey **himself** was confident that Alberu was sufficiently anti-Communist. In 1962, Alberu was developed as an agent by Harvey's people at **Task Force W** as part of its **anti-Castro operation, Project JMATE**. This was standard operating procedure - there was a contingent of officers from **Headquarters' Cuban division inside the Mexico City station**.**[60]** Alberu had contacts with the **Spanish Communists** in Mexico. He was later shared with the Mexico City station. As LITAMIL-9, Alberu was the

principal agent used to identify faces in surveillance photos taken at the Cuban embassy between 1962 and 1965. In 1963, he knew everybody.[61]

Alberu was used for a variety of other tasks during the summer of 1963. Station officer Bob Shaw scheduled regular meetings in his car to meet with Alberu and discuss what was going on inside the embassy. Shaw would give Alberu batches of photos and ask him to identify who was depicted in them. Shaw testified that penetrations of the Cuban government were his central task in Mexico City.[62]

The Cuban commercial attaché Luisa Calderon had been a person of interest for the Mexico City station that summer – during July, after a Texas rancher named Eldon Hensen tried to do business with her, one of Bob Shaw's colleagues called Hensen back and pretended to be a Cuban official. Hensen then met with the CIA agent at a restaurant, while Shaw (aka “Lawrence Barker”) sat at a nearby table to take in the action.[63]



*Headquarters' concern: Impersonating
an American citizen may expose
LIENVOY wiretap program*

The Mexico City station put an emphasis on recruitment, and sought out Cuban consul Azcue

There was a Cuban informant that was central to the effort to recruit Azcue during the summer of 1963. This man was LITAMIL-3, a diplomat of more than 30 years in Mexico. Although I am not 100% certain on this observation, my research indicates that LITAMIL-3 may have been cultural attaché Osmin Fernandez Concepcion, who also served as the mayor of the city of Marianao. When in Cuba, Fernandez lived in the same home as Castro's executive secretary Conchita Fernandez, who apparently was his sister-in-law.[67] There are two photographs of Osmin Fernandez in the Cuban mugbooks – he does not appear to be in his fifties, but the photos are small and may not have been totally current.[68] LITAMIL-3 had been “anxious to ‘get out’ for considerable time but...‘stayed in place’ at station request” back in April 1961 during the Bay of Pigs.[69] Osmin's 201-334092 file number is just digits away from Azcue's 201-334089.[70] This indicates that their biographical files were logged into the CIA's records integration system right about the same time.

A successful recruitment of Consul Eusebio Azcue would have been an intelligence bonanza. Azcue had a colorful history that attracted the Mexico City station. Azcue had been active in the Spanish Civil War.[71] Before Castro came to power, Azcue was in a pro-Castro group that had sent guns and ammo through Venezuela into the Sierra.[72] As mentioned earlier, Azcue had even served as a bodyguard to the Communist journalist Teresa Proenza. But there was another side to Azcue, a side that American intelligence officers were hoping to exploit. While sitting as a consul at the Cuban embassy in 1962, Azcue said that he would leave the embassy if Cuba were to become a terrorist state.[73] Jose Antonio Casas felt free to confide to his old friend Azcue that he planned to defect from Cuba, and Azcue did not turn him over to the authorities.[74]

Harvey's people were monitoring Eusebio Azcue and the cultural attaches

When the game was over, Hensen was arrested by the FBI. The station knew how to impersonate a Cuban officer in the setting of the tap operation. While other escapades with Americans are recounted in the station's monthly LIENVOY report, no mention is made of the station's sport with Hensen.[64] Indeed, the Western Hemisphere chief cautioned the station that the Hensen stunt was a good way to tip off the Cubans that there was a tap operation listening to them.[65]

Jeremy Gunn, an attorney for the Assassinations Records Review Board, said that sometimes the Mexico City station would work this stunt another way by listening to a tapped call and then calling back the embassy and pretending to be the previous caller.[66]

The Calderon incident illustrates that the Mexico City station would not hesitate to impersonate a Cuban official in order to ensure the success of an operation. The Calderon incident foreshadows the impersonation of Silvia Duran two months later.



*Cuban consul Eusebio Azcue,
reviewing photos during the 1978
HSCA investigation*

Throughout 1963, Harvey's people Neill Prew, Anita Potocki and Lou De Santi were closely monitoring Azcue, as well as the cultural attaches Teresa Proenza and Osmin Fernandez Concepcion. All three of Harvey's people were counterintelligence officers from the Cuban desk at Langley, known as SAS/CI.[75]

An unknown informant reported that consul Azcue's wife did not want their son to go to Cuba to study and wanted Azcue to quit the Foreign Service. LITAMIL-3 reported that Azcue disliked the US government but was "not a Communist" and had high opinions of the American people.[76]

LITAMIL-3 said that Azcue's wife was going to refuse to return to Cuba.[77] Win Scott noted that Senora Azcue went to great lengths to illegally get boxes of medicine on a plane to an anti-Castro doctor.[78] Casas, who had defected to the US by this time, told the CIA that he thought Azcue could be recruited. A long-time friend of Azcue, Casas suggested that Azcue be told that Fidel was responsible for the death of Azcue's close friend Manolo Castro.[79]

Harvey's people ran the first joint agency anti-FPCC operation

On July 10, the CIA's Cuban division worked with the FBI on a successful mission to get FPCC staffer Victor Vicente into Cuba to meet **Castro and Che Guevara**. Vicente had been a long-term FBI agent, working with the Bureau for the last three years. FBI agent T-3245-S* had just recently turned over Oswald's letters to the FBI while FPCC chief V. T. Lee was touring the country. As Vicente was Lee's second in command, the odds are very high that Vicente was this highly trusted FBI agent.



CIA and FBI send Fair Play for Cuba worker to meet Castro and Che Guevara

The key SAS staffers on this mission to send Vicente into Cuba on an official FPCC visit were **Anita Potocki and Lou De Santi**. This was seen by De Santi as hopefully only the first of similar joint efforts. At this point, Potocki and De Santi were now well-versed on the history of the FPCC.

The SAS started running with the Azcue operation at about the same time that Soviet analyst Bill Bright is transferred to the Mexico City station

On July 18, SAS/CI officer L. Demos stated that CIA Headquarters was "extremely interested" in recruiting Azcue.[80] Despite Azcue's reputation as virtually unrecruitable, Win Scott decided to try. One Mexico City officer complained that Azcue "would be more difficult to recruit than Teresa Proenza." Proenza was famous as a prominent hard-line member of the Communist Party. However, Scott thought that "if (the recruiter) **blunts his lance** we will be none the worse for wear and, if he is successful, we will have an agent either inside the Embassy or inside Cuba." [81]

Let's turn our attention to Bill Bright, discussed in Chapter 2 as one of the CIA counterintelligence officers who had been watching Oswald for several years. During the summer of 1963, Bill Bright was working in Headquarters as a **Soviet analyst**. As discussed earlier, Stephan Roll was still Bright's boss. **Roll authenticated this memo** sent by Bright to Mexico City about defection target Valentin Bakulin, where the FBI pointedly asked the CIA to make sure that they didn't blow their Los Angeles source on Bakulin.[82] Bright was transferred from Headquarters to Mexico City during the summer of 1963, and the file indicates that the operation to recruit the target Bakulin was the reason why.

Bakulin's main activity was to show **propaganda films** to interested local groups in Mexico City. Bakulin was the off-again/on-again handler of Soviet agent LINEB/1. Bakulin did not know that LINEB-1 was a double agent working for the CIA and the FBI as well as the USSR.[83]

Bakulin then got involved with another double agent known as LAROB. Over the next month, as part of the LAROB operation, Bright reported that the FBI brought Bakulin together with an American Airlines agent (LAROB) and was successful in enticing Bakulin to recruit him.[84] As we will see, the LAROB operation was suspected of being insecure right at the time that Oswald came to Mexico City.

Bright deserves a hard look, because he represents a bridge between the Soviet counterintelligence section and the Mexico City station during 1963. Prior to the assassination, Bright appears to be the only officer at the Mexico City station who knew the following set of facts: Lee Oswald had defected to the Soviet Union; Oswald had since returned to the United States; and that Oswald's real name was not Lee Henry Oswald. What we don't know is if Bright told anyone or kept the information to himself.

During August 1963, Bill Bright was transferred to the Mexico City station. It appears that he had at least two aliases, and was brought out specifically because he could speak Spanish **after it was discovered** that the new translator Boris Tarasoff did not understand the language. Bright was treated in a very sensitive manner as an "independent agent", and kept away from the Mexican monitors at LIENVOY who could have reported his presence to their superiors.[85]

Why? The best explanation for me is because many of the monitors worked for the Mexican security service known as the DFS. Anne Goodpasture, the principal aide for the chief of the CIA's Mexico City

station, described the DFS officers as “**cruel and corrupt**”. As we will see, the DFS officers used the wiretap system to spy on other DFS officers. Having an “independent agent” at the station probably meant that the Mexico City station used Bright as a secret weapon to double-check the accuracy of the Spanish transcriptions provided by the monitors that engaged in corrupt practices. Bright (pseudonym Orville Horsfall) **reported directly to Goodpasture**—she was described by Mexico City’s Cuba chief David Phillips as **the station’s trouble-shooter**.

Besides being the only officer to know Oswald’s background, Bright appears to be the only officer at the Mexico City station who knew that Soviet consul Kostikov was the CIA’s case officer for the double agent known to the CIA as AEBURBLE and to the FBI as TUMBLEWEED, a case which had caused discussion between Jim Angleton and J. Edgar Hoover. Given Angleton’s reputation, it is all the more remarkable that Angleton told Hoover in June 1963 that he saw **no evidence** that Kostikov was part of a Soviet assassination operations department known as Department 13.[86] We’ll see Angleton totally change his tune on Kostikov on November 22, 1963.

Morales’ buddy Sforza takes a long look at Azcue and Duran

On September 3, JMWAVE chief Ted Shackley sent a report directed to FitzGerald, with copies to Scott and J. C. King. As the Western Hemisphere chief, J. C. King was technically the boss of Shackley and Scott, but in practice both JMWAVE and the Mexico City station had a great deal of autonomy within the Western Hemisphere division.[87] In fact, **Mexico City did so much support for JMWAVE** that the station had to sacrifice some of its operational abilities. The report sent by Shackley incorporated a four page memo reported to **AMOT case officer** Tony Sforza by a man we only know as “AMOT-106.”

As mentioned earlier, Tony Sforza was pure trouble, a very dangerous officer known for his friendship with David Morales and his affinity for “wet ops” (bloodshed). I should add that he had an affinity for the Mafia, was known as **AMRYE-1**, and was a **handler of Rolando Cubela**.

When AMOT-106 met with Azcue, he noticed a funny interaction between an American man, his son, Azcue, and Silvia Duran – the Mexican secretary recently hired to replace Azcue’s recently deceased cousin Maria Olivarri. Duran was at ease as she teased Azcue.

“The American spoke to Azcue and the Mexican secretary stated to A-106 that the American was a stupid fool to want to take his son with him to the Cuban hell. Azcue was believed to have overheard that statement. A-106’s attention was directed to the very familiar manner in which the Mexican girl spoke to A-106 in Azcue’s presence.”[88]

Ominously, the aforementioned memo also states that Azcue’s cousin who worked as a secretary at the Cuban consulate died in a car accident.[89] Azcue told AMKNOB-1 on 8/14/63 “**it is said she was killed intentionally**” during the previous month. **At the funeral**, Azcue asked Silvia Duran to stay at the consulate as her replacement. Duran had been helping out at the consulate for about a month prior to the accident.

Who will help LITAMIL-3 make the compartmented one-two punch to Azcue? Azcue’s old friend AMKNOB-1? Or Lee Oswald?

On September 9, a report from JMWAVE chief Ted Shackley stated that Azcue’s old friend AMKNOB-1 reports that Azcue expected to be replaced as consul.[90] This document was considered very sensitive to whoever released it. A CIA memo named Azcue as **AMKNOB-1’s former case officer**.[91] Another memo identifies a JMWAVE officer as being **AMKNOB-1’s present case officer**.

After studying his background provided in the accompanying endnote, I am convinced that AMKNOB-1 was Santiago Garriga, a State Department employee in Miami.[92] It is documented that AMKNOB-1 was providing information to Cuban internal security.[93] An Anita Potocki memo shows that Garriga worked in the same office with **Miriam Norweb**, another State Department employee.

Both Garriga and Norweb worked at the State Department’s **Office of the Coordinator of Cuban Affairs**, which served as a de facto embassy to the Cuban exile community and coordinated all the federal agencies there involved with Cuba.[94] Norweb had **derogatory information** in her CIA file regarding Cuban affairs and merited suspicion. In September 1963, Norweb was reported to be **frequently consulting** with AMTRUNK organizer Jorge Volsky.

AMKNOB-1 was described as a JMWAVE asset in 1965.[95] In 1966, he was formally described in 1966 as a “double agent”, although the 1963 documents also make it clear that Garriga was working both sides. This reference to “double agent”, however, indicates to me that the CIA case officers were no longer certain of who commanded his ultimate loyalty.[96] A memo from that era describes the prominent anti-Castro activist **Antonio Veciana** as being of “marginal operational interest to JMWAVE CI branch **as a source of information obtained by AMKNOB-1 for the CUIS**.” In other words, AMKNOB-1 was telling Cuban intelligence about Veciana by 1966 as part of his double agent duties. The last time AMKNOB-1 is seen in the files is when he is caught up in the drama of the trial of Rolando Cubela. As will be discussed, a large body of evidence indicates that Cubela was a double agent that was ultimately loyal to Castro.

In response to the aforementioned Mexico City letter on September 9, a memo went out from FitzGerald’s office the next day, reminding Mexico City that the goal for Azcue is recruitment in place and not defection. The memo added that since Azcue was planning to leave for Cuba in ten days, either LITAMIL-3

or REDACTED should make the pitch to Azcue. It's clear that REDACTED is Azcue's friend, the defector Casas.[97]

On September 11, Casas' boss made it clear to SAS that he did not want Casas leaving his job in Pennsylvania.[98] Who would replace Casas? Was it Oswald? Or AMKNOB-1?

On September 13, the Mexico City station reported that a female informant let them know that Azcue was leaving for a visit to Cuba. The memo says that HQ has made it clear that the goal is to convince Azcue to agree to "recruitment in place" rather than to defect. Most importantly, the memo also mentioned that since Azcue was willing to provide passports and other favors to anti-Castro Cubans, LITAMIL-3 and (redacted, but almost certainly) Casas should be used in a "compartmented one-two punch."[99] Since Casas was now out of the game, who would it be? Oswald or AMKNOB-1?

On September 19, just a week before Oswald's arrival to Mexico City, LITAMIL-3 made his pitch to recruit consul Eusebio Azcue. Azcue said, "You know my feelings on this. Have not changed mind, will not change mind." The memo from Mexico City has handwritten notes on it, saying "*Good try. Nothing lost*", and "*...let's wait for further developments.*"[100] It looks like Jack Whitten's initials, "JHS", used for his alias "John H. Scelso". Harvey's colleague Neill Prew is also copied on this important document.

The second part of the one-two punch may have been to use AMKNOB-1, but the redactions on the page make it impossible to resolve this question. During September 16-20, AMKNOB-1 was debriefed. On September 21, AMKNOB-1 provided some biographical data on Azcue and several other figures. On September 23, AMKNOB-1 met with Azcue. Did he try to recruit him?

AMKNOB-1 may have also made a pitch, but we don't know what happened. The document reporting that meeting has not yet been released, nor have other documents that cover the following two week time span.[101] I have not yet seen a document with AMKNOB-1 directly pitching Azcue.[102] Four days later, on September 27, Oswald arrived in Mexico City.

Like Azcue and Rabel, AMKNOB-1 had previously worked in the **peasant housing program** known as Viviendas Campesinas.[103] A CIA memo describes Azcue as the **former case officer** of AMKNOB. Azcue planned to work with the program upon his return to Cuba.[104] As late as 1966, Azcue is referred to longingly as a "major recruitment target"—all the efforts to recruit him in 1963 failed.[105]

Whatever Havana knew, Miami knew

During the critical days leading up to the Oswald visit to Mexico in September 27, 1963, Lechuga was one of the two principal men on the Cuban side coordinating back channel negotiations between Castro and JFK to reach rapprochement. I believe the rapprochement efforts hastened because of an incident in early September in Brazil.

In early September, 1963 Cubela visited Brazil and assured CIA operatives that he was ready and willing to **either kill Castro or help the US invade Cuba**. That very evening, Castro dropped in on a **Brazilian embassy reception** and issued a warning to the USA that was reported by Daniel Harker and disseminated by **the American media**. "US leaders should think that if they are aiding terrorist plans to eliminate Cuban leaders, they themselves shall not be safe."

The CIA filed it away **without comment**, until the Cuban student organization Directorio Revolucionario Estudiantil (DRE) flagged it **the day of the assassination**. That night, the DRE intelligence officer gave it to anti-Castro activist **Paul Bethel**, who worked alongside David Morales at the American embassy in Havana as an **attache** before Castro took over. **David Phillips**, the head of the Cuban desk in Mexico City, **picked up on it** days later. The prominent anti-Castro activist John Martino then published it in the right-wing magazine **Human Events**. We will see a lot more of Martino spreading similar stories after the assassination in later chapters.

There is a long-standing argument about whether Castro was giving a warning to JFK to leave him alone or risk retaliation, or whether Castro was tipping off JFK that both of them were in danger from the same group of assassins. The CIA's plans to kill Castro only slowly became public knowledge during the years between 1967 and 1975. I believe that Castro chose the Brazilian embassy - a place he seldom visited, and where militants such as the JFK-hating **Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro** and Sforza's colleague **AMCONCERT-1** went to defect - precisely to get across the message that Cubela was compromised, that **he had learned about the Cubela meeting in Brazil**, and that the US should back off and stop trying to kill him. The Church Committee attorneys made it pretty clear to Special Affairs Staff counterintelligence chief Harold Swenson **that's what they thought was going on**. Swenson refused to agree, but allowed that "Mr. Castro is a **very bold and imaginative person** who is capable of doing anything."

It should be noted that Cubela was captured years later and was given a thirty year sentence, but **only served ten years** with many privileges before he was released. I believe Cubela was a double agent. Cubela's role was to find out for Castro what plans Bill Harvey and his ZR-RIFLE team had for him, keep on talking, and keep on listening.

If I'm right that Cubela reported to Castro what was going on in Brazil, it makes sense that Castro sent a message to Kennedy through Harker's story. This series of events heightened the need between Castro and JFK to try to reach some kind of agreement. **On Sept. 23, Lechuga met with Kennedy aide William Attwood at the New York apartment of reporter Lisa Howard**. This was a big step forward, as discussed earlier, from the hesitant gestures made during the springtime. Howard brokered this attempt with Castro to

re-establish diplomatic relations in the autumn of 1963. Attwood, Lechuga, and Castro's aide Rene Vallejo were steadily bringing rapprochement forward right up to the last days of Kennedy's life. It is highly unlikely that there was any way to keep these meetings and plans secret from the CIA. In the words of Kennedy aide Arthur Schlesinger, "anything Havana knew, Miami knew."

A REDCAP memo indicates the CIA's interest in recruiting the Soviet consul Kostikov

Recruitment was one of the integral tasks of the Mexico City station, and Azcue was not the only target. On the day of Oswald's arrival in Mexico City, there was a 9/27/63 REDCAP memo about Valeriy Kostikov. The purpose of the REDCAP program was to encourage Soviets such as Kostikov to defect in place. [106]



Fidel Castro and Carlos Lechuga

Born in 1933, the young Kostikov had been assigned to assist with Khrushchev's visit to the USA in 1959 during the same time that Oswald defected to the Soviet Union. [107] Kostikov and his colleague Pavel Yatskov were two of the Soviet consuls at the time of Oswald's Mexico City visit. Shortly after Oswald's departure from Mexico City, there was a 10/15/63 REDCAP memo involving Pavel Yatskov, who said that he met with Oswald during his visit. [108] I have not been able to find this REDCAP memo – based on its name, it probably involved efforts to recruit a Soviet officer in Mexico. Was it Kostikov, or Yatskov himself? As Jack Whitten said, "the main thrust of the station's effort was to recruit Russians, Cubans and satellite people." [109] Herbert Manell, the chief of Soviet operations in Mexico City from 1959-64, testified that his task was to negate Soviet efforts and to recruit Soviets. [110]

As with Golub in Helsinki, the role of Oswald may have been to probe the degree of openness of officers such as Azcue and Kostikov to recruitment. What could be better than introducing a provocative character like Oswald to these consuls and seeing what happened next?

Oswald was able to observe the reaction of the consuls and officers and probe their potential for recruitment

Most people agree that a man calling himself Oswald visited Mexico City for a few days between the 27th of September and the 2nd of October. Most people agree that he went back and forth on the 27th between the Cuban consulate and the Soviet consulate - trying to get a visa to visit both countries and failing at both - with one last stab at the Soviet consulate on the 28th.

At the Cuban consulate, consul Eusebio Azcue insisted that the man he met was not Oswald. The other consul, Alfredo Mirabel, was equally insistent that the man was Oswald. This kind of sharp division makes it hard to determine if Oswald ever came to Mexico City. Jack Whitten, who was the CIA's original investigator of the assassination, wrote in the days after 11/22 that "no source then at our disposal had ever actually seen Lee Oswald while he was in Mexico". That is remarkable, as the CIA's sources inside the Cuban compound later told House Select Committee on Assassinations staffer Ed Lopez that the man who visited them was not Oswald. [111] For ease in writing this narrative, I will refer to the man at the center of this Mexico City narrative as Oswald, but I remain an agnostic as to whether he visited the Cuban consulate on the 27th, or even came to Mexico City. I'm convinced that he didn't come to the Cuban consulate on the 28th.

Whether the Mexico City visitor was Oswald or not, his trip was unsuccessful in getting him an instant visa to Cuba or the Soviet Union. Oswald's trip was based on the faulty premise that since he obtained a fifteen-day visa on September 17, he had to leave Mexico by October 2. On top of that, he made his own task far more difficult by not arriving in Mexico City until Friday, September 27. From the moment of his arrival, Oswald acted like he only had five days left to get the job done. He came to the Cuban consulate on a Friday and exclaimed that he had to have his instant visa by the following Monday.

In fact, the fifteen days did not begin to run when Oswald picked up the visa in New Orleans on September 17. Arnoldo Tijerina, the Assistant Chief of Immigration in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, told the FBI that just like any tourist, Oswald actually had 90 days to use his 15-day visa. In other words, the fifteen days began to run only when he crossed the Mexican border on September 26. Tijerina said that Oswald had every right to stay in Mexico until October 11. [112]

I don't think Oswald was stupid. I believe Oswald used his phony interpretation of the 15-day rule to create an artificial predicament, which in turn provided him with an opportunity to probe Cuban and Soviet officials. He tested them to see if they would help him in any way to obtain an "instant visa" on Friday, September 27, so that he could leave for Cuba on the next business day, September 30. After all, Oswald had succeeded in obtaining an "instant visa" to enter the USSR from Soviet consular official Gregory Golub in Helsinki four years earlier. Why not try it again?

Given this background of CIA and FBI intrigue, it looks like Oswald's Mexico City trip was designed to be unsuccessful in getting him any "instant visas"

New passport: Oswald's plans to depart between Oct-Dec 1963 and spend a year in the USSR and elsewhere.

Although the man called Oswald went to Mexico City in September 1963 trying to get visas to the USSR and Cuba, Oswald and his wife had been applying for Soviet visas for many months in Washington DC without success. Furthermore, Oswald had unveiled a plan to make a grand swing through Europe and the USSR in **June 1963**, when he listed them in his passport application. He ostensibly planned to replicate his 1959 trip, which had originally included a Cuba stopover that never got past the planning stage.[113]

Three months later, Oswald sought to enter the Soviet Union, just as he had indicated in his passport application. Going to Mexico City was one of the easiest ways for an American citizen to visit Cuba, which was strictly against US law in 1963 and certainly not something to add to one's passport application.

Getting into either the USSR or Cuba was incredibly difficult due to security precautions, and Oswald's reference to going to Communist countries in his application would ordinarily be a red flag for intelligence review. Fidel Castro told the HSCA, "In those days the mechanism was very rigid because, of course, we had suspicions of anyone who tried to come to Cuba. People in charge of granting visas asked themselves: Why does (this applicant) want to come to Cuba? What kind of counter-revolutionary activity could he carry out in Cuba? Maybe

the people thought that the person was a CIA or FBI agent, you know, so it was very difficult for a North American, just from his own wishes, to come to Cuba – because systematically we denied the visas.”[114]

Oswald then proceeded to seek an “instant visa” to enter Cuba and the Soviet Union in the most difficult manner possible. The smart way was to mail off an application *months in advance* for a visa to go to Cuba or to Soviet Union. Oswald showed up without advance notice at the Cuban consulate on Friday the 27th, and demanded an instant visa to leave for Cuba on the 30th. Duran explained to him that things went smoothly if you had a sponsor in the country that you wanted to visit.[115] Oswald seemingly ignored her advice, but may have used her suggestion as a last-minute opportunity to enlist the aid of university student Oscar Contreras who had contacts with the Cuban consulate. Contreras said that when these students probed the reaction of their consulate contacts still further, they were told by Azcue that Oswald was suspected of being an agent.[116]

Oswald's quest to obtain instant visas for Cuba and the USSR in one trip to Mexico City was an incredibly difficult undertaking

Oswald made an already taxing problem even more difficult by applying to visit both countries in one trip. Trying to visit both countries in one trip required a high amount of advance coordination and understanding of the procedures. Despite his experience, Oswald did nothing in advance. For starters, it violated US law for an American to visit Cuba. Dodging this US ban was presumably why Oswald had come to Mexico City in the first place. Mexico City to Havana by air was a key alternate route to Cuba. But now he faced several more hurdles.

When Oswald went to get a visa to go to Mexico on September 17, he also obtained a travel visa application that was prepared for personal delivery to the Cuban consulate in Mexico City. The application stated that Oswald wanted to visit Cuba by himself for two weeks on his way to the USSR.

The reason for this application was that Oswald needed an “in-transit visa” when visiting Cuba on his way to another country.[117] To reiterate, Duran made it clear to Oswald that if he really wanted a visa to visit Cuba, the proper method was to have a sponsor. Such a procedure would reassure the Cuban government that the purpose of the visit was not espionage. Oswald had made no advance arrangements with either the Cuban Communist Party or the American Communist Party, even though he displayed ID cards identifying him as a member of the American Communist Party and as a member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

After the assassination, Duran told her police interrogators that Oswald acted as though he had “made arrangements in Washington whereby instructions would be sent to the Soviet embassy in Mexico to issue his Soviet entry visa in a manner which would eliminate his having to visit the Soviet Embassy.”[118] Oswald told his Soviet interrogators that the Cubans had already given him a visa so they should give him one too. When Duran and her Soviet counterpart checked in with each other, they realized that Oswald had lied to both of them.

The request for the “instant visa” may have been to probe the consulate staff for revealing behavior, and to scout for new recruits

The purpose of the request for an “instant visa” may have been a ruse to probe the consulate staff for revealing behavior, and to scout for new recruits. Jack Whitten's testimony contains redactions that indicate the intensity of the Mexico City station's role in encouraging penetrations and defections:

“What (we were) trying to do is engage, as I used to say, in important illegal manipulations of society, secretly. We were running, at that time, a vast (deleted – describes operation) action program in Mexico City to try (describes program). I do not know whether you informed yourself about the magnitude of our (describes program) action program there at the time – absolutely enormous.” Whitten then goes on to discuss the importance of penetrations and defections.[119]

A fake phone call targeted Lee Oswald at the time of his first visit to the Cuban consulate – Harvey’s people tracked this story

A fake phone call targeted Lee Oswald at the time of his first visit to the Cuban consulate. This story was tracked by Harvey’s people. Back in July, the Western Hemisphere chief was warning the station that **although the Cubans may suspect that their lines were tapped, they didn’t have definite proof**. Were the Cubans trying to figure out if they phones were tapped by “spoofing” the line with fake characters, and then seeing how the Americans reacted? Or were friends of Americans spoofing the lines for different reasons altogether?

The background is that Guillermo Perez Ruiz flew into Mexico in August to serve as the new commercial attaché, and was **greeted** at the airport by Azcue. On September 23, an anti-Castro activist in Miami received a letter from a friend inside Cuba, tipping him off that Ruiz was with Cuban intelligence and **on a mission to penetrate counterrevolutionary forces**.

However, the FBI had reported a year earlier that Guillermo Ruiz had a **history of supporting the anti-Castro group Alpha 66**. The Alpha 66 chief Antonio Veciana, whose **loyalties were to military intelligence** and not the CIA, provided a cagy description of Ruiz as “dissatisfied” and “susceptible”. Ruiz certainly looks like a double agent.

On September 27, an alleged phone tap revealed that Cuban consulate receptionist Silvia Duran had contacted Guillermo Ruiz at 10:54 am, complaining in **Spanish** that “he wants to speak to the consul”.

It looks like someone may have impersonated both Duran and Ruiz, in an effort to link Ruiz to Oswald. The evidence indicates Oswald arrived in Mexico City after daybreak on the 27th, got a hotel room, and headed directly to the Cuban consulate. **Duran testified that Oswald first entered the Cuban consulate right about 11 am**.

Keep in mind that Duran is the Cuban consul’s receptionist - because her next statement is a demand that **Ruiz provide the consul's phone number**. Ruiz responded that the consul’s number was 11-28-47. Duran said “thank you” and ended the call.[120] Ruiz has now provided Duran with her own phone number, the number that she answered for the consul many times every day.

What’s wrong with this call? It’s very simple. As Larry Hancock says, “when do you ask for a telephone number, get yours as the answer, and say thanks?” Duran’s job was to answer **Azcue’s phone at 11-28-47**, and to connect the call with the consul when necessary. I think that an American spy impersonated Ruiz on the Cuban line, and it certainly wasn’t Duran on the other end.

We will see a very similar phony call the next day, on September 28, when a supposed Oswald calls the Soviet consulate, **tells them that he gave them the wrong address in his visit earlier that day** because he had forgotten it, that he went to the Cuban consulate where he had left the correct address, and asks “can I come back and **drop it off?** Thanks.” This September 28 call is critically important, and we’ll take a very long look at it in Chapter 5.

The tapped line for the Ruiz-Duran call was **25-09-14**, the line generally used by commercial attaché Luisa Calderon. On the surface, the call seems reasonable, because Ruiz was also a commercial attaché and it makes sense that he would have access to this phone line.

However, it seems to me that the perpetrator did not fully understand how Ruiz, Duran, and the consuls Azcue and Mirabel worked together. In other words, whoever created this call did not know that Duran served as the receptionist for the consuls.

Nonetheless, in the end, it may not have mattered. Was the reason for this fake call a ruse by the Cubans to “fake out” the Americans and try to get a reaction as a way to see if the lines were tapped? It’s possible.

However, my thinking is that it was an effort to convince the Mexico City station that Ruiz was linked with Oswald in some way. That’s the kind of information that the station officers would keep to themselves. No discussion is necessary.

Cuban intelligence officer Fabian Escalante adds an important piece of information, if accurate, saying that Ruiz was the interpreter used between Oswald and Azcue.[121]

A look at the routing sheet on Azcue shows that **a search for his 201 file** was ongoing between numerous SAS officers during September 23 and September 24. A **routing sheet on Guillermo Ruiz Perez** was then circulated among SAS/CI officers between the dates of September 27 and October 9, right before Headquarters drafted two critical memos on October 10 about “Lee Henry Oswald” and his recent visit to Mexico City. Two of the officers who received the Ruiz memo have been seen throughout this chapter: Neill Prew and Lou De Santi. The third officer, Hutchinson, can be found on a couple of earlier Prew/De Santi memos.

Harvey's people were watching Ruiz very carefully. The timing of their surveillance begins right after Ruiz's supposed phone call to Duran, and ends right before stories describing Oswald as someone to watch are circulated among the Mexico City station and the domestic agencies charged with tracking Lee Oswald - the FBI, State Department, and Navy. Were they worried about Ruiz? Or were they trying to set up the Cubans for a fall?

Postscript:

Although this chapter ends in September 1963, let me advance the story by wrapping up some loose ends regarding AMKNOB-1, Teresa Proenza, and LITAMIL-9.

Harvey's people tracked AMKNOB-1, Azcue's friend who formed an FPCC chapter in Miami during October 1963

It's pretty clear that one informant the HSCA did not know about was AMKNOB-1 aka Santiago Garriga. As we have seen, Garriga worked with both the CIA and with Cuban intelligence. Earlier in the year, the head of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was asked by government investigators if he knew about Garriga selling fake passports. During October 1963 Garriga worked with other pro-Castro Cubans to set up a new chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in Miami.[122] Not a lot of State Department tax consultants in Miami in 1963 were doing this kind of work. Although it appears that Garriga's ultimate loyalty was with the Castro government, it's likely that Garriga's FPCC activity was designed by Anita Potocki to set up a fly-trap for people like Oswald. Maybe even Garriga himself was considered as a possible fall guy.

JFK visited Florida a few days before his arrival in Dallas. If JFK had been assassinated in Florida, if Garriga had been outed as the founder of the Miami FPCC, if Garriga died a mysterious death in short order - all that would make Cuba look all the more like a guilty party in any ensuing scandal.

However, in the days before 11/22/63, the FBI ran an operation that investigated the Cuban espionage net that included Garriga and shared the take with the CIA. The CIA referred to this investigation as ZRKNICK. Bill Harvey had worked with ZRKNICK in the past.[123] Cuban intelligence was concerned because Garriga's daughters were married to Cuban nonrevolutionaries and one of the daughters had been fired by "the Fidelistas". The memos that identify Garriga were written by Anita Potocki.[124]

Was there something sinister in this effort to set up FPCC Miami? It certainly looks ominous, given that AMKNOB-1 is the main organizer and that Anita Potocki is one of his handlers. The FPCC leadership recognized that it was dangerous to set up such a chapter in Miami due to the possibility of reprisals by Cuban exiles. For just these reasons, the FPCC leadership had discouraged Oswald from publicly opening an FPCC chapter in the Southern port town of New Orleans.

On November 4, a Mexico City case officer hand carried to the Miami station a picture of AMKNOB-1's case officer in the Cuban embassy. He was tentatively identified as "Raul Pereira", but when they realized Periera was a waiter they decided that it was cultural attaché Raul Aparicio. Does this mean that both Azcue and Aparicio were AMKNOB-1's case officers? Aparicio can be found on a CIA list created years later as a Cuban intelligence officer. A memo of Garriga says he started trying to reach "Raul" on November 7.

A blurry memo that appears to be wiretap information from the ZRKNICK operation provides a snapshot of how Cuban intelligence was allegedly approaching Garriga. "On 17 November, the agent was instructed to befriend Santiago Garriga with the ultimate aim of recruiting him for the cause of the revolution. Garriga works in an office at ____ Flagler (actual address - 2607 West Flagler Street, Miami) and handles matters such as waivers, visas and taxes. The agent was instructed to proceed very cautiously with the matter, guarding his true objective, and finding out everything that he could about the subject. Garriga reportedly is desirous of helping the revolution and has access to information. His wife, Emilia was also labeled a "Prospectiva(?)" ____, a request was made for plain text values of interrogations? that the agent was using ____ were held by _____. _____ on the latest activities of Antonio/Manolo Garcia.[125]

On November 21, CIA HQ warned the Miami station that Cuban intelligence was targeting someone in the State Dept office in Miami. The follow-up memo on 11/22/63 indicated that the target was AMKNOB-1.

On November 27, the aforementioned ZRKNICK memo states that "a stick of dynamite was placed on the lodge of the large window in the front of the office where Garriga shared an office with driving school instructor Humberto Blanco. According to newspaper accounts of the incident, the window was destroyed and the furniture inside was slightly damaged as a result of the explosion. It was not known if the act was committed against Garriga or the owner of the driving school."

As a follow-up, it should be added that a Cuban address for the driving school instructor appeared on a mailing list for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee that was obtained from the FBI that same week.

On December 3, Garriga reported to Mexico City that on 11/22/63, after 15 days of alleged attempts to reach "Raul", Garriga called the Cuban consulate directly and spoke to Silvia Duran. Garriga's first version of the story was that Duran claimed she didn't know who "Raul" was. Garriga added that the horrible assassination redoubled his strength to "fight red crime." He also thought Oswald looked familiar and that he might have seen him in Cuba or Mexico.

Two weeks later, AMKNOB-1's new version of the story specifically named Raul Aparicio. This time, when Duran offered to connect him with Aparicio, AMKNOB-1 **hung up**. The full importance of Raul Aparicio will be best understood a little later in this narrative, but one thing is clear – we are being led to believe that Aparicio is Garriga's case officer! I believe that Aparicio rocked the CIA's investigation of the assassination.

At a minimum, this sequence of events indicates a running battle between the intelligence agencies for sensitive information about the Cuban consulate during these critical hours. There is also the possibility that this was a provocation where AMKNOB-1 might have been placed in position for more than he had bargained for.

After the events in Mexico City, Proenza was targeted by the CIA as part of the effort to split the Castro regime

By October 1963, the CIA had concluded that recruiting Teresa Proenza was impossible. At the beginning of the month, a wiretap revealed that she was providing a book called "**The History of the CIA**" to the Cuban ambassador. Meanwhile, the aforementioned Raul Aparicio had replaced Osmin Fernandez Concepcion as cultural attache. A CIA memo comments that Aparicio had **pushed her aside** and taken over the embassy bulletin. There are strong reasons to believe that Aparicio, like Osmin Fernandez Concepcion, was also a double agent whose loyalty was to the US. We will wait just a little bit longer to take a hard look at Aparicio.

Proenza then found herself swept up as a pawn in another split-the-regime scheme known as AMROD, designed to split the Castro regime by orchestrating a conflict around Carlos Rodriguez, the head of the Communist Party newspaper Hoy.[126] Proenza was targeted by the CIA in "operation to counter (her) effective exploitation of her contacts in Mexico, a work which frequently had strong anti-US overtones." [127]

Proenza lost her job shortly after Kennedy's killing, ostensibly because she wrote a memo saying that the Cuban message to Mexico protesting the detention of Silvia Duran was a diplomatic error.[128] An internal CIA memo reveals that Proenza was forced to return to Cuba shortly after the assassination due to an Agency deception operation.[129]

A CIA agent then tried to recruit Proenza in January 1964. This went nowhere. Shaw said she was a "pretty tough nut". Anderson agreed that she was never a CIA asset.[130]

As part of the AMROD project, the CIA – by their own admission – set up a sting that made things far worse for Proenza by planting false papers on her. As John Newman tells it, "(these) documents made the vice minister of defense (Joaquin Ordoqui) look like a CIA agent who had betrayed the Soviet missile buildup to the Americans. Actually, this official was a highly placed and extreme pro-Moscow Communist – and was probably the KGB's chief agent in the Cuban government. The CIA hoped that Moscow would jump to the vice minister's defense and that a collision would result between Moscow and Havana." [131] Ordoqui, Proenza and others spent some serious time in **jail**.

Proenza's file was so hot that it was kept as a **black tape 201**. What that means is that the 201 biographical file was literally wrapped in **black tape** to prevent nosy clerks from casually sneaking a peek at its description of operations. You can still see the black tape on the file at the Archives today.[132]

No one ever questioned LITAMIL-9, the CIA's spotter, who may still be alive today

The CIA won't release the whole AMROD file, claiming it would needlessly expose sources and methods, but more material has been released since John Newman wrote his book. One of the AMROD sources was the aforementioned LITAMIL-9/Luis Alberu, the defector in place at the Cuban embassy.[133] During 1963, Alberu sat in Shaw's car and **identified** many of the people who went inside the Cuban consulate. These identifications went straight to Shaw's boss, **David Phillips**. Alberu shared many of the secrets of the Cuban consulate in 1963.

When the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) came to Mexico in 1978 and tried to interview Alberu, Alberu went into hiding while Captain Fernandez Ventura of the Dirección Federal de Seguridad (DFS) kept the HSCA away from him. Ventura emphatically confided to another officer that Alberu was not to be interviewed.[134] When one of the HSCA officials reached Alberu on the phone, Alberu refused to talk and hung up. He was not about to give his secrets up. He was a young man at the time. Like many other living witnesses, the number of redactions in his file indicates that Alberu was alive when the Assassinations Records Review Board closed down in 1998. Alberu may still be alive today.

Final thoughts

Harvey's people monitored the Cuban compound throughout 1963. They were agents from the Langley headquarters, not from the Miami station. Prew admitted that his people were "scared shitless" by the way things were done in Miami. Nonetheless, Cuba division officers in Langley and Miami worked together throughout 1963 on AMTRUNK and a variety of other projects designed to split the Castro regime. It seems clear that Castro was kept abreast of these developments thanks to his double agents inside AMTRUNK such as Cubela and Rabel.

Meanwhile, there were operations in Mexico City designed to recruit Cuban officers such as Lechuga, Proenza, and Azcue. Although none of these were successful, Mexico City and Miami learned a great deal of important information about their Cuban adversaries. During the height of the efforts to recruit Consul Azcue, a man called Lee Oswald arrived in Mexico City, trying to obtain instant visas to visit Cuba and the Soviet Union without having done any of the needed preparatory work.

Right at the moment that the man called Oswald was making his first visit to the Cuban consulate, something strange happened. There was a spooky phone call with a woman identified as Cuban consulate secretary Silvia Duran complaining that “he wants to speak to the consul”. At the end, the woman literally asked for her own telephone number. The background behind this spooky phone call leads us to the wiretap operations in Mexico City, and how the myth began about the Oswald and Duran phone call from the Cuban consulate to the Soviet consulate. That’s the terrain we can explore in the next chapter.

Read Chapter 4: *Mexico City Intrigue – The World of Surveillance*

NOTES

1 *Duran and Proenza had bulls-eyes on their backs*: Duran started working at the Institute for Mexican-Cuban Cultural Relations in **July 1961**. Proenza was a good friend of hers.

Proenza convinced Duran to quit as director of the Institute for Mexican-Cuban Cultural Relations in **January 1963** because of Duran’s affair with Cuban ambassador Carlos Lechuga.

2 *RFK and Harvey shared Ford as a case officer*: See Interview with Charley Ford, 1975. NARA Record Number: **104-10303-10001**. (Ford was given code name Fiscalini, and was **answering to RFK**). The same memo then reveals that **Ford reported to Bill Harvey**. Thus, Charley Ford is answering to two masters, RFK and Harvey, right before Cuban Missile Crisis. **I don't think RFK knew...**

3 *Harvey started increasingly to refer to Bobby as “that fucker”*: David Corn, *Blond Ghost*, p. 82; David Martin, *Wilderness of Mirrors*, p. 144.

4 *Bobby said to Harvey 'I could train agents at my house in Virginia! And Harvey retorted 'as baby-sitters?’*: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 137.

5 *Harvey resigned as Staff D chief, but he continued to work there...*: He resigned as chief of Staff D in favor of his deputy chief Alex MacMillan in early 1963, but he stayed on at Staff D and at ZRRIFLE throughout 1963. The last Staff D memo that we see to Harvey is on **October 11, 1963**. Harvey was retained at ZRRIFLE until the **end of 1963**

6 *The burglars given this license to steal were known as the **Second-Story Men***: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, pp. **146-147**. The leader of the Second-Story Men was **Earl Harter**.

7 *Shackley said that Harvey never recovered from being fired: Spymaster*, Ted Shackley, p. 69. *His prodigious drinking began to surface as a serious and visible problem: Flawed Patriot*, Bayard Stockton, p. 142.

8 *Harvey complained that since a no-invasion deal had been cut with the Soviets in order to end the Cuban missile crisis, there would no longer be a "pretext of a current provocation" at Guantanamo*: Memo from Bill Harvey to Director John McCone, 11/27/62, NARA Record Number: **104-10307-10024**. On Bobby Kennedy’s consideration of such a provocation during the Cuban missile crisis: Evan Thomas, *Robert Kennedy: His Life*, pp. 213-214.

9 *George McManus, the executive assistant to the CIA director, said that Bobby Kennedy, General Maxwell Taylor and other policy makers reviewed MONGOOSE and agreed that they would avoid a military intervention*: Deposition of George McManus, 7/22/75, p. 17, SSCIA, NARA No. 157-10014-10072.

10 *Prew was a man of action...*: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 127.

11 *Before the Cuban Revolution, Proenza had made herself a lot of enemies in certain quarters as the secretary to famed muralist **Diego Rivera** and aide to **Frida Kahlo***: Re Diego Rivera: Memo from Legat, Mexico City, to Director, 11/6/70, **FBI - HSCA Administrative Folders**/NARA Record Number: **124-10369-10021**.

12 *It is intriguing that a 1960 report to the CIA was made by Maria del Carmen Rodriguez Casanova stating that Proenza was assigned to the Cuban embassy*: Correlation of records on Maria Teresa Proenza y Proenza, 5/7/69, prepared by analyst Halene Crawford, **FBI - HSCA Subject Files, O - P/FBI - HSCA Subject File: Maria Theresa Proenza**/NARA Record Number: **124-10292-10321**.

13 *Neill Prew, like Potocki and other Harvey loyalists, was from the Berlin Base*: See Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, pp. 55-56, 126. Prew had Harvey’s complete trust. As the officer referenced most often and generally first in order, Prew may be the point man “SAS 5” on the documents.

Anita Potocki was the person in charge of Staff D’s resource list for communications intelligence. When investigators tried to find out if Staff D had any record of Oswald, they turned to Anita. She told them that she had **no file** on the man.

Like Ann Egerter, Anita and her husband Will had a reputation as molehunters within CI circles. Unlike Ann, they were not members of CI-SIG, but CI/OPS assisted CI/SIG. (See researcher Mary Ferrell's notes)

14 *Prew, Potocki, and Di Santi were kept in the loop*: These notes have the word "chrono", some are noted as "RYBAT chrono". In other words, a secret chronology.

1/8/63: Memorandum on Mexican-Cuban relations. Copied to Virginia, "Burton", name redacted, Anita.

1/9/63: Memorandum on Lechuga returning, Olivarri being "let go", Proenza convinces Duran to quit IMCRC for the "good of the revolution"; plan is to ask Concha Fernandez to cancel the orders of redacted to return. Copied to Prew, Anita, DeSanti.

Memorandum from Mexico City to Director, MEXI-3199, 1/25/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10383. Report appears to be a case officer's report of a discussion with cultural attaché Osmin Fernandez Concepcion. Rather than go back to Cuba, Fernandez wanted to stay in Mexico and paint. (DeSanti, Prew, Potocki)

This REDACTED memo describes the unnamed agent as a man who wants to settle down in Mexico and paint. This appears to be Osmin Fernandez.

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, MEXI-3217, 1/26/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10082. Fernandez comments that he is hoping for cancellation of orders so he can stay in Mexico. He is working well with Proenza. Conchita Fernandez, Castro's secretary, may be his sister-in-law. (DeSanti, Prew, Potocki, "Gerri")

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, MEXI-3245, 1/30/63. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10376. This is a meeting in Havana for ambassadors and cultural attaches to determine cultural policies. (DeSanti, Prew, Potocki, Hutchinson, REDACTED)

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, MEXI-3262, 1/31/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10374. Proenza warned that John David Posada would defect if was assigned to Paris. (Prew, Potocki, DeSanti, REDACTED)

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, MEXI-3450, 2/5/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10370. Fernandez does not want to go back to Havana, and absolutely will not go to Prague or Moscow. Has problem with moral grounds helping CIA while staying with brother and Conchita. (Prew, Potocki, DeSanti, "Gerri") Prew signed at bottom.

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, 2/7/63 Proenza rebuffed by Raul Roa, near tears, Azcue disillusioned with Roa – DeSanti, Prew, Anita and Feeney(?) copied on this memo. NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10024.

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, 2/15/63, Proenza spoke to Conchita Fernandez about transfer. Prew, DeSanti, Anita, and Gerri on this "RYBAT chrono". NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10370.

Memorandum, Mexico City to Director, 2/26/63, Proenza and female informant are good friends. Potocki copied on this memo. NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10365.

15 *JFK once asked Szulc his opinion on assassination, and was pleased when Szulc told him what a bad idea it was*: Tad Szulc notes of discussion with JFK, 11/9/61, NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10065.

16 *Jim Hosty of the FBI told an interviewer*: "(JURE) was the group they were going to use when they were going to overthrow Castro...: Lamar Waldron, re 1993 interview with Jim Hosty, *Ultimate Sacrifice*, pp. 161-162.

17 *The CIA, for its part, had its ace agent AMTAUP-2 (Ernesto Alanis Angulo) providing dozens of reports on JURE*: The most important agent that the CIA had within JURE was AMTAUP-2. Memorandum, Director to JMWAVE, 9/11/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10274-10402.

For a variety of reasons, I believe that this agent was Ernesto Alanis Angulo. Amtaup-2 and Cisneros were friends since 1956 (9/14/63 memo) when they were in July 26th movement fighting Batista in Camaguey. When JURE founded in late 1962, Cisneros asked A-2 to join. This date is when both Alanis and A-2 begin to appear in the CIA files. "Conversations usually take place privately with no one else present". Memorandum, JMWAVE to Director, 9/14/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10274-10400.

Alanis was part of the JURE Executive, where AMTAUP-2 claimed to sit. Memorandum, JMWAVE to Director, circa April 1963, NARA Record Number: 104-10182-10215.

Also see 11-29-62, where the rarely seen Amtaup-1 and the Alanis brothers visited the group UR (Unidad Revolucionaria). I think the Alanis brothers were AMTAUP-1 and AMTAUP-2. Memorandum, JMWAVE to Director, 12/4/62, NARA Record Number: 104-10226-10220.

On 11/21/63, the day before the assassination, AMTAUP-2 was the one who reported one Manuel Rodriguez (Orcarberro - David Phillips' Alpha 66 contact, allegedly selected by Eloy Menoyo) living Dallas, Texas, was known to be violently anti-President Kennedy, met with exiles at 3126 Harlandale...But when passed on to FBI and Sec Service in Miami...treated as "rumor" Did Cuban exile leader Eloy Menoyo predict it the day before 11/22?

The Dallas FBI's Cuba specialist, **Wally Heitman**, claimed there were "No further details..."

18 *During this era, George Volsky's proposal to split the Castro regime had currency. With Szulc's support, Volsky's plan was quickly adopted by the CIA:* Memo on Jorge Ajbuszyc Volsky, 2/14/77, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.21.18:32:03:120470.**

19 *From the beginning, Manolo Ray of AMTRUNK and Cuban defector AMLEO-3 were key forces within AMTRUNK, even though it was supposed to be CIA-controlled:* Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 2/20/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10348 (AMLEO-3).** For Ray, see later in this chapter.

20 *The would-be defector Rolando Cubela also came back into view:* Memo from Paris Station to Director, JMWAVE, 5/16/63, NARA Record Number: **104-10215-10190.** There was some kind of professional relationship and/or friendship between **AMSPORT** and **Cubela**. A note defines the slugline **KEYWAY**, frequently seen in Cubela memos during 1962-1963, as a "EUR action indicator": **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 9/NARA Record Number: 104-10061-10115.**

21 *Ironically, many of the leaders of JURE were also CIA informants:* JURE leader Ray (AMBANG-1) was a CIA "political action agent" from 1960 to 1967.

Ray provided information on a variety of subjects, including on how to recruit various Cuban officials in Paris and Brussels, and an ambassador in particular. **HSCA Report, Volume 10, p. 139.**

Ray was also a particular favorite of the Puerto Rican governor Munoz, which aided his value to the CIA. Memo from TFW/Special Assistant Alfonso Rodriguez, to C/TFW William Harvey, 7/12/62: **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 15: Manuel Ray)/NARA Record Number: 104-10179-10156.**

Ray's #2 man Rogelio Cisneros, aka "Eugenio" provided information on how Manolo Ray planned to infiltrate a trusted man into the CIA. Cisneros was on the CIA payroll between 1960 and 1965. Memorandum for the Record, (REDACTED - I believe the author is Alfonso Rodriguez) 5/10/65, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 4: Cherne - Conte)/NARA Record Number: 104-10165-10019.**

Another JURE officer, Reinaldo Pico (AMICE-31), provided information on Ray and Cisneros' plans to infiltrate Cuba. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Artime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10435.**

Pico also worked with Howard Hunt's henchman and Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis. See Card Index to HSCA requests, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10425-10075.**

22 *FitzGerald got a note from the psychological warfare chief that this is the "long-awaited memo on Castro death contingency":* Memo dated 5/10/63, **104-10307-10022**, p. 8; routing slip dated 5/13/63 from "SB", psychological warfare chief Seymour Bolten, **104-10307-10019**; see study of possible Soviet reactions to Castro's death, **104-10307-10021**, also JFK support for "increasing internal resistance, especially those leading to a coup", 11/12/63, **104-10307-10008.**

23 *The plan for an "internal coup" was finally proposed by the CIA to the Joint Chiefs in June 1963, saying that "several promising operations are already underway", and received JFK's approval on June 19:* "Proposed Covert Policy and Integrated Program of Action Towards Cuba", 6/8/63, **Taylor Papers/NARA Record Number: 202-10002-10014.**

Also see "Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders", p. 173.

24 *Morales had "recruited, safehoused, and "exfiltrated (Artime) black" in Havana in 1959:* Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 1/3/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 1: Manuel Artime Buesa)/NARA Record Number: 104-10240-10395.**

Morales brought Artime to the USA with the aid of CIA officers Howard Hunt and Gerald Droller: See the Personal Record Questionnaire, II, for Manuel Artime, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 1: Manuel Artime Buesa)/NARA Record Number: 104-10162-10195.**

25 *The plan to create this junta in exile was picked up by the Associated Press as early as May 1963:* "Cuban Exiles in New Drive for Unity to Topple Castro", New York Times, 5/11/63, citing 5-10-63 AP report.

26 *Morales, Shackley, and Hecksher (using his pseudonym "Nelson L. Raynock") got together with Artime to plan AMWORLD on June 23, 1963:* Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 6/25/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 1: Manuel Artime Buesa)/NARA Record Number: 104-10241-10144.**

Hecksher knew this territory; he hand-carried a message from **AMCALL-1/Reynol Gonzalez** back in 1960.

27 *Bernard Barker of Watergate fame was to serve as AMWORLD's principal, with "important and investigative duties...He will be in charge of a Cuban underground organization, managing and directing its political and paramilitary effectiveness.":* PRQ II prepared by Henry Hecksher, re Bernard Barker, 9/27/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Artime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10237-10127.**

28 Sanchez had the “internal” beat, which meant AMTRUNK and “essentially Cubela”. Henry Hecksher had the “external” assignment, which meant AMWORLD and “essentially Artime”: Interview of Don Bohning with Nestor Sanchez, referred to in Bohning’s *The Castro Obsession*, p. 221.

29 A 1977 CIA study reviews these operations very carefully, dusting off the old codename of “Higher Authority” to refer to JFK: “Operations to Split the Castro Regime”, interim working draft, 2/10/77, reviews policy papers from the TFW era, particularly “Efforts to Split the Castro Regime” which may have been written by Harvey. See how the 1977 review dusts off the phrase “Higher Authority” Bill Harvey’s November 1962 good-bye memo, cited above, uses the same phrase repeatedly.

Harvey died on 6/9/76. Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 301. Desmond Fitzgerald also used “Higher Authority”: Memo for the Record, 6/19/63, LA Division Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10307-10014.

30 One of the key tools needed for such a coup was “maximum intelligence and counterintelligence”: “Operational Plan for Continuing Operations Against Cuba”, 11/27/62, p. 5, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10079.

31 After Task Force W became the Special Affairs Section (SAS) in early 1963, Harvey’s successor Desmond Fitzgerald agreed with this assessment: Memorandum to the DCI from Desmond Fitzgerald, p. 11, March 1963, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10086.

32 Goodpasture wrote that “a major objective of station operations is the recruitment of personnel in the Cuban Embassy”: “Extracts of CIA Inspector General’s Survey Report for 1964”, Miscellaneous CIA Series/NARA Record Number: 104-10301-10010.

33 “Efforts to Split the Regime” recounts that as of 1962, eleven Cuban officials had defected since the revolution, mostly from the Cuban embassy in Mexico City, but they weren’t sure whether Rolando Cubela was really a defector or not: “GYROSE Progress Report on Defection and Recruitment Activities of Station Mexico”, from Mexico City station, HMMA-19325, 7/10/62, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10075.

A version with fewer redactions – both should be reviewed - is HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 34/NARA Record Number: 104-10102-10223.

For a list of the Cuban officers in 1963, see State Department telegram from Ambassador Thomas Mann to Secretary of State, re “Cuban Diplomatic and Commercial Officers”, 1/21/63, DEPCERTEL 1259, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.16.11:20:07:840530.

Also see “Cuban Travel and Diplomatic Activities in Mexico”, Document Transfer and Cross Reference re Maria Teresa Proenza, 200-9-44, 3/25/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.16.08:24:48:840530.

Another list is Report EE-390, by Carlos Blanco, “Background Information on Current Personnel of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico”, 6/28/63. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 56/NARA Record Number: 1993.08.11.19:26:30:560007.

Yet another list from 1960:

Between these lists, the Cuban officials are listed as:

Jorge Fernandez Armas – Ambassador to Mexico, 201-301755

Eusebio Azcue – Consul, 201-334089

Ramon Sinobas Casado – 1st Secretary – Charge D’Affaires, 201-334348?

Andres Armona Ramos – Commercial Counsellor, 201-333236

Jose Antonio Garcia Lara – Commercial Attache, 201-328388

Benigno Carlos Castellar Sanchez – Commercial Attache, 201-728889

Oscar Concepcion Mendoza – Commercial Attache, 201-729530

Teresa Proenza – Third Secretary, Cultural Attache, 201-291531

Jose Miguel Fernandez Roa – Third Secretary, 201-330852

Peregrino Alfonso Raldonado – Third Secretary, 201-340334

Rodolfo Paez Perez – Third Secretary

Luis Alberu Souto – Cultural Attache, 201-329609, LITAMIL-9

Manuel Vega Perez – Attache, 201-334253

Pedro Lara Munoz – Attache

Armando Sardinas Garcia – Attache

Buenventura Reyes Acosta – Secretario Privado

Luisa Calderon Carralero – Secretaria – Commercial Office, 201-

Justo Urbieto Gonzalez (Spaniard) – Assistant at Commercial Office

Felice Rojas – Assistant to Proenza in Press Affairs

Jose Llacostera Garcia – Majordomo

Heberto Jorin Munoz – Portero

Other employees:

Manuel Sanchez Ramirez – Secretary to Ambassador

Maricarmen Olivarri (Spanish) – consul's secretary (died summer 63, replaced by Duran)

Rolando Conde Figueroa – houseboy

Julio Conde Figueroa – cook

Consuelo Esperon Perez (Mexican) – Secretary, Protocol, 201-330173, LITAMIL-7

Alejandro Rodriguez – chauffeur, 201-738858

LITAMIL-7 was Consuela Esperon. Her 201 number is here: Note the reference to her 201 number, [201-330173](#).

Alberu was also identified as [201-329609](#)

For an earlier time period, here is the [list](#) of employees as of [October 15, 1962](#):

Carlos Lechuga – Ambassador (201-262106)

Ana Maria Blanco – Secretary

Radulfo Paez – Secretary

Teresa Proenza – Secretary

Ostnin Fernandez Concepcion – Auxiliar Servicio Exterior

Luis Alberu – “

Manuel E. Vega – “

Manuel Sanchez Ramirez – “

Carlos de la Paz Ramirez – “

Julio Conde Figueredo – Empleados por contratacion

Rolando Conde Figueredo – “

Jesus Diaz Perez –

Heberto Jorin –

Jose Llagostera –

Eusebio Azcue – Consul , Mexico City

Jose Luis Posada – Consul, Vera Cruz

Buenaventura Reyes Acosta – Auxiliar Servicio Exterior

Mariano Garcia Perez – Consul, Merida

Daisy Acosta – Auxiliar Servicio Exterior

Luis Menes Lafita – “

Jose Raul Acosta Campuzano – Consul, Tampico

Wilfredo G. Ramirez – Auxiliar Servicio Exterior

Gus Russo has a list of Cuban intelligence personnel at *Brothers in Arms*, p. 281.

LITAMIL-9 may be the 9-letter word **redacted** regarding a 2/16/63 incident with Juana Castro...

A write-up analyzing these employees in May, 1962 by a "member of the Cuban Embassy staff in Mexico City". The cover page indicates that it is a man who provided it to his case officer, and the next page indicates that a female agent "(F)" assembled it: Field Information Report, HMM-6396, 5/22/62, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 15/NARA Record Number: 1993.08.03.20:19:48:180033**.

Carlos Lechuga – the new ambassador to Mexico (201-262106)

Ramon Cesar Cuanca Montoto – Commercial Attache

Ramon Sinobas Casado – First Secretary

Radulfo Paez Perez – Third Secretary

Luis Alberu Souto – Cultural Attache

Manuel Vega Perez – Diplomatic Attache

Jose Antonio "Nico" Garcia Lara – commercial office

Justo Urbista Gonzalez – commercial office

Osmir Fernandez Concepcion – Cultural Attache (201-40662)

Manolo – gatekeeper

The CIA describes Mexico City as **Cuba's only air link** with the Western Hemisphere.

34 Rabel (cryptonym AMLEO-3) provided the lead that led to the recruitment of Guin: Memo on Jose Ricardo Rabel Nunez, 1/14/77, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10350**.

35 Ramon Guin Diaz was AMTRUNK-10 and principal military recruiter: Memo by Edward P. Brown, Chief, CI/OA to Paul Maggio, 10/1/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 19: AMTRUNK, AMWHIP-1, AMMUG-1, Win Scott)/NARA Record Number: 104-10247-10175**.

Ramon Guin is **201-142291**.

Although virtually all the CIA references to AMTRUNK-10 refer to Guin, a CIA index card indicates that AMTRUNK-10 was Oscar Chauvell Barrilar. I assume this name was a pseudonym. AMTRUNK Chronology, 4/77, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 48: Defectors, 201 Files, CI/SIG, IG Report, AMTRUNK, Ortiz, ...)/NARA Record Number: 104-10213-10262**.

36 In a television interview on May 10, 1963 with ABC's Lisa Howard, Castro said that he was willing to reach such a rapprochement: Alan Gill, January 25, 1964, TV Guide; see <http://www.larry-hancock.com/documents/index.html>, Exhibit 7-5.

37 Chaired by General Maxwell Taylor, the Joint Chiefs declared their belief "that US military intervention in Cuba is necessary" and wanted to lead that effort: Joint Chiefs of Staff, "Courses of Action Related to Cuba (Case II)," Report of the J-5 to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1 May 1963, **NARA Number: 202-10002-10018**. I note that the JCS indicates that they want to lead this effort, and **seek approval from the Special Group (5412) pursuant to NSAM 57**.

Peter Dale Scott has a good essay about this memo, known in one of its iterations as **JCS 2304/189**.

38 The brothers were known as GPIDEAL (JFK) and GPFOCUS (RFK). General Taylor was known as GPPHOTO. LBJ was known as GPLOGIC: The context of the documents readily reveal the identities of GPIDEAL, GPFOCUS and GPPHOTO as JFK, RFK, and Maxwell Taylor. Here's the evidence that LBJ was GPLOGIC. On 7/65, Irving Davidson connected with Cuban exiles working with OAS. The memo states that Davidson was acting on "orders from GPLOGIC" but not as active as before. Guillermo Belt Ramirez - former Cuban ambassador to US... leader of OAS group, said GPLOGIC had left word with him all was well, and that the question of Cubans in the Inter-American Force should be left for Rio conference. Memorandum from JMWAVE to Director, 7/22/65, **NARA Record Number: 104-10216-10067**.

This memo shows Davidson still part of Cuban exile group going to the Dominican Republic as part of the OAS force. Davidson is still acting "on orders from Lyndon Johnson, but that Davidson is not as active as before." **NARA Record Number: 124-10301-10034**.

After the assassination, the investigation was known initially as **GPFLOOR**.

39 At the base, field commander Jack Gordon was working with Alonzo Gonzalez, who was talking about killing Castro: Memorandum for Record by Mason Cargill re John Gordon, 5/29/75, pp. 1-2, **Rockefeller Commission Files/NARA Record Number: 178-10002-10320**. Adolpho Gonzalez Mendoza **disappeared** in 1962 after this incident.

40 *Fabian Escalante states that Alfredo Izaguirre de la Riva was the leader of Operation Patty*: Fabian Escalante, *The Secret War*, pp. 89-93; Claudia Furiati, *ZRRIFLE*, pp. 35-36. Also see John Goldsmith, materials from *Course on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy*, 1994-1995, Chapter 5, page 16 of 35.

41 *Izaguirre's cryptonym was AMPUG-1: Izaguirre is 201-273550*. (Izaguirre was paid off for his services in 1980, after his prison release) This additional memo states that "AMPUG-1 number 201-273350". It's a reasonable deduction that Izaguirre's pseudonym was AMPUG-1.

42 *Izaguirre was working under the control of a Navy lieutenant commander, who was apparently Feeney*: Warren Hinckle and Bill Turner, *Deadly Secrets*, 1992, p. 114.

43 *CIA documents show that Izaguirre was arrested on July 22, four days before the planned attack*: John Goldsmith, materials from *Course on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy*, 1994-1995, Chapter 5, page 16 of 35.

44 *Balbuena told the Miami police in April 1963 that he "was involved in an attempt to assassinate Fidel Castro" and had to take sanctuary in Guantanamo when Operation Patty was busted by Cuban intelligence*: Warren Hinckle and Bill Turner, *Deadly Secrets*, pp. 114-115.

The cryptonym for the Guantanamo naval base appears to be YOACRE.

45 *Two of the Operation Patty leaders went to Miami to debrief with Rocky Farnsworth*: Memo by Dominick Pantleone, C/PM at JMWAVE to Chief, 8/15/61, NARA Record Number: 104-10193-10180.

The two Operation Patty leaders were MBRONC-5 (Octavio Barreros) and AMJAVA-4 (Rafael Quintero). Quintero is better known for his involvement in the Iran-Contra affair and his never-proven claim that he knew the story about behind the death of JFK. This document says that AMBRONC-5 was arrested on 5/29/62 and executed on 8/30/62.

Comments on AMBRONC-5 can be found in Comments on Book V, Released as sanitized 1999, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 48: Defectors, 201 Files, CI/SIG, IG Report, AMTRUNK, Ortiz, ...)/NARA Record Number: 104-10213-10079.

Also see AMOT memo, 9/29/61, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 52: De Mohrenschildt - Hall)/NARA Record Number: 1994.04.26.09:46:28:100005. (MRP is the only anti-Castro group inside Cuba that is working on a national scale)

Octavio Barreros was the leader of Unidad, and was also known as "Cesar". Memo from JMRIMM to BELL, 6/12/61, Reel 52, Folder J - Reinol Gonzales, NARA Record Number: 1994.04.26.09:46:28:100005.

46 *Modesett and Commander Hal Feeney of ONI at Guantanamo have in the past loaned considerable assistance to counter-revolutionary groups*: Memo, 4/3/62, JMWAVE to Task Force W, Reel 2, Folder L - CIA Files on Luis Balbuena, NARA Record Number: 1994.03.08.09:29:40:280007.

Another version of this memo eliminates the redactions, but doesn't contain Harvey's note to his deputy Bruce Cheever.

47 *CM was a small, elite, anti-Castro force financed by the CIA*: Ted Shackley, *Spymaster*, pp. 73-76. Also see Scott Van Wynsberghe, "Dead Suspects - Part 4", Third Decade, July 1987. The cryptonym for Cuban infiltration operations such as Comandos Mambises was AMLILAC.

48 *It seems certain that the reason that AMTRUNK continued was because of the Kennedys' strong support and because the key coordinator of AMTRUNK was the Department of the Army and not the CIA*: "Talking Paper for Use of the JCS", p. 3, Col. J. Hawkins, USMC, circa September 1963, Army - Califano Papers/NARA Record Number: 198-10004-10203.

See the accompanying flowchart, Chart No. 8, showing the Department of the Army effectively in charge of Cuban operations.

Also see Peter Dale Scott, "The Kennedy-CIA Divergence Over Cuba", Deep Politics III, Chapter 5.

49 *Shackley went so far as to label AMTRUNK as an anti-CIA operation as early as April 1963...*: WAVE dispatch 8351 by JMWAVE chief Theodore Shackley, 4/5/63; HQ response on 4/10/63. Summarized in Scott, *id.*,

Volsky bears watching as a possible communist agent: See memo from Theodore Shackley to Desmond Fitzgerald, UFGA-17410, 8/24/64, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10110.

50 *There are strong signs that it was also riddled with Cuban government informants, such as AMTRUNK-9 (Modesto Orlando Orozco Basulto), who re-defected back to Cuba after JFK's death*:

Suspicion of AMTRUNK-9 (Modesto Orlando Orozco Basulto): "AMTRUNK Operation, Interim Working Draft 2/14/77", author unknown, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 34/NARA Record Number: 104-10102-10226.

CIA study showing Orozco was one of three key AMTRUNK informants in Cuba in September 1963: "Comments on Book V, SSC Final Report, The Investigation of the Assassination of President Kennedy: Performance of the Intelligence Agencies", "CIA Operations Against Cuba", p. 9, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10359](#).

51 Ray was vocal about his dislike for the "Jimmies" (former Cuban station chief Jim Noel, pseudo Woodrow C. Olien) and the "Benders"....: (WH covert action chief Gerry Droller, pseudo Frank Bender), Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 12/5/62, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 15: Manuel Ray\)/NARA Record Number: 104-10274-10326](#).

52 "Mambises" were the people fighting Spain for the liberation of Cuba: Translation, "Basic Documents of the Organizing Committee of the Liberation Army of Cuba" (The ELC), June 1962, p. 6, NARA Record Number: [124-10286-10265](#).

53 Castro knew that these attacks were being conducted by CM. He addressed the Cuban people at great length on the nature of CM's terrorism: See speech by Fidel Castro, 10/31/63, p. 7; [Warren Commission Document 1462](#), p. 113.

See, generally, Peter Dale Scott, "[The Kennedy-CIA Divergence over Cuba](#)", endnotes 64 and 124.

54 Historian John Prados accurately describes Comandos Mambises as Shackley's "phony Cuban exile group": John Prados, *Safe for Democracy*, p. 318.

Comandos Mambises has a prominent reference in the "Cuban Counterrevolutionary Handbook", p. 4, August 1965 edition. NARA Record Number: [1993.08.05.10:41:34:710005](#).

55 Grayston Lynch, a prominent leader at the Bay of Pigs, stated that he was CM's case officer: Grayston Lynch, *Decision for Disaster: Betrayal at the Bay of Pigs*, p. 173.

56 Shackley and Morales would plan these raids while hanging out at Shackley's pool in the evenings: Ted Shackley, *Spymaster* (2005), p. 72. See an excerpt from the book at the Spartacus International website, Ted Shackley page, [Note 11](#).

57 The LITAMIL network was created by by a Mexico City station officer during the 1959-1960 period: Ann Goodpasture, Mexico City Station History Excerpts (MCSHE), pp. 227-228, [Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10124](#); Memo from Robert W. Gambino, Director of Security, to Principal Coordinator/HSCA Matters Scott Breckinridge, 7/21/78, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 41/NARA Record Number: 104-10113-10404](#). Alberu is OS #279 089; Esperon is OS# 280 142.

LITAMIL as Cuban operations: See [No. 9](#) in this "black notebook", matched up with [No. 9](#) in this [card file](#).

58 Esperon was known as LITAMIL-7: HSCA Film, [Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10431-10003](#). Esperon had been a Mexican shorthand typist at the Cuban embassy since about 1945, with no apparent interest in politics.

Here's a very brief report indicating that [Esperon met with CIA contacts](#) in July 1963. Note the reference to her biographical number, [201-330173](#). Also see her personal record questionnaire, or what was known in the trade as a [PRQ](#).

59 The most important informant of all was LITAMIL-9, better known as Luis Alberu, a cultural attaché at the Cuban embassy: [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 40/NARA Record Number: 104-10110-10192](#).

See the reference to Alberu's Office of Security number "[279089](#)" being used as early as 1962 at Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, p. 521.

Alberu's biographical file number was [201-329609](#).

See a PRQ for Alberu at Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, p. 522.

Alberu's identity as LITAMIL-9 remains sensitive. As recently as the 90s, his [cryptonym](#) was redacted.

A 1967 memo describes him as a [Cuban defector in place](#), which means that Alberu had effectively defected from Cuba even though he still worked for the Cuban government. Persuading someone to "defect in place" is considered to be one of the greatest prizes in intelligence.

60 There was a contingent of officers from Headquarters' Cuban division inside the Mexico City station: Testimony of Sam Halpern, 4/22/76, [Church Committee Boxed Files/ NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10008](#).

See George Michael Evica, *A Certain Arrogance*, p. 46; see the CIA Inspector General's report on Cubela.

61 As a penetration agent, Alberu helped identify faces in photos for the CIA: Draft of Lopez Report, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(staff notes\)/NARA Record Number: 180-10147-10235](#). The documents that depict Alberu making these identifications generally refer to him as [LITAMIL-9](#).

Alberu and Esperon are the two sources cited in this 11/28/63 memo about Silvia Duran. Memo from L.F. Barker (Phillips) to CIA HQ, MEXI-7115, 11/28/63, [104-10404-10159](#). LITAMIL-9 and LITAMIL-7 are

identified on the **memo cover sheet** and referenced in the **memo itself**.

A written memo seeking out LITAMIL-9: Memo by JPC, 11/25/63. DIR 84925. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 12/NARA Record Number: 104-10067-10264**.

LITAMIL-9 had done some serious **footwork** earlier that year within the Cuban embassy, at the request of Cuban officer Ramon Sinobas.

LIONION was the cryptonym for the Cuban Embassy.

62 Bob Shaw testified that penetrations of the Cuban government was his central task in Mexico City: Deposition of Robert Shaw, 5/16/78, p. 13, **180-10110-10017**.

63 Hensen then met with the CIA agent at a restaurant, while Shaw (aka "Lawrence Barker") sat at a nearby table to take in the action: Look at Item #10, showing that "Lawrence F. Barker" apparently is Robert Shaw, not David Phillips as has been reported in the past. Match the cards with numbers in the **subject card file** with the numbers in this **black notebook** provided by the CIA to the HSCA.

64 While other escapades with Americans are recounted in the station's monthly LIENVOY report, no mention is made of the station's sport with Hensen: Monthly Operational Report for Project LIENVOY, July 1963, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10271**. Also see David Phillips, *The Night Watch*.

65 The Western Hemisphere chief cautioned the station that the Hensen stunt was a good way to tip off the Cubans that there was a tap operation listening to them: Dispatch from WHD chief J.C. King to Win Scott, HMMW-11831, 8/6/63, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10066**.

66 Jeremy Gunn, an attorney for the AARB, said that sometimes the Mexico City station would work this stunt the other way by listening to a tapped call and then calling back the embassy and pretending to be the previous caller: Interview of Jeremy Gunn by Gus Russo, 9/8/03, recounted in Russo's *Brothers in Arms*.

67 "Castro's executive secretary Conchita Fernandez": Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, p. 111.

68 There is two photographs of Osmin Fernandez in the Cuban mugbooks: Cuban Mugbook, Volume 3, #339, depicts Osmin Fernandez Concepcion. **photo, name and 201 number** (210-334092) and **security file number** 114063. NARA Record Number: 1993.07.19.16:37:26:620280. Also a reference to his **name and security number** in Cuban Mugbook, Volume 1, #374 and a **second photo**.

69 LITAMIL-3 has been described as a CIA source with more than 30 years of diplomatic experience inside the Cuban consulate: Cable from Mexico City to "Bell" at WAVE, 4/19/61, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 62: Rockefeller Commission, CRC)/NARA Record Number: 104-10297-10043**.

70 Osmin's 201-334092 file number is just digits away from Azcue's 201-334089: **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 15/ NARA Record Number: 1993.08.02.19:23:48:810033**. I will say that Osmin's file number, 201-334092, could be 201-334012, but in any instance it's still very close to Azcue's file number. Possible future leads can be found in a 1962 drama involving Osmin Fernandez and **American agent June Cobb**.

71 Azcue had been active in the Spanish Civil War and with French intelligence: Re Spanish Civil War background, see undated bio sheet on Azcue, created after November 1963, Reel 2, Folder F, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007**.

72 Before Castro came to power, Azcue was in a pro-Castro group that had sent guns and ammo through Venezuela into the Sierra: Memo re Azcue, unidentified CIA author quoting a source, 2/8/63, pp. 173, 189; Reel 2, Folder F, NARA Record Number: **1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007**.

73 While sitting as a consul at the Cuban embassy in 1962, Azcue said that he would leave the embassy if Cuba were to become a terrorist state: Contact Reports to Chief, WH Division and Chief, JMWAVE, 8/3/62, Reel 2, Folder F, NARA Record Number: **1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007**.

74 During 1961, Casas felt free to confide to his old friend Azcue that he planned to defect from Cuba: Memo from Chief of Task Force W (William Harvey) to Chief of Station, JMWAVE (Ted Shackley), UFGA-1574, 1/3/63, re Casas (201-327702), **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10182**.

It's clear that the same contact is interviewed at length in the Memorandum of Contact re Redacted in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, SAS/CI "GP", 5/16/63, p. 2, LX-320, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10019**.

This 1966 memo identifies the subject of the 5/16/63 memo cited above as Jose Antonio Casas Rodriguez: Memo from C/RR to C/PI, 2/18/66, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm)/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10002**.

75 *All three of Harvey's people were counterintelligence officers from the Cuban desk at Langley, known as SAS/CI: On Harvey's relationships with Neill Prew and the Potockis, see Bayard Stockton, Flawed Patriot, pp. 55-56, 126 (Prew), and 295 (the Potockis).*

76 *LITAMIL-3 reported in January 1963 that consul Eusebio Azcue's wife did not want their son to go to Cuba to study...: Memo from Win Scott to Fitzgerald, 8/16/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10014.*

77 *By March, LITAMIL-3 said that Azcue's wife was going to refuse to return to Cuba: Document transfer and cross-reference file on Azcue and several sources: HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10033.*

More redacted version: HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007.

In fact, Scott knew back in August 1962 that Mrs. Azcue did not want to return to Cuba. Whether L-3 was the source will have to await further releases: Memo from Win Scott to Chief, WH Division, 8/3/62, HMMA-19505, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10029.

Azcue's wife was **Carmen Bilbao Olivares de Azcue**.

For more information on Azcue, look for LITAMIL-7 and 8 reports. I am not certain if all of these documents are available in the National Archives. I only found a couple on MFF.

78 *Win Scott noted that Senora Azcue went to great lengths to illegally get boxes of medicine on a plane to an anti-Castro doctor: Memo from COS Win Scott to SAS Chief Desmond Fitzgerald, 6/25/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm)/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10018.*

79 *A long-time friend of Azcue, Casas suggested that Azcue be told that Fidel was responsible for the death of Azcue's close friend Manolo Castro: Memorandum of Contact, 5/16/63, p. 3, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10019.*

Jose Antonio Casas Rodriguez, 201-327702, lived in Harrisburg, PA and is the subject of the above redacted report. See the date of the contact as "16 May 1963" and this description of them as "long-time friends": See this reference to the original document:

Casas had previously provided information about Azcue in January 1963, his name can just be made out in the third line of paragraph 6.

80 *On July 18, SAS/CI officer who appears to be L. Demos stated that CIAHQ was "extremely interested" in recruiting Azcue: HQ memo (originating officer "SAS/CI") to Mexico City Station, 7/18/63, Reel 2, Folder F, NARA Record Number: 1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007.*

The originator of the memo below also appears to be SAS/CI L. Demos, as it was written just six months earlier than the file in the next paragraph in this footnote and the author has the same telephone extension ("4323").

To find "LDemos", see routing sheet and also see signature page of 1/9/64 memo, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 6: De Torres - Diosdado)/NARA Record Number: 104-10260-10179.

Six months later, on 7/23/64, the author is now referred to as **WH/SA/CI/LDemos**. This may be because SAS lost its autonomy and returned to the Western Hemisphere division in the wake of JFK's death, rather than in 1965 as I have heard reported.

81 *On August 16, Win Scott decided to try to recruit Azcue despite his reputation as virtually unrecruitable...: Memo from Win Scott to Fitzgerald, 8/16/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10014.*

This memo was reviewed by a number of officers, with the last four examining this memo in the week before Oswald's arrival to Mexico: SAS/ESC, SAS/EOB, SAS/CI, SAS/MOB/FI, Dave Ronis of SAS/EOB, and SAS/CI/REDACTED.

Routing slip for HMMA-21978, 8/16/63, NARA Record Number: 124-10369-10063.

82 *In June 1963, SR/CI/A Bright was working in Headquarters as an analyst: Bright to Mexico City, 6/10/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 50: Alpizar - Cubela)/NARA Record Number: 104-10215-10020.*

83 *Bakulin did not know that LINEB-I was a double agent working for the CIA and the FBI as well as the USSR: Biography of Valentin Bakulin, (thin, blond, blue eyes). His ID number with the Office of Security was A-18482. NARA Record Number: 104-10215-10015.*

"Determine if Bakulin is actually vulnerable...": Memo from Mexico City to Director, 5/27/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10215-10022.

Bill Bright, Memo for the Record on Bakulin's history with LINEB-1, May 1963, NARA Record Number: [104-10215-10266](#).

Index card chronology on Bakulin and LINEB-1, 1959-1963, NARA Record Number: [104-10295-10061](#).

84 Over the next month, as part of the LAROB operation, Bright reported that the FBI brought Bakulin together with an American Airlines agent (LAROB) and was successful in enticing Bakulin to recruit: FBI initiates meeting with Mexico City, 7/13/63, NARA Record Number: [104-10215-10019](#).

85 Bright was treated in a very sensitive manner as an "independent agent", and kept away from the Mexican monitors at LIENVOY who could have reported his presence to their superiors: I believe that Bright's alias was Orville Horsfall (a translator of Russian and Spanish, who arrived in Mexico on August 6, 1963). We know Bright was born on 6/17/33. He died on 6/9/11.

86 Angleton's response had been to write a memo in June 1963 saying there was no proof to support the claim that Kostikov was part of Department 13: Memo from J. Edgar Hoover to CIA Director John McCone, 9/1/64, ADMIN FOLDER-X6: HSCA ADMINISTRATIVE FOLDER, CIA REPORTS LHO, p. 51, NARA No: [124-10369-10063](#).

87 As WH chief, J. C. King was technically Shackley's boss: Deposition of James Angleton, 2/6/76, p. 19, Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: [157-10014-10003](#).

88 On September 3, JMWAVE chief Ted Shackley sent a report directed to Fitzgerald, with copies to Scott and J. C. King. This report incorporates a four page memo reported to AMOT case officer Tony Sforza by "AMOT-106": Memo from Ted Shackley to Chief, Special Affairs Staff Desmond Fitzgerald, p. 3, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Artime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: [104-10163-10265](#).

This memo by SAS officer Charles W. Anderson affirms that Sforza was an AMOT case officer at time of JFK assassination: Memorandum for the Record by SAS/SO Charles W. Anderson (identified by his room 3D02), p. 4, 3/22/77, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: [104-10423-10226](#).

Note that Shackley's report may actually have been written by SAS/CI Guy Vitale: Id., p. 1 ("cross-reference to Vitale" on bottom of page).

89 Azcue's cousin died in a car accident: Azcue's cousin is referred to alternatively as "Irmita", Maria del Carmen, or Maricarmen Olavarri: Memo re statements of Duran from her November 1963 interrogations: HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 34/NARA Record Number: [104-10102-10145](#).

Duran also described Olavarri as Azcue's relative: Report by FBI legal Clark Anderson, 6/22/64, p. 36, Oswald 201 File, Box 17, Vol 3/NARA Record Number: [1993.06.25.18:17:23:900330](#).

The closest to an original statement by Duran that is available is an untrustworthy translation of her 11/23/63 interrogation, provided by DFS Asst. Chief Fernando Barrios on 3/26/64: NARA Record Number: [1993-05-17-18.01.09.000020](#).

90 On September 9, a report from JMWAVE chief Ted Shackley states that Azcue's old friend AMKNOB-1 reports that Azcue expects to be replaced as consul: "Operational/TYPIC, AMKNOB-1 Information on Cuban Matters", dispatch from Chief, JMWAVE Ted Shackley to Chief, SAS Desmond Fitzgerald, UFGA-11065, 9/9/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 17: Ruiz - Webster)/NARA Record Number: [104-10181-10299](#).

Note that a frequent pseudonym for Shackley is "Andrew K. Reuteman", as shown here in a 1964 memo with the Reuteman signature for the JMWAVE chief. Shackley served as JMWAVE chief from 1962 to 1965.

91 A CIA memo named Azcue as AMKNOB-1's former case officer: Memo from JMWAVE to Director, WAVE 9679, 12/27/63, p. 2, Oswald 201 File, Vol 1/NARA Record Number: [104-10019-10017](#). (IDEN C - "ex-AMKNOB-1 case officer")

Also see JMWAVE to Director, WAVE 9680, 12/27/63, NARA Record Number: [104-10019-10016](#). (Azcue is identified as IDEN C)

92 I am convinced that AMKNOB-1 was Santiago Garriga, a State Department employee: Here's the background and timeline on the intriguing Santiago Garriga:

11/21/63: DIR 84449 (I can only find a summary of this document) states that HQ sent memo to WAVE that a State Department employee was being targeted by Cuban intelligence.

This 11/22 memo shows that WAVE is asking for further details on "AMKNOB", the "State employee" targeted by Cuban intelligence.

11/26/63: DIR 85237 - TYPIC AMKNOB slugline, asks WAVE to please forward details about State Dept employee targeted by Cuban intelligence.

11/27/63: This note appears to be an actual Cuban intelligence memo. Identifies Garriga as a 20-year resident of Miami, his daughters married to "non-revolutionaries", one of them was fired by "Fidelistas".

11/30/63: WAVE 8318 – refers to DIR 85237 above, and contains an AMKNOB slugline. The memo portrays the writer trying to learn more about AMKNOB-1 ("WAVE checked WTON 11928 which **does not reflect name/details state employee WAVE** area of interest CIS. Please clarify.")

12/3/63, Anita Potocki memo, DIR 86467, **AMKNOB ZRKNICK** slugline:
Santiago Garriga and Mariam Norweb nee Nufer are the two mentioned in 84449, and they both work in the same State Dept office (Note: Norweb met with Volsky and AMTAUP-2 on the AMTRUNK operation on 9/13/63)

The above 12/3/63 memo references four earlier memos:

A 10/8/63 memo about the **AMKNOB-1 Sept. debriefing and his relationship with Azcue**, (UFGA 11574)

Santiago Garriga and Mariam Norweb are the two mentioned in 84449, above. (DIR 84449)

The WTON memo above that doesn't give the name/details of the state employee WAVE area of interest to CIS – the Cuban intelligence service. (WTON 11928)

The 11/30 memo above that doesn't reflect name of state dept employee in wton 11928 (WAVE 8318)

12/5/63: WAVE 8534 - AMKNOB slugline, one is described as a tax consultant, another as a State Dept secretary. It states at bottom "**Santiago Garriga obviously employed same State office as Norweb**".

WAVE 8535 - **AMKNOB ZRKNICK** slugline, specifically identifies the two above as Santiago Garriga and Mariam Norweb, respectively.

What's particularly interesting is that by 1966, the CIA considered AMKNOB-1 to be a **double agent**. Veciana was considered by JMWAVE CI to be of "**marginal operational interest...as a source of information obtained by Amknob/1 for the CUIS**".

93 It is documented that AMKNOB-1 was providing information to Cuban internal security: A CIA index card identifies AMKNOB-1 as Piero Fedeli Medici, indicating that AMKNOB-1 was a friend of MRR Miami activist Alfredo Borges Cagnet and that AMKNOB-1 was providing information to Cuban internal security. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 51: Cubela - Davidson)/NARA Record Number: 104-10234-10405.**

I think "Piero Fedeli Medici" was an alias that Garriga used – the Medicis were not only famous painters, but famous for their love of intrigue.

94 Both Garriga and Norweb worked at the State Department's Office of the Coordinator of Cuban Affairs: The Miami office served as a de facto embassy to the Cuban exile community and coordinated all the federal agencies there involved with Cuba. Don Bohning, *The Castro Obsession*, p. 157.

95 AMKNOB-1 was described as a JMWAVE asset in 1965: **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10361.**

96 In 1966, he was described as a double agent: Memo from C/RR to C/FI, 2/18/66, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm)/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Artime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10002.**

97 The goal for Azcue is recruitment in place and not defection, Azcue is leaving for Cuba in ten days, and either LITAMIL-3 or REDACTED (five letters, probably CASAS) should make the pitch to Azcue: Message from C/SAS/CI/OPS 9/10/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Artime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10013.** This document is intriguing.

At least seven chiefs are asked to sign off on it. "LT?" or "JT?" (possibly John Tilton) signs off for C/SAS/CI (Harold Swenson), C/SAS/EOB, C/SAS/MOB (A.A. Maloney), William Hood signs for C/WH/D (J.C. King), Sam Halpern signs for C/SAS (Desmond Fitzgerald), and REDACTED signs for C/WH/3 (Jack Whitten).

Even CI/OPS Will Potocki's initial "P" is seen on the document, possibly for the originator C/SAS/CI/OPS. Is it possible Angleton loaned Potocki to Fitzgerald? If not, who is C/SAS/CI/OPS?

Here's the September 9 letter from Mexico City to Director, with another handwritten reference to Harvey's colleague Neill Prew as one of the officers monitoring this case. NARA Record Number: **104-10163-10032.**

Here's a document regarding a SAS/CI/OPS officer during this era: Author unknown, circa 1970, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 60/NARA Record Number: 104-10147-10262.**

The regular C/SAS/MOB was A. A. Maloney. **Maloney was an Army colonel.**

Paul Maggio was listed as **C/SAS/MOB/FI** during March 1963, and **again** on July 23, 1963.

Maggio was **C/SAS/MOB** on November 21, 1963, and **C/SAS/MOB/FI** in March 1964.

The MOB division was included in Helms' 1964 discussions on assassinating Castro.

98 On September 11, Casas' boss made it clear to SAS that he did not want him leaving his job in Pennsylvania: **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Artime - Barker)/ NARA Record**

Number: 104-10163-10011.

99 ...*The memo discusses using LITAMIL-3 and another (redacted) friend of Azcue's in a "compartmented one-two punch":* Memo from Win Scott to Director, CIA, 9/13/63, MEXI 6612, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10010.

100 *On September 19, just a week before Oswald's arrival to Mexico City, LITAMIL-3 tried to recruit the consul Eusebio Azcue:* Cable from Mexico City to Director, MEXI 6216, 9/20/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10260.

101 *On September 23, AMKNOB-1 met with Azcue, but the document reporting that meeting has not yet been released:* HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007, pp. 75-77: 9/23/63 index card "re contact w/(AMKNOB-1)":

9/26/63: A cross-reference document refers to Azcue as "acquaintance" of AMKNOB-1:

10/8/63: A cross-reference document refers to Azcue as suspected to be with Cuban intelligence service and a "contact" of AMKNOB-1.

102 *Between September 16-20, AMKNOB-1 was debriefed. On September 21, AMKNOB-1 provided some biographical data on Azcue and several other figures, and AMKNOB-1 met with Azcue on September 23, but I haven't yet seen a document with AMKNOB-1 directly pitching Azcue:* Dispatch, "Operational/TYPIC, Individuals and Traces Known to AMKNOB-1", Chief of JMWAVE (Theodore Shackley) to Chief, WH Division and Chief, Mexico City, 9/21/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10256.

103 *Like Azcue and Rabel, AMKNOB-1 had previously worked in a peasant housing program known as Viviendas Campesinas:* Document Transfer and Cross Reference, Reel 2, Folder F, "CIA Files on Eusebio Azcue, 1960-1970", p. 75, NARA Record Number: 1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007. Also see Field Information Report, 12/11/59, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 14/NARA Record Number: 104-10069-10237.

Another document refers to them as acquaintances in the context of this housing program.

104 *Azcue planned to work with the program upon his return to Cuba:* Dispatch from Chief of JMWAVE to Chief, WH Division and Chief, Mexico City, 9/9/63, Reel 2, Folder F, "CIA Files on Eusebio Azcue, 1960-1970", p. 82, NARA Record Number: 1994.03.07.15:38:13:120007.

105 *As late as 1966, Azcue is referred to longingly as a "major recruitment target":* Memo from C/RR to C/FI, 2/18/66, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm)/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 2: Arttime - Barker)/NARA Record Number: 104-10163-10002.

106 *On the day of Oswald's arrival in Mexico City, there was a 9/27/63 memo about Kostikov that had a REDCAP heading:* Memo from Win Scott, to Chief, WH Division, 9/27/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 9: Hernandez - Loganov)/NARA Record Number: 104-10173-10310.

107 *Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10412-10000.* Khrushchev and his entourage arrived in the United States on September 15, and left on the 27th. Oswald left the country on September 18. History Channel, "This Day in History": September 27, 1959.

108 *Shortly after Oswald's departure, there was a 10/15/63 REDCAP memo involving Pavel Yatskov, who claimed to have met with Oswald during his visit:* "List of Records and Files of Suspect Russian Intelligence Service Officers", Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10342. Five pages on Pavel Yatskov, with the fifth page mentioning the Oct. 15 REDCAP memo which I have not seen.

109 *As Jack Whitten said, "We were trying to follow the Soviets and all the satellites and the Cubans. At the same time, the main thrust of the station's effort was to recruit Russians, Cubans and satellite people.":* Deposition of John Whitten, 5/16/78, pp. 64-65, HSCA Security Classified Testimony.

110 *Herbert Manell, the chief of Soviet operations in Mexico City from 1959-64, testified that his task was to negate Soviet efforts and to recruit Soviets:* Deposition of Herbert Manell, 4/28/78, pp. 3-4. HSCA Security Classified Testimony/NARA Record Number: 180-10110-10023.

Manell also mentioned that "RYBAT" is a restrictive indicator of an important counterintelligence case: Id., p. 50.

111 *The CIA's sources inside the Cuban compound said that the man who visited them was not Oswald:* Gaeton Fonzi, *The Last Investigation*, pp. 293-294. Fonzi was a well-respected HSCA investigator. There's no copy available of this report, but we now know that these CIA sources included LITAMIL-3, who may have been cultural attaché, Osmin Fernandez Concepcion; LITAMIL-7, secretary Consuelo Esperon; and LITAMIL-9, Luis Alberu Soeto, who served as a monitor.

112 *Oswald had every right to stay in Mexico until October 11:* FBI report by SA Robert Chapman, et al., 5/6/64, Commission Document 1160.

113 Oswald had unveiled a plan to make a grand swing through Europe and the USSR in June 1963, when he listed them in his passport application: [Warren Commission Exhibit 781](#), Oswald's passport, dated 6/24/63.

"Oswald obtained a new passport the day after he applied for it, which is much faster than usual. On top of that, he obtained this new passport without a "lookout card". A lookout card was the norm when a citizen's background triggered security questions. *Oswald's defection to the USSR should have set off every bell among the counterintelligence officers who monitor the applications at the passport office. The FBI criticized itself for not "placing a stop on his file in the State Department, which would have prevented his successful application for a passport...it is felt that with Oswald's background that we should have had a stop on his passport, particularly since we did not know definitely whether or not he had any intelligence assignments at the time."* Memo from J. H. Gale to Supervisor Clyde Tolson, p. 5, 9/30/64, NARA Record Number: [124-10371-10033](#).

114 Fidel Castro told the HSCA, "In those days the mechanism was very rigid because, of course, we had suspicions of anyone who tried to come to Cuba: [HSCA Interview with Fidel Castro Ruz](#), 4/3/78, p. 12.

115 As Silvia Duran told Oswald when he showed up without advance notice at the Cuban consulate, things went smoothly if you had a sponsor in the country that you want to visit: Letter from DDP Richard Helms to J. Lee Rankin, 2/19/64, p. 3, [Warren Commission Document 358](#).

116 Contreras said that when these students probed the reaction of these consulate contacts still further, they were told by Azcue that Oswald was suspected of being an agent: Interview by Anthony Summers with Oscar Contreras, 1978, recounted in *Conspiracy* (1989 version), pp. 351-353.

117 Trying to visit both countries in one trip is very difficult, and the Cuban government reminded the Cuban consulate that someone like Oswald needed an "in-transit visa" when visiting Cuba on his way to another country: Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 25, [Exhibit 2564](#), letter from Juan Milo Otero, Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Alfredo Mirabel, Cuban consul, Mexico City, 10/15/63.

118 Duran told her interrogators that Oswald acted as though he had "made arrangements in Washington whereby instructions would be sent to the Soviet embassy in Mexico to issue his Soviet entry visa in a manner which would eliminate his having to visit the Soviet Embassy": See DIR 85222, memo from WH/3/Mexico Virginia Renshaw to Mexico City, 11/27/63, NARA Record Number: [1994.05.31.12:49:52:310005](#).

This memo states that Duran said that Oswald was rude to the Soviets. Duran had no way of knowing that. The "rudeness" would have occurred on September 28, and Duran never saw Oswald again after the 27th. This discrepancy highlights the importance of obtaining the original Spanish copies of Duran's interrogations. Peter Dale Scott discusses this problem at length in *Deep Politics II*.

119 Jack Whitten's testimony contains redactions that indicate the intensity of the Mexico City station's role in encouraging penetrations and defections: [Deposition of John Whitten](#), pp. 64-65, 5/16/78.

120 Keep in mind that Duran is the consul's receptionist - because her next statement is a demand that Ruiz provide the consul's phone: Memorandum for the Record, LAD/JFK Task Force, November 1976, NARA Record Number: [104-10308-10025](#).

Earlier in the document, there is a summary of this call done by the CIA's Latin American division in the 70s. It [mis-dates the call as Sept. 24th](#) and mis-states the call to say that "Ruiz didn't call Duran because he wasn't able to reach the consul". It does identify Ruiz as DGI (Cuban intelligence). Memorandum for the Record, LAD/JFK Task Force, November 1976, NARA Record Number: [104-10308-10025](#).

The Spanish version of this call reveals that it was allegedly tapped on line 25-09-14, the commercial attache's line normally used by Luisa Calderon. NARA Record Number: [104-10055-10052](#). This tap transcript is found within a set of documents entitled "[Transcript of Oswald's Conversation with the USSR Embassy](#)". The title explains the focus: The September 28 call.

The other documents circle around the September 28 call, portraying wiretaps and photosurveillance during the Oswald visit to Mexico City involving both the Soviet and Cuban compounds. We don't know if these documents were created by the HSCA or the CIA, but I believe it's an effort to find out what happened on September 28. This set of documents is found within [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection Box 7](#), which contains many folders on the same and similar subjects.

121 Cuban intelligence officer Fabian Escalante adds an important piece of information, if accurate, saying that Ruiz was the interpreter used between Oswald and Azcue: Claudia Furiati, *ZRRIFLE* (Ocean Press), p. 159.

122 During October 1963 Garriga worked with other pro-Castro Cubans to set up a new chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in Miami: On 10/15/63, Santiago Garriga and Enrique Gonzalez started campaign to raise money for Flora victims, wanted to take over name "Fair Play for Cuba Committee - Miami" on at least a temporary basis.

On 10/28/63, in an FBI letterhead memo entitled "Fair Play for Cuba Committee", we see Santiago Garriga saying "let's raise money for Hurricane Flora victims", after calling NY to get the OK to use the FPCC

name. VT Lee ran the national office in New York. See memorandum from Miami FBI office to Headquarters, p. 2, 10/28/63, [FBI - HSCA Subject File: FPCC/NARA Record Number: 124-90120-10025](#).

123 *In the days before 11/22/63, the FBI ran an operation that investigated the Cuban espionage net that included Garriga and shared the take with the CIA:* See extracts of “ZRKNICK: Investigation of Cuban Espionage Net in Miami”, varied dates, NARA Record Number: [104-10308-10240](#). Also see Memorandum for the Record, “ZRKNICK Operation”, LAD/JFK Task Force, 2/27/77, [LA Division Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10308-10238](#).

124 *The memos that identify Garriga were written by Anita Potocki:* Memo by Anita Potocki to JMWAVE, 12/3/63, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 17/NARA Record Number: 104-10077-10224](#).

125 *A blurry memo that appears to be wiretap information from the ZRKNICK operation provides a snapshot of how Cuban intelligence was allegedly approaching Garriga:* Periodic Activity Report, ZRKNICK files, Vol. 1, [LA Division Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10308-10279](#).

Antonio Garcia, mentioned above, is referred to in a [9/16/63 Amknob memo](#), Garcia was with a group known as Juventad Autentica and worked with Cuban intelligence at the embassy. His biographical file number was 201-328388.

[Antonio Garcia left Mexico City for good a few months later](#), complaining of illness.

126 *AMROD was designed to split the Castro regime by focusing on Carlos Rodriguez, the head of the Communist Party newspaper Hoy:* See pages 7-9 of 249, referring to Carlos Rodriguez as “Rod”: [Memo from SAC, New York to Director FBI, 4/20/64](#).

127 *Proenza was targeted by the CIA in “operation to counter (her) effective exploitation of her contacts in Mexico, a work which frequently had strong anti-US overtones.”:* Memo by Charles W. Anderson, Chief, CAS/PAG/COB to SA/DO/O, 5/25/78. NARA Record Number: [104-10322-10181](#).

128 Proenza lost her job shortly after the assassination because she wrote a memo saying that the Cuban message to Mexico protesting the detention of Silvia Duran was a diplomatic error. Cable from Mexico City to Director, 1/2/64, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 48: Defectors, 201 Files, CI/SIG, IG Report, AMTRUNK, Ortiz, ...\)/NARA Record Number: 104-10213-10379](#). Also see CIA information report on Proenza’s dismissal, 1/30/64, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 16/ NARA Record Number: 104-10074-10234](#).

129 *An internal CIA memo reveals that Proenza’s recall to Cuba in December 1963 was caused by the Agency:* Memo by S. D. Breckenridge to Deputy Director Frank Carlucci, 7/26/78, [Miscellaneous CIA Series/NARA Record Number: 104-10322-10181](#).

130 *AMSAIL-1 tried to recruit Proenza in January 1964. That went nowhere. Shaw said she was a “pretty tough nut”:* Deposition of Robert Shaw, p. 52, NARA Record Number: [180-10110-10017](#).

Anderson agreed that she was never a CIA asset: Memo by Charles W. Anderson, Chief, CAS/PAG/COB to SA/DO/O, 5/25/78, [Miscellaneous CIA Series/NARA Record Number: 104-10322-10181](#).

131 *The CIA hoped that Moscow would jump to the vice minister’s defense and that a collision would result between Moscow and Havana:* John Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, p. 387.

132 *A black tape 201 was created when the 201 biographical file was literally wrapped in black tape to prevent nosy clerks from casually sneaking a peek at its description of operations:* See 1/63-12/63 “black tape 201 file” for Proenza, [vol 2 of 3](#). [More](#) on black tape documents.

133 *One of their sources was Luis Alberu, identified by the CIA as a Cuban defector in place:* Memo by W. H. V. Fisher, Acting Chief WH/1, “Traces on Luis Alberu-Souto”, 5/26/67 [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 40/NARA Record Number: 104-10110-10192](#).

Also see the government’s [refusal](#) to release the Proenza file.

134 *Alberu went into hiding while Captain Fernandez Ventura of the DFS kept the HSCA away from him. Ventura emphatically confided to another officer that Alberu was not to be interviewed:* Here’s a report of [Alberu avoiding a meeting](#) with Ed Lopez and the HSCA in Mexico City in 1978. Captain Fernandez Ventura Gutierrez made it clear that [he did not want Alberu interviewed](#).



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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpich

Chapter 4: Mexico City Intrigue – The World of Surveillance

Introduction

The background of the Oswald impersonation is best understood with an understanding of the history of the wiretap operations in Mexico City. If the reader is not interested in these details, feel free to skip ahead to the next chapter on the drama in Mexico City in late September 1963. On my end, it was all that I could do to stop wiretapping from taking over the entire narrative. A study of wiretapping operations provide many of the questions that we need to ask about the surveillance state of the modern era, and illustrate the need for people like Edward Snowden to stand up and blow the whistle.

Although the CIA's photo surveillance system was quite elaborate, I find the "intercept data" - Staff D's wiretapping of Communist embassies and other left-wing forces for the National Security Agency (NSA) - more helpful in getting to the heart of the mysteries of Oswald's time in Mexico City. Included here are the best efforts of my colleague Larry Hancock and myself to reverse-engineer the American wiretap operations during 1963.

The reader is encouraged to keep in mind that the prime directive of the Mexico City station was to recruit defectors from the ranks of their adversaries. Soviet Third Secretary Nikolai Leonov, a KGB operations officer, wrote that **the Soviets' goal was the same as the Americans**. The secondary goal was to prevent foreign spies from obtaining US secrets. The memos involving Oswald in Mexico City often use the indicator LCIMPROVE, which means "counter-espionage involving Soviet intelligence services worldwide".[1] Similarly, LCIMPROVE is all over the memos addressing Oswald's instant visa to enter the USSR.[2]

The first investigator of the JFK assassination for the CIA was C/WH/3 John Whitten, the chief of the Central American desk for the Western Hemisphere division. He testified that "I do not know whether you informed yourself about the magnitude of our political action program at the time - absolutely enormous. We were trying to follow (communist countries)...at the same time the thrust of the Station's effort was to recruit Soviet, Cuban and satellite people."[3] During 1963, Cuba was considered the #1 priority of the station, and the Soviet Union was considered #2.[4]

If there was anything more important than a defector, it was a re-defector like Oswald. Jim Angleton himself told the Church Committee that Oswald's redefection and return to the US should have been "the highest priority for the intelligence community".[5] You can see how Oswald and his file were significant assets to the officer who knew how to use them.



*John Whitten (aka "Scelso"),
Chief of WH/3 division:
"our political action program...
...absolutely enormous."*

LIENVOY and LIFEAT were the two phone tap operations in Mexico City

Mexico City and New York were the centers of intelligence activities in the Western Hemisphere during 1963. These two major cities are where nations across the world meet and engage in both commerce and diplomacy. The focus in New York was primarily to recruit American citizens for overseas work. In Mexico City, the CIA did not have to use cut-outs and could go toe-to-toe with its opponents. For these reasons, observers believed that Mexico City in 1963 was the most important base for Staff D operations and CIA operations in the West. An internal review revealed that the Mexico City base was the best-run in the Western Hemisphere and one of the best in the world.[6] **The base also conducted more productive wiretaps than anywhere else in the world.** The station was **proud** of its reputation.

Besides the chief Win Scott and the deputy chief Alan White, the station had 11 case officers (including two psychological warfare "KUWOLF" officers), two reports officers, two intelligence analysts, and one photographer. The rest were administrative and clerical staff.



Win Scott, Mexico City station chief. The wiretap highlights were on his desk each morning by nine.

As we will discuss, LIENVOY was linked to the central phone exchange and was aimed more at the embassies, while LIFEAT was a more decentralized system focused more on people's homes. There was some overlap between these two programs. The tap operations and the related surveillance took up the full time of two case officers at the station.[7] I believe those two officers were LIFEAT's **Tom Keenan** and LIENVOY's **Frank Estancona**.

The most important person to watch, however, for our purposes, is **case officer** Ann Goodpasture. She had a guiding hand in both of these tap operations, the photo operations, and most of the other significant station activities. On two occasions, she was brought in by the Agency to compile a history of the station's actions during this era. Sometimes described as Win Scott's principal aide, she is a *force majeure* in any review of the station's actions involving Oswald. Goodpasture was good friends with both Bill Harvey and James Angleton. She was ranked as an outstanding officer, yet she committed a series of inexplicable acts in the handling of the Oswald file. As discussed herein, she has tried to dismiss these actions as mistakes. I think her actions were intentional, and not mistaken.

Listening to the other side - referred to as "communications intelligence" - was always a key goal for the station. As one State Department official put it, "although the U.S. can put a man on the moon for a billion dollars, **we can't place an agent in Castro's office.**" Listening to embassies and consulates were of great importance, and took up a great deal of time and resources. The main business of embassies is diplomacy, commercial and cultural activities. Consulates revolve around the applications for visas.

Based on the need to protect the US from infiltration by enemy agents, the view within intelligence was that **the Mexico City station was the most important base** for counterintelligence. The base collected all sorts of data, even on seeming minutiae such as **the visits by US citizens with representatives of the Soviet bloc**. Unfortunately, the file on "visits by US citizens" has been **purged** of all pre-1967 information.

Knowledge of the Mexico City station's tap operations was closely held within the top echelons of the CIA, FBI, and the **State Department**. As we will see, this knowledge was not held as closely or securely within the Mexican government. Bill Harvey worked at Staff D under his pseudonym "**Daniel Presland**" during **the time** that Oswald was in Mexico City. American security around the wiretap programs was so tight that the Mexican divisions of FBI and INS did not know much about the CIA's abilities in this field.

The NSA knew all about the wiretaps, because **Staff D's role** was to provide them with wiretap data throughout the world. However, the NSA provided very few documents to the National Archives regarding the JFK case. I have found more documents missing in the wiretap area than anywhere else in the JFK case.

A few of these documents may be found at the National Archives or may be located with a Freedom of Information Act request, commonly known as a FOIA request. However, I don't think the relevant NSA documents will ever be provided without an enormous political battle. Simply put, the NSA has never felt a serious need to comply with American law, or inform the President of their programs, right up to the **present day**. It's no accident that NSA chief Keith Alexander and his deputy are **leaving office** after the Snowden revelations.

An overview of these two wiretap programs

LIFEAT, the initial tap program, was set up shortly after World War II. LIFEAT used a number of "outside" taps, at points adjacent to target locations. During 1963, a varying number, ranging from 16 to 24 lines, were monitored from seven listening posts. These listening posts were set up in homes because it made it easier for the operator to prevent sudden entry by phone company inspectors or repairmen.[8]

Individual monitoring, taping and some transcription was performed at those sites, with **a listening post operator and an assistant at each one**. LIFEAT's focus was mostly on targets' homes, with a few embassy taps.[9] The station worked in very close consultation with the Office of Technical Security in a program called AQUATIC, which deployed a variety of intrusive techniques from the photo operations to opening mail to creating horrid smells that David Phillips referred to as "Who, Me?"[10]

The taps would often be placed in the **junction boxes** located on the street, where lines were coaxed into the central telephone exchange. LIFEAT was able to access the central telephone exchange for a period of time, but such access was lost before the Oswald events of 1963, when the phone company stepped up its control of personnel movements within the exchange.[11]

The CIA was assisted in running the intercept station by the Mexican security police known as the DFS

At the beginning of 1959, the more sophisticated and centralized LIENVOY tap operation was brought into play.[12] Thirty-two phone lines were tapped into LIENVOY by accessing the central phone exchange with the help of the local Mexican security police, known as the "Direccion Federal de Seguridad" or more commonly as the DFS. Mexico City Station relied on the DFS in order to obtain access to the exchange. LIENVOY focused on embassies; LIFEAT focused on homes, **with some overlap**. LIENVOY could tap any

phone desired, while LIFEAT had to take more safety precautions.[13] These two operations complemented each other and represented **two different ways** to run a phone tap.

Why two tap operations? LIENVOY and LIFEAT were known within the Agency as ZRJOINT and ZRSOLO. It's pretty clear why. LIENVOY was a joint operation with the DFS. LIFEAT, on the other hand, was strictly a US affair insulated from DFS scrutiny. **Goodpasture described LIENVOY as very insecure because it was a joint operation with DFS.**

Founded after World War II, **the DFS was originally envisioned as the Mexican national security police.** Goodpasture saw DFS as focused on domestic political affairs, describing it as a "hip-pocket group" of the Ministry of the Interior (Gobernacion). "This Ministry was principally occupied with political investigations and control of foreigners. Their agents were cruel and corrupt".[14]

The LIENVOY report for September 1963 shows just how worried the Mexico City station was about the DFS as their partner: "The principle (sic) functions of this security unit are to: (1) Provide a plain-clothed security detail for the President; (2) maintain an extensive telephone tap activity on both the Rightist and Leftist opposition forces; and (3) perform investigations and arrests of primarily political offenses. The unit's agents are primarily poorly trained, insecure and unreliable. Their professional characteristics are best described as being dishonest, cruel and abusive. The position, at this moment, of Manuel Rangel Escamilla as Director General of DFS are precarious." [15]

9. **Direccion Federal de Seguridad - Federal Security Police**
The principal functions of this security unit are to:
(1) Provide a plain-clothed security detail for the President,
(2) maintain an extensive telephone tap activity on both the Rightist and Leftist political opposition forces, and
(3) perform investigations and arrests of primarily political offenses. The unit's agents are largely poorly trained, insecure, and unreliable. Their professional characteristics are best described as being **dishonest, cruel, and abusive.** The position, at this moment, of Manuel RANGEL Escamilla as Director General of DFS is precarious.

The Mexico City station's September 1963 report described their wiretapping partners - the Mexican security police known as the DFS - as "poorly trained, insecure, and unreliable...dishonest, cruel and abusive".

I have not been able to determine at this point where the LIENVOY intercept center was physically located in 1963, other than in a **neighborhood** that was sensitive to foreign visitors. CIA HQ and Mexico City station agreed before the assassination that the intercept center needed to be moved because it was **insecure**. [16] Although it wasn't moved during 1963, **security was heightened** during that time. Besides the ever-present fear of leaks emanating from the untrustworthy DFS, **LIENVOY would have been cancelled on short notice if there had been a change in Mexican government policy.** LIFEAT was a good backup precisely because it did not rely on a foreign government. The two tapping efforts, using different technologies, **were conducted separately and with independent personnel** to protect the integrity of each operation.

Who ran LIENVOY and LIFEAT during 1963?

As the chief of station, Scott was the ultimate boss over the tap operations, but delegated day-to-day responsibility to others. Who ran these tap operations during 1963?

I believe Frank Estancona ran LIENVOY, with Charles Anderson III in the background. There's **not much information available** on Estancona, but we have a bit more on Anderson – Anderson was a headquarters man with the pseudonym of "Lewis Shoquist" who frequently flew out to Mexico City.[17] Anderson's role is carefully shielded even to this day, but we know he helped originate the wiretap operations in Mexico City.

Anne Goodpasture assisted the case officer Tom Keenan, known by his pseudonym **Jeremy Niarcos** at LIFEAT. Keenan was adept at several forms of surveillance.[18] Goodpasture and Keenan found themselves delivering tapes in stealth, assuming "double and triple wingback positions" as they made their way to a secure location.[19]

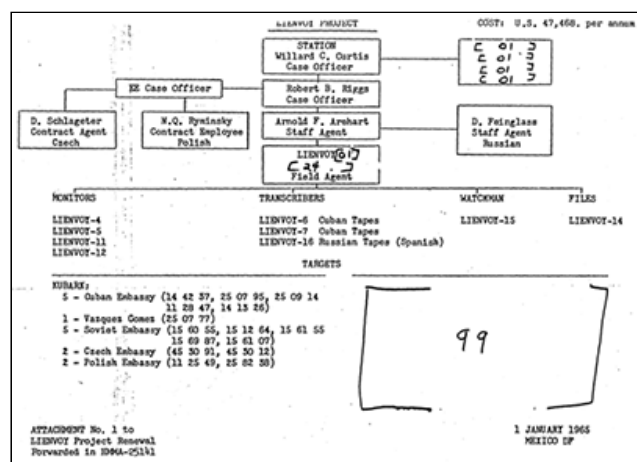
It has been **said** that Goodpasture ran LIFEAT during this period. I don't think that is quite right. **Tom Keenan** ran LIFEAT during 1963, with Goodpasture as his factotum. The LIFEAT renewal requests for 1963 are signed by Keenan as the **case officer**. Keenan's own bio sheet stated that he has management duties over a GS-13 even though he is only a G-12! **That was a big deal** to government workers like Keenan.

According to Goodpasture, Anderson ran LIENVOY from 1961-1962 and Frank Estancona ran it from 1962 to 1964.[20] Bob Shaw, who covered the Cuban targets for the Mexico City station, said that Anderson **was stationed at HQ in 1963**. Documents indicate that Anderson was monitoring cultural attaché Teresa Proenza as one of his duties on the Cuban beat.

A subtle distinction is found in a memo saying that one of the reports officers who worked on phone tap product was **a woman who did it for four and a half years, and the other was a man who had done it for two years.** I conclude from this that the LIFEAT reports officer was Goodpasture and the LIENVOY reports officer was Estancona. The memo described the task of the reports officers as to "**put together fragmentary conversations into meaningful reports.**"

The real secret was that one of LIENVOY's chief administrators was a Mexican officer, LIENVOY-2. His predecessor had been LIELEGANT, who Goodpasture described as putting the project through a shakedown during its initial four years. "LIELEGANT was inexperienced, old, and greedy. His son...was a

masterpiece in deceit and corruption.”[21] LIELEGANT was eased into the role of nominal chief to make room for LIENVOY-2.



*Mexico City CIA Station
LIENVOY organizational chart
(click to view)*

LIENVOY-2 was described as a "Mexican supervisor field agent", a Mexican officer, roughly #4 in the command flowchart, right under intercept center chief Charles Flick, using the pseudonym of Arnold Arehart. I believe LIENVOY-2 was with DFS. A flowchart indicates he was Mexico's supervisor of LIENVOY, while the Mexico City station treated Flick as the American supervisor. LIENVOY-2 ran a group of informants as part of his work at the intercept center.[22]

Philip Agee - a former CIA officer who left the US in protest of its policies - thought that LIENVOY-2 was the President of Mexico, and he almost had it right.[23] This document may prove who LIENVOY-2 was - a Mexican presidential aide, name unknown, who came up with a September 28 transcript of Oswald and Duran calling the Soviet embassy. The question of the

reliability of that phone call is the subject of the next chapter.

On November 23, the president of Mexico himself, Adolfo Lopez Mateos using the cryptonym of LITENSOR, called Win Scott. President Lopez told Scott that LIENVOY-2 had just come up with the September 28 transcript![24]

The CIA considered LIENVOY-2's focus on the September 28 transcript to be of immediate operational importance. The CIA had known about the September 28 call for two months - but now the Mexicans were looking at it. Given the sensitivity of that call, the officers in the know could not have been pleased about it. Did the Mexicans come up with a tape as well?

A short story shows the delicacy of LIENVOY-2's type of work. Shortly after LIENVOY-2 began working for the station in 1962, one of his henchmen questioned one of the two surveillance men at the intercept center. This surveillance man had a license in the name of Mariano Vera Gonzalez. LIENVOY-2 ran a make on it and found that the man's license was in the name of another man.

The traffic department was staked out by the DFS to see if there were any inquiries about the cars at the intercept center. Apparently the stake-out man was stationed at the front desk of the file room at the traffic department. A good move, because the very next day an agent from the secret service of police headquarters went to the traffic department and asked who owned the plates on LIENVOY-2's car. The stake-out man learned in conversation that the secret service man was working for an investigative group headed by a Mexican digging up political information for Mexican politicians. The two men looked at the traffic department files, and saw that the files did not reveal who owned LIENVOY-2's car.[25]

Mariano Vera Gonzalez was not who he said he was. LIENVOY-2's car was not in his own name. I imagine that the Mexican police and the DFS agreed to quietly watch each other. It's another pointed story about how insecure LIENVOY really was. As I said, the station wanted to move the intercept center during 1963, but it never happened.

The intercept center has been a mystery for all these years since the assassination. Despite much effort, I have been unable to determine where the intercept center was located, other than that it was in a residential neighborhood and not attached to the CIA station or the American embassy. The transcription room was staffed by Mexican Army officers.[26] Operations chief Charles Flick was the sole American case officer for the LIENVOY intercept center. Supervising over thirty employees, he held the fort full-time from early in the morning until late at night.[27] The production of the intercept center was described by his superior as being of "vital national importance" in explaining the relations of Lee Harvey Oswald with the Cuban and Soviet consulates of Mexico City".

Even in 1995, the CIA did not want the LIENVOY program revealed by the Assassinations Records Review Board. Many will suggest that LIENVOY may provide the secrets of the assassination. Maybe, maybe not, but when you get right down to it, the CIA's exposure for civil liability is higher than people realize. Quite apart from the secrets of the assassination, the CIA's lawyers do not want to see its officers sued in court, where unpredictable things can happen. Those who have their privacy violated by a wiretap have the right to sue within a short period of time after they know or should have known that they were victimized in this manner. The publication of this book could easily be construed by a judge to "trigger" the running of the statute of limitations for the people addressed later in this chapter.

Since the statute of limitations for many acts do not begin to run until the victims learn or should have learned about what happened to them, the best solution for agencies like the CIA is to string things along

until all the parties are dead. I am convinced that fear of liability is right up there with “national security” as among the main reasons that the CIA has been so dogged in not releasing information about the wiretaps.

There is yet another reason – as Edward Snowden will tell you, information about wiretaps is one of the most closely held secrets held by governments. There is no power as great as knowing what your adversary is saying about you.

The history of the phone taps

First taps

It looks like the first taps were LIFEAT, set up right in the heart of the telephone company, by arrangement of the local government officials with a company executive. “These officials, however, did not want to work through their own security service; on the contrary, they distrusted the service and acted without its knowledge; and, in fact, one of the target lines from the very beginning has been the chief of service.”

The “company central” was linked with the intercept center by an underground cable. The native staff of the intercept center consisted of one civilian in charge, a janitor, and eight junior army officers who did the monitoring and installing. A station staff agent dealt with the civilian in charge as the CIA representative. [28]

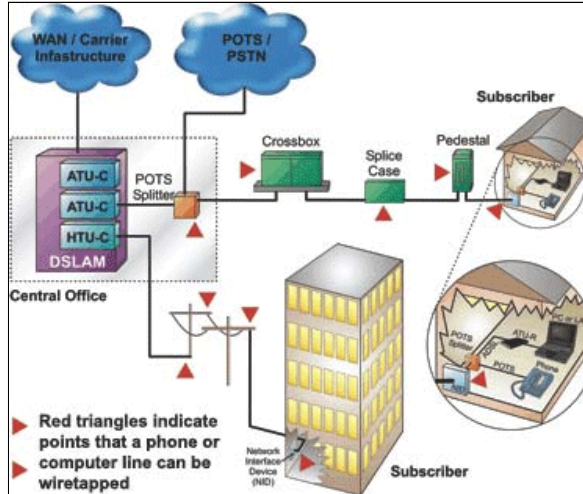


Diagram showing generally where taps may be placed.

The station’s position was always that it was clear from the beginning that it was important to create tapes, as “in the hands of an inefficient and corrupt (transcriber) there was every chance that the substance of conversations was colored and distorted, unintentionally or by design.” DFS officials who had dealt with this problem in the past asked station chief Win Scott to help them set up this intercept center. [29]

LIFEAT background

LIFEAT was initiated by Charles Anderson, who later moved over to LIENVOY. Begun in 1947, LIFEAT began as a single tap against the Soviet embassy; by 1962, it was up to 30 target lines. The taps were placed by a local phone company employee who was handled by a station case officer. A principal outside case officer had a shop at home where he would repair and tune up the equipment. He trained most of the listening post operators on how to make minor repairs. Like LIENVOY, the monitors and transcribers at the LIFEAT listening posts were generally Mexican or Mexican-American. These twenty-one field agents would work for an average of seven years.

LIFEAT was originally part of a bigger project known as LIPSTICK. In 1958, it was broken up. In 1958, LIFEAT became its own project, and the remaining LIPSTICK portions were re-named as LIEMPTY. [30] LIEMPTY was designed to exploit leads from the Soviet compound. Besides the LIFEAT project, LIEMPTY included three photographic sites, a mobile surveillance team and a mail intercept. Goodpasture’s duties included the handling and dissemination of the take from the three photo surveillance sites known as LIMITED, LILYRIC, and LICALLA, all providing different camera angles of the Soviet embassy compound. [31] She also would analyze the finished photographic take from all the basehouses.

There has been great confusion about missing photos and tapes, exacerbated by the refusal to provide the necessary documents for review since 1963. Now that we can finally review these documents, let’s summarize what we know and don’t know.

Three big questions regarding missing photos and tape transcripts

1. If the photo negatives taken at the Soviet consulate still exist, as documented by the LILYRIC operation, why haven’t they been produced?

Goodpasture’s principal agent for the three photographic sites at the Soviet consulate was known as Raymond Gerende, the pseudonym for Ramon Joseph Alvarez Durant. Alvarez was a Mexican agent who also served as a LIFEAT transcriber and performed various other duties. His family helped recruit several other agents. Alvarez would do almost anything he was asked to do, and put an emphasis on photographic work. [32]

The three Soviet photographic sites were LIMITED, LILYRIC, and LICALLA. The House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) was established in the seventies to try to solve the mysteries not addressed by the Warren Commission. The HSCA was only able to review the photos and logs from LIMITED; it was given virtually nothing on LILYRIC or LICALLA.

LIMITED was the best of the three sites focused on the Soviet compound, as it was fixed on both the vehicle entrance and the pedestrian entrance. Run by an older man known as LIEMPTY-6 who lived in the basehouse with his family, the LIMITED take yielded no pictures of Oswald.[33]

LILYRIC was run by a meticulous woman known as LIEMPTY-14. Goodpasture wrote that LIEMPTY-14's "daily logs and reports were detailed and complete".[34] I have seen no record of these logs and reports. LILYRIC provided the **best vantage point for photos of visitors**, as it was aimed at the Soviet embassy front gate. We have no access to virtually any of these photos – as we will see, the negatives may still exist.

LICALLA, the third site, focused on the back garden within the compound and away from the entrances to the Soviet compound. It was unlikely that any Oswald photos would have been obtained from LICALLA.[35]

The station claimed that LILYRIC was generally in operation between 0900 and 1500, and LIMITED between 1200 and 1800. The station gave itself wiggle room by saying that these hours could change.[36]

In fact, the available chart for LIMITED shows that during September 1963, it generally began at 0900 and ended in the early afternoon. On the date of the visits by the man called Oswald, the last photo was taken at 1146, before any of his alleged visits to the Soviet compound.[37] It seems unlikely that any Oswald photos were obtained from LIMITED.

Oswald allegedly visited the Soviet embassy only once on Friday, between about 12:30-1:30 pm.[38] It was too late in the day for LIMITED to have picked that visit up, but LILYRIC might have captured photos of Oswald as **it generally stayed open till 2 pm**. LIMITED and LILYRIC were supposed to be operating on **Saturdays** as well, but the LIMITED log shows that Saturday coverage was rare in practice. We have no LILYRIC logs to look at, and no one has yet identified LIEMPTY-14 or other members of the LILYRIC staff.



Ed Lopez, co-author with Dan Hardway of a ground-breaking 1970s report for Congress on "Oswald, the CIA, and Mexico City."

The CIA's failure to ever provide LILYRIC photos remains a sore point. HSCA counsel Ed Lopez, his colleague Dan Hardway, and other stalwarts wrote a 300-page report that concluded not only that there was a good chance that Oswald was impersonated in Mexico City, but that photographs of Oswald and/or the man calling himself Oswald had probably been taken and not provided to the HSCA. If true, the LILYRIC photos would bring this primary evidence to the surface.

Goodpasture testified to the HSCA that LILYRIC photographs were destroyed for space considerations, but she believed that the negatives were still in existence.[39] A review of the Mexico City records indicates that the June-Dec 1963 LILYRIC photos were destroyed in 1967.[40] A couple of LILYRIC photos from October 2, 1963 did survive due, apparently due to FOIA requests made promptly after the Act went into effect in 1967.[41]

It looks like Goodpasture is correct - although the logs and contact prints from LILYRIC are "missing", the negatives of the LILYRIC photos appear to be on file with the CIA.[42] The HSCA believed that a CIA memo provided additional evidence that Headquarters had custody of the LILYRIC negatives.[43] Records of these negatives, as well as other photos, tapes, and transcripts, can be found in this CIA chronology.[44]

Despite numerous HSCA requests, the LILYRIC negatives were never produced – it appears that this kind of ambiguity makes certain people very happy. Lopez's team was frustrated by the realization that this missing evidence made it impossible to evaluate the effectiveness of the Soviet photographic coverage. You can see the handwritten comment "**so don't try**". The negatives should be immediately subpoenaed by the House Oversight Committee, which is responsible under the JFK Records Act for tracking continuing compliance by the agencies **to produce all assassination-related documents right up to the present day**.

2. Where are the photos of the Cuban consulate for October 1963?

The Cuban embassy and the Cuban consulate had two separate entrances. The outside door to the Cuban consulate had just reopened – **after two years of closure caused by a CIA stink-bomb** - during the week before September 27.[45] Thus, a new camera for the Cuban consulate door was being set up and tested on the very day of Oswald's visit.[46] The records do not reflect any photos of the consulate for that day.

The CIA claims that the consulate was photographed on a regular basis starting in October 1963. We have a few stray photos, but where are the daily sets of the consulate photos?[47]

Back in 1979, the Lopez Report mentioned the possibility that the missing LILYRIC and consulate photos **may be related** to the impersonation of Oswald. Three CIA employees said after the assassination that **they saw photos of Oswald in Mexico City**. Joseph Burkholder Smith said that he had heard about it second-hand and that LBJ was so pleased that it made Win Scott his "**number one boy**". **Joe Piccolo** claimed **first-hand knowledge** and believed that **it was taken** outside the Cuban compound. Win Scott's ex-deputy chief Daniel Stanley Watson said that he also saw the photo in Oswald's personality file, but also believed that

Scott was “capable of phonying a photo if asked to produce one. I never believed Win Scott the first time he told me something.” After all these years, the existence or non-existence of these photos should be put to rest.[48]

3. Where is the LIFEAT file for 1963?

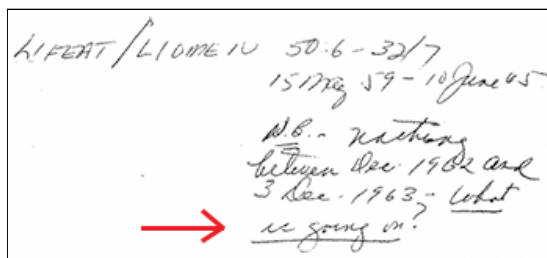
From August to October 1963, LIFEAT used a number of “outside” taps, at points adjacent to target locations, monitoring 24 lines from seven separate intercept points known as “listening posts” or “LPs”. These listening posts were the site for individual monitoring, taping, and some transcription. The station could run about **three lines** from each listening post, depending on whether the targets were close enough together to avoid the wires being clearly visible. During this period, LIFEAT’s focus appeared to be sites of particularly strong counterintelligence interest.[49]

Was Sylvia Duran’s phone tapped by LIFEAT? All the transcripts indicate that LIENVOY picked up Duran – and her impersonator – only on taps placed on the Soviet compound. However, both Goodpasture and Cuban case officer Bob Shaw remembered that LIFEAT tapped into certain lines within the Cuban compound during 1963.[50]

Goodpasture claimed that **every Cuban embassy phone or official residence had either a LIENVOY or a LIFEAT line**. She then dropped a second possible clue by stating that LIENVOY tapped every phone in the Cuban Embassy, “**but not the consulate, not during O’s presence in Mexico City**”. It’s confusing. Is it possible that Duran’s phone line at the consulate had a LIFEAT tap, handled by Goodpasture? The transcripts show many LIENVOY calls and virtually no LIFEAT calls during late 1963. Where are the records of the LIFEAT calls?

In fact, why is the station’s LIFEAT file for the first eleven months of 1963 missing? A CIA officer wrote about these missing records: “**What is going on?**”[51] An all-out search should be done to find these records.

We do have a few reports that were sent to CIA Headquarters. One is a fascinating LIFEAT report for **August-October 1963**. It mentions that the home phone of a Cuban official was tapped to support the AMROD operation that was designed to exacerbate tensions between the pro-Moscow hard-liners and Castro’s more mainstream colleagues. The tap was almost certainly on **commercial attache Luisa Calderon**, as another report shows that her home phone was tapped during November, 1963.



A CIA officer's dismay upon learning that most of the 1963 LIFEAT wiretap logs were missing.

A few LIFEAT lines were set up at embassies, but most were at homes or other targets and picked up by recorders in **street distribution boxes**. Three of the LIFEAT listening posts that year were in the homes of well-to-do professional people, with small children running around. The perennial concern was to watch out for **linemen**, who might see wires where they should not be. Those at a LIFEAT listening post **did not generally know anything** about the other listening posts, unless they had helped each other with translation in the past.

Goodpasture wrote that there was **no indication** that Mexican intelligence knew about LIFEAT.[52] The consensus was that LIFEAT was not totally secure, but far more secure than LIENVOY.

LIENVOY background

Now that these three questions about missing documents have been addressed, it seems like time for a discussion about the LIENVOY wiretap system that is at the center of this drama in Mexico City.

The LIENVOY wiretap system was set up in early 1959.[53] LIENVOY attached 32 taps to target telephone lines at the telephone company central office serving the embassies and other targets. Those 32 wires were bundled into a cable which fed to the intercept center. The intercept center was operated by ten monitors who prepared daily transcripts and a summary for the lines that weren't fully transcribed from the tapes. Originally, 32 **Revere tape recorders** were used to pick up the voices, while 32 dial recorders were used to **pick up the dial tones of the outgoing calls**. By 1963, Ampex tape recorders replaced the Revere tape recorders. The intercept center could conduct thirty wiretaps at the same time, with two systems set aside as spares in case of breakdown.[54]

Since LIENVOY used both dial recorders and audio recorders, it had the ability to capture the dialed digits from any telephone call on the line in question. Thus any line would be recording dialed digits and audio for outgoing calls and just audio for incoming calls.

Thus, if Duran had an LIENVOY line at the consulate, the monitors could have quickly pulled the dialed digit tape and known just who she had called. Of course, if the Oswald/Duran calls were not made from the Consulate that would expose it. There is no indication that a LIENVOY tap was set up at the Cuban Consulate during 1963. There may have been a LIFEAT tap, but we don't know because – as discussed earlier – the station’s LIFEAT transcripts for the first eleven months of 1963 are **missing**.



A circa-1959 Revere T-204 tape recorder.

Former CIA agent Philip Agee described LIENVOY as a joint operation “between Mexico City station and (a) Mexican security service...the station provides the equipment, technical assistance, couriers and transcribers, while the Mexicans make the connections in the exchanges and maintain the listening posts”. [55] The Mexican monitors in the intercept center also prepared the daily summaries. [56]

Both the DFS and the high echelons of the FBI had access to LIENVOY. [57] Thus, the CIA did not have full control of what happened at the intercept site. It was a necessary trade-off done in order to have access to the telephone exchange.

In Levister’s review of LIENVOY, he noted that the monitors did a good job with transcription, but that “the native staff has been **unable** so far, with sporadic exceptions, to accompany those results with the all-important analysis for intelligence information, collation for compilation of meaningful comprehensive reports, and keener reporting”.

The four monitors, LIENVOY-4, 5, 11, and 12, were highly motivated. [58] They would **cross-file excerpts of the take** by the name of target persons, by the names of their principal contacts, and by the target persons’ telephone numbers, as well as by the chronological file for each target line. This allowed them to judge the probable value of conversations in the light of past conversations between correspondents.

One monitor in particular was very good in isolating intelligence. He became the head monitor and office manager, answering directly to the civilian in charge. His command of English also made him very helpful. [59] This may have been the monitor who made the **short summaries of interesting conversations** for the resuma, described below.

Journalist Ron Kessler wrote that two of the Mexican monitors who handled the Oswald calls to the Soviet consulate commented to intercept center chief Flick that the caller had a hard time making himself understood in either **English or Russian**. [60] When the “Oswald caller” was addressed by the Soviet officer in English, the caller responded “please speak Russian”.

Even Goodpasture referred to him many years later as “**the man who called himself Oswald**”. It is a fair bet that some of the monitors are still alive today – and that they either heard the Oswald call or heard about the Oswald caller. **Their names exist**, but are redacted on the documents available at the Mary Ferrell site. We should see if the National Archives have released these names, or petition for their release.

We do have a complete, unredacted listing of the LIENVOY taps during June 1963. [61] Of particular importance is that two DFS lines were being tapped – in a system that DFS officers had access to! It would appear that not much had changed since the tap program began.

Here are the LIENVOY tapped lines at the Cuban compound during Sept 1963: [62]

14-42-37: Ambassador’s private telephone used on occasion by Teresa Proenza (cultural attaché)

14-92-14: Teresa Proenza’s line (cultural attaché); this may have been her living quarters. [63] **Disconnected on 9/23/63.**

25-07-95: Chancery line used by Ramon Sinobas (first secretary) **Disconnected on 9/23/63.**

25-09-14: Commercial office used by Luisa Calderon (commercial attaché) [64]

14-13-26: Chancery line used by Teresa Proenza (cultural attaché) [65]

At the Cuban embassy, the LIENVOY lines were cut from five to three on September 23, just days before the arrival of the man called Oswald. Scott’s report said that 25-07-95 had been disconnected because the first secretary Ramon Sinobas had left for Cuba, and that Proenza’s line at 14-92-14 needed repair.

The chancery and consulate lines were the ones for foreigners to call. Of those lines, only Proenza’s line - 14-13-26 - had a LIENVOY tap during the Oswald visit to Mexico City. [66] The only other operative LIENVOY taps during the Oswald visit were on the ambassador’s private line – 14-42-37, and the Commercial Office - 25-09-14, used by Luisa Calderon. For whatever reason, Calderon’s line was not listed on many of the monthly reports. [67] Thus, the operative taps during the Oswald visit would ordinarily pick up only Proenza, Calderon, and the Ambassador.

I see no signs of a LIENVOY tap on Sylvia Duran’s line, 11-28-47.

A CIA officer testified that AMOTs were brought into listening posts in the Western Hemisphere to work as monitors.[68] It is imperative to find out the names of LIENVOY-4, 5, 11 and 12, and interview them before they are all dead. The likelihood of the individuals in this tight-knit group knowing the truth about these phone calls is very high. The procedure throughout the JFK case has been to release the names of key witnesses after they have died, and this procedure is continuing now.

Here are the tapped lines at the Soviet compound during September 1963:[69]

15-60-55 (Soviet chancery – this was a **consulate** line used by known or suspect KGB officers, and called by foreigners trying to make contact with the Soviets)

15-61-55 (Soviet chancery – also a **consulate** line, used primarily by the ambassador, more for learning about protocol than intelligence interest)

15-69-87 (Soviet military attaché – the Soviet GRU military intelligence officers on this line generally refused to pick up; nonetheless, foreign AWOL soldiers often try this line)

15-61-07 (Soviet commercial office - this line was used by known or suspect GRU officers)

15-12-64 (Soviet film representative – residence and home of suspect GRU officer Vladimir Obrubov, who distributes Soviet commercial films in Mexico)[70]

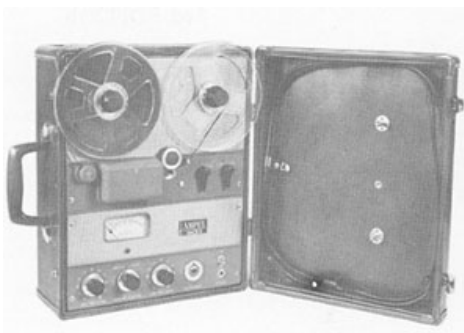
The first two lines were used by Duran and the Soviets to call one another on Sept. 27. The military attaché's line was used to initiate contact by "Lee Oswald" on October 1. The handler of the **double agents LINEB-1** and **LAROB** was military attaché Valentin Bakulin, discussed elsewhere in this narrative. Bakulin generally worked with the **Film Office** to get his most effective propaganda work done.

The cross-filing system used by the LIENVOY monitors

The monitors worked in overlapping shifts from 8 am to 4 pm and 3 pm to 11 pm – the monitoring of the lines would end at 10 pm, and they would spend the last hour of the day **wrapping up their translations and transcriptions**.

As earlier stated, the monitors maintained a simple but effective cross-filing system of the take, chronicling the names of target persons, the names of their principal contacts, and the telephone numbers called by the target persons. The monitors knew the voices of the targets and their correspondents.[71]

Each unit that listened to the take on each wire was composed of a "held dial" recorder and an Ampex 601 tape recorder. The 32 units were mounted, two units side by side, on 16 racks 84 inches high and ten inches wide. Intercept Center head Charles Flick cleaned and maintained these on a regular basis, and also kept the technical equipment in repair.[72]



Ampex 601 tape recorder.

Flick used the cover of a technical adviser in electrification, and was the only American officer who was inside the intercept center on a regular basis. Only Win Scott would drop by for a discreet glance. Levister wrote: "The station has not used the center as a showpiece for visiting firemen. The station's prudent attitude seems to have influenced **the native people at the intercept center** to keep their knowledge to themselves."

We know what was done with the highlights report of the wiretaps in 1963, but not why only fragments remain at the Archives today

At 7:30 am, Charles Flick aka Arnold Arehart, the sole American at the LIENVOY intercept center, would pick up the previous day's highlights report from all of the LIENVOY lines (called the resuma or **resuma**), summaries from the lines that were not fully transcribed, transcripts, and translations. Flick would then provide the new reels for translation to the translators. Using **clandestine means**, he would then exchange the "take" for new blank reels to Goodpasture in a "car pickup" by 8 am.

Goodpasture would process the take between 8-9 am, and have any items of unusual significance on Scott's desk by nine.[73] Transcripts on the Cuban and Soviet wiretaps arrived **every day**.

A live monitor would prepare a **resuma** of highlights every day. Cuban case officer Bob Shaw said that if you read two pages of resuma you would have the gist of many pages of tap.[74] The resuma were maintained in a **chronological file at the listening post**. Only fragments of the resuma can be found in the National Archives. A 9/5/78 memo said that the **resuma** for 9/15/63 to 10/15/63 **was available for review** – nonetheless, I still have not found those documents.

Win Scott himself directly oversaw the audio surveillance of the Soviets, while the Soviet case officer Herb Manell and the Cuban case officers David Phillips and Robert Shaw would review the transcripts and other materials regarding the surveillance. Manell estimated that 30% of the take was retained and kept in case files, while the remainder was thrown away.[75] Each year, the station would prepare 150 memoranda for the State Department and 75 for the FBI, based on information obtained from the phone taps.[76]

When a reel was fully recorded, it would be transcribed and passed to the station in the same fashion with a lag time of one or two days.

The Russian tapes were transcribed by other contract agents not directly affiliated with the LIENVOY site.[77] Boris Tarasoff, one of the transcribers of the Oswald tapes, was one of these contract agents.

There was a special protocol for the take if a US citizen or an English speaking person calls any of the target installations such as the Soviet consulate or the Cuban consulate. In such an instance, Charles Flick was supposed to leave the tap center, go to an outside line, call Goodpasture from a pay phone, meet her in fifteen minutes for "coffee" or "lunch", and give her a tape reel with an extract of the taped conversation. The reel then would go to the station and be given to the case officer in charge of the target installation. "Headquarters is notified by cable of the action taken. **Only in rare instances is information on a US citizen passed without prior Headquarters approval.**"

All signs are that this protocol was violated when the man called Oswald came to Mexico City. There was never any cable of the Oswald call to the Soviet consulate on September 28.

On the same token, it is fair to assume that Goodpasture had in her hands the extracts of the Oswald calls: One call was made on September 28, and two more calls were made on October 1. We know that the Soviet desk officer was notified about the October 1 calls. It is fair to assume that Goodpasture sent copies of these calls to the chief of Cuban operations, David Phillips, on October 1, who had flown to Langley the previous day.

The monitors were listening to various left-wing forces

Incredibly, a study was being conducted by Paul Levister at Staff D during the very week that the man named Oswald visited Mexico City. Levister was studying the lines of LIENVOY and LIFEAT, and he collected statistics on their use.

During the time period coinciding with the visit by the man called Oswald, LIENVOY's most prolific line was focused on **Vicente Lombardo Toledano**, the head of the **Popular Socialist Party** with a background as a leader of the Mexican contingent of the **World Federation of Trade Unions**. As a domestic political rival of the Mexican president, Lombardo's line accounted for **20%** of all LIENVOY production.

The most prolific location was LIENVOY's lines at the Cuban Embassy, which provided **25%** of all the usable material. The **Prensa Latina** – the Cuban press service which would have included Carlos Rafael Rodriguez' paper Hoy - was a minor producer from its two lines.

Levister also described one line in a pro-Cuban anti-US organization popular in political and intellectual circles. **This organization** was doubtlessly the **Movimiento Liberacion Nacional** (MLN). Two lines were in the home of its "guiding spirit", which was the former Mexican president from 1934 to 1940, the progressive **Lazaro Cardenas**. [78] Leon Trotsky, who received asylum from Cardenas, said that Cardenas ran the only honest government in the world. His son, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, is well known for his narrow and controversial loss in the 1988 Mexican presidential election. Since Elena Vasquez worked for Lazaro Cardenas and had **a romantic relationship with Teresa Proenza**, she also got LIENVOY coverage. [79]

Levister also mentioned one line in the home of the titular head of the MLN organization – that person was **Alonso Aguilar Monteverde**. Finally, one line in the home of a prominent intellectual (probably **Professor Jorge L. Tamayo**) who was active in the MLN's affairs. These five lines were **35%** of the LIENVOY production during this period. When adding in two other lines of MLN members and the two Cuban lines, altogether these nine target lines made up 80% of the LIENVOY production. [80] During this era, it's clear that LIENVOY was designed to go after the organizations on the left side of the political spectrum.

Like LIENVOY, LIFEAT snooped mostly on people on the left. The phone calls made by the FDR-style former president of Guatemala, Juan Jose Arevalo – referred to as the "Latin American exile" – accounted for 60% of the LIFEAT production. [81] Scott's agents made threats that terrorized Arevalo's family. During 1963, on orders from headquarters, station chief Win Scott conducted a self-described harassment campaign against Arevalo. This harassment included agent "Oliver Scantling" aka Juan Nepomuseno Frias Ramirez mailing "**poisoned**" candy to **Arevalo's family** (which included **five children**) as he campaigned for a second chance to serve as president while in exile in Mexico City. [82]

These documents also reveal that the CIA staged a scenario designed to make Arevalo believe that the Cubans at the embassy were planning to **bomb** him. The Cuban government was allied with the Guatemalan dissidents, and this was an effort to split Arevalo from other dissidents. There was even **a faked "montage" photo of Arevalo standing with a Soviet military attache** that was released to the Guatemalan newspapers during this shortened campaign, which ended abruptly with a military coup before the election.

This military coup of March 1963 plunged Guatemala deeper into more than thirty years of terrible civil war that claimed **200,000 lives**. In the wake of the Guatemalan coup, Arevalo left Mexico for good **the day after the Kennedy assassination**, with the station **monitoring his movements** very closely during those **final**



Juan Jose Arevalo, former president of Guatemala (top, middle). The Mexico City station sent death threats to his family as he was running for re-election while in exile in Mexico.

two months.

It is difficult to find a better tool of repression than a sustained wiretapping campaign. When you know the weaknesses of your adversaries, you know how to exploit these weaknesses to bring them down. When LIFEAT wasn't going after left-wingers, the Mexico City station reported that it was often used to monitor **double agents**.

Some of the more intriguing LIENVOY and LIFEAT projects

One key project was focused on the corporation Transcontinental S.A. in **Mexico City**, engaged in bringing **black market vehicles** from the United States into Cuba. The ability to track Transcontinental S.A., and its change of name, location and phone number was considered during 1963 as a "**most noteworthy LIFEAT contribution**" to station efforts on Cuba. It was considered a good way to learn about the Cuban Embassy's contacts and commercial products sought by the Cuban government.[83]

The head of Transcontinental S.A. was **Dallas** import-export agent Ramon Cortez, also known as Ramon Cortes and Raymond Cortez. Cortez had a history of **working**

both sides of the street with the Capri casino in Havana and as a friend of Che Guevara and a celebrant at **May Day celebrations**. A Dallas jury convicted Cortez for **impersonating** a Guatemalan diplomat, but Cortez never went to jail. His **variety** of names served him well.

During 1962, Cortez worked alongside **Dimas Figueredo (AMSUPER-1)**. [84] Figueredo was looking for Castro's spies as a member of the **GYROSE Debriefing Unit**, while the two men ran a **shoe factory** together. An interview with Tony Sforza indicates that he also worked with a debriefing unit – Sforza's unit was a **counterintelligence unit** within the AMOTS. It's possible that Sforza worked with a different debriefing unit than Figueredo, but it seems more likely that Task Force W would want to have its best people in the same debriefing unit.

The head of the debriefing unit was **Carlos Fernandez (AMSAIL-1)**, who conducted the impersonation of a Cuban embassy official discussed in the previous chapter. Cortez would physically **assist Cuban exiles** while Figueredo was debriefing them. After Havana figured out that Cortez had "beat the Castro government out of more than \$80,000", Figueredo hired a **bodyguard** for Cortez.

In the days after 11/22/63, Cortez would be touted by Angleton's office and others as a **prime suspect** in the death of JFK. Granted, the impecunious Oswald did show his barber a pair of **fine-looking** yellow leather house shoes that he had bought for only \$1.50 down in "Old Mexico", and offered to **get him a pair**. We don't know if Oswald was friends with Cortez or Figueredo, or whether he bought his shoes from their business. But we do know that Cortez was a notorious double agent acting on behalf of US interests, and it's hard to believe that Angleton's office didn't know that.

Oswald's file also has a Transcontinental S.A. file in it from 1961, **for no apparent reason**. Oswald's **passport** identified him as an shipping export agent. In *Casino Royale*, James Bond himself had a cover as an import-export agent for Universal Export. It was alleged by reputable parties to the Church Committee that Oswald was a source for U.S. Customs.

Oswald's brother Robert recounted how much Lee enjoyed working as an import-export agent in New Orleans in the mid-fifties. "It was a big adventure to him – as if all the company's ships were his and he could go to any of the places named on the order blanks he carried from one desk to another. It made him feel important, just to be on the fringes of something as exciting as foreign trade." [85] Did Oswald have a relationship with Cortez through their mutual interest? Or was someone seeding the file to link the two men together?

Another key project was "American Communists in Mexico". This group included many left luminaries such as Hollywood 10 members **Dalton Trumbo** and **Albert Maltz**, who had come to Mexico during the height of the McCarthy era in the fifties. [86] The wiretap operations provided data on the "overt and covert activities of the **Hollywood Ten to regain their former status in the US film industry**". [87]

The world of counterintelligence is revealed in LIFEAT's monitoring of subjects of ZRKNICK interest, which included a tap on the home of Cuban commercial attaché Luisa Calderon. [88]

ZRKNICK was a program where the FBI in Miami was wiretapping Cuban espionage agents, and then sharing the results with CIA. It's fair to assume that the ZRKNICK take in Mexico City was shared with the FBI.

It should be noted that the personality files created by the Mexico City station on Luisa Calderon, Eusebio Azcue, and June Cobb were all **destroyed** before the HSCA could review them. Many documents are **missing** from Calderon's 201 file, which is a headquarters file and separate from the Mexico City station's

personality files.

Oswald's links with Cuba and his call of September 28 were suppressed

Many people have noticed and commented on how the Oswald call of September 28 was suppressed, as well as how all of Oswald's links with Cuba were hidden until after the assassination. Peter Dale Scott has written, "This suppression (of the call to the Cuban consulate by the man calling himself Lee Oswald) was entirely consistent with intelligence priorities of the period. This important clue had been planted in the midst of one of the most sensitive CIA operations in the 1960s: its largest intercept operation against the telephones of an important Soviet base. One can assume that this clue was planted by conspirators who knew that the CIA response would be to suppress the truth." [89]

The calls the CIA claims to have received came in on Sept 27 (the day of Oswald's visits to the Soviet and Cuba consulates requesting visas), Sept. 28 (the first Oswald call from the Cuban consulate to the Soviet consulate speaking "broken Russian") and October 1 (subsequent Oswald phone calls speaking broken Russian). The available documents and witnesses tell us that all these calls were picked up on LIENVOY. [90] Both the Mexican and American governments obtained copies of the take for those days, but only portions remain intact in the files.

The tap operations were a great way to frame Oswald and blackmail the Agency

We have now reviewed a setting where the telephone tap system was insecure and in the hands of individuals described by Goodpasture as "cruel and corrupt". Goodpasture described a "man calling himself Oswald" who had arrived in Mexico City trying to get visas to visit Cuba and the USSR. He introduced himself as a member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and the US Communist Party.

Author Peter Dale Scott points out that the above-described situation provides a "strong clue that conspirators to frame Oswald...existed within the (telephone) intercept process, either in the CIA or (as I will suggest) within the DFS (the Mexican federal police)." Scott points out that the reason why LIENVOY was considered so incredibly sensitive may have been because it was insecure. Furthermore, Scott points out reasons why the September 28 phone call by Oswald was actually a fake – reasons we will explore in the next chapter:

- 1) Both the Cuban Consulate and the Soviet Consulate were closed on September 28.
 - 2) Silvia Durán was adamant that on September 28 Oswald was not in the Cuban Consulate, where their voices are alleged to have been **overheard**.
 - 3) Oleg Nechiporenko of the Soviet Embassy is the chief source supporting the claim that Oswald was in the Soviet Embassy on September 28. Yet he has stated, on video, that the telephone switchboard was closed on September 28, and that there could have been no phone conversations on that day.
- After review of the transcripts**, I do find callers, but they all appear to be "insiders" of the station. "Duran" was the only non-insider to call that day; that would indicate that whoever impersonated "Duran" knew the inside line to call.
- 4) According to Alan Belmont, the number three man at the FBI, the voice said to be Oswald's was reportedly not that of the Dallas Lee Harvey Oswald, *as his voice is different, and he spoke in broken English.*"

Belmont's source was Gordon Shanklin, the chief of the Dallas FBI office, who was relying on the reports of his own agents who had spoken with Oswald in the past. [91]

It's fair to assume that Mexico City station officers only discussed LIENVOY products on a need-to-know basis. We assume that Goodpasture tipped off CIA Headquarters about the Oswald impersonation, based on the contents and style of the twin October 10 memos. But did she tell her boss Win Scott, or Staff D?



The Hollywood Ten in 1948 with their attorneys, after contesting their contempt of congress citations. From left, —front row: Herbert Biberman, attorneys Martin Popper and Robert W. Kenny, Albert Maltz, Lester Cole,—second row: Dalton Trumbo, John Howard Lawson, Alvah Bessie, Samuel Ornitz—back row: Ring Lardner Jr., Edward Dmytryk, Adrian Scott. The ten men were convicted of contempt. Their appeals of course were denied, all served prison terms of up to one year.

Source: <http://www.moderntimes.com/palace/ten.htm>.

On the home front, Goodpasture had two masters. Win Scott was both her boss at the Mexico City station and a member of Staff D, like all the lead officers in Mexico City. Alex MacMillan was her new boss at Staff D. What were the lines of command regarding internal Staff D matters? How did the Mexico City station communicate with Staff D headquarters?

As we will see, most of the communications between the Mexico City station and Staff D HQ are missing. I assume Scott used some kind of codes to communicate with Staff D headquarters. **Scott used codes when he communicated with the National Security Agency.** To my knowledge, we have no copies of any communications from the Mexico City station to the NSA.

To the ARRB, Goodpasture downplayed her involvement in Staff D, claiming that she was simply involved in duplicating and distributing materials and that her only duty was to the Mexico City station. Angleton testified to the HSCA that **Goodpasture was "very close" to Bill Harvey.**[92]

Staff D was the CIA division for wiretapping and all communications intelligence. Did Goodpasture tell either Scott or her friends at Staff D that Oswald was impersonated over the LIENVOY lines? I think she had to tell someone in Staff D, as a matter of the chain of command. This chart shows that Goodpasture (using her pseudonym as Robert B. Riggs) answered to Scott in the LIENVOY operation.[93]

I believe that Goodpasture told Scott. One reason is because it would make no sense to compromise the firm chain of command. The other reason, as set forth below, is that US citizens visiting Soviet bloc representatives was an issue that needed to be reported to Headquarters whenever it occurred. The Oswald visits of September 27 and September 28 were never reported in the LIENVOY reports. The only thing that can explain this failure to report was an agreement not to do so, because the September 28 visit was mentioned to the FBI three weeks later pursuant to a similar agreement to report any such visits to the FBI.

If Scott didn't know about Oswald prior to November 22, he was a pretty good actor. Scott wrote a note regarding Oswald's September 27 visits, asking, **"Is it possible to identify?"** There's no indication in the file that he got verification of the identity of the September 27 visitor until after the assassination.

However, we know from our review that Scott **reviewed the transcripts every day**, and that he generally received them the morning after the tap was picked up. Shaw said Scott **"tended to review almost all of the paper that came in and out of the station."** We also know that the Mexico City station kept track of **all Americans that visited representatives of the Soviet bloc.** Similarly, the Soviet embassy was described by the CIA Inspector General as a **"magnet for disaffected Americans"**. When you put those three factors together, it means that by Monday, September 30 - at the very latest - Scott would have read the transcripts describing Oswald's visits to the Soviet and Cuban consulates on the 27th, and the transcript describing the phone call from Oswald and Duran to the Soviet consulate on the 28th.

It also means that the Mexican monitor comparing Spanish-speakers could not have helped but notice that Duran's voice on the 28th did not match her voice on the 27th. The Mexico City station had been taking photos of Duran during her frequent visits over the past year, and should have been listening to Duran's voice on a constant basis since she started working at the consulate early in the summer. Did the monitor tell Scott or Goodpasture? If the monitor was corrupt, maybe not.

However, whether or not the monitor told Scott or Goodpasture, there was a third factor to consider. At least one of the case officers at Mexico City's Cuban desk had a duty to listen to the Duran tapes of the 27th and 28th. The rule was that whenever a US citizen contacted the Soviet compound, the procedure was to get a copy of the tape into Goodpasture's hands within **fifteen minutes**. "The reel is then taken to the station and **given to the case officer** responsible for the target the person was trying to contact".

Who was responsible for Duran - was it Phillips, his deputy Shaw, or someone else? Bob Shaw testified that "Sylvia Duran was the person being a Mexican citizen inside the Cuban embassy **who I dealt with**", and that no one had notified him about Oswald or that Duran had an American visitor **prior to the assassination.** His name is on some of the transcripts, but there is **no date** and his name is **not crossed out**, hence it could have been provided to him after the assassination as well. Shaw was working under **State Department cover**, and described himself as a **"Kennedy man"**. Additionally, **Shaw knew nothing about the attempts to recruit Duran's boss Azcue.** This is further evidence that Phillips took the Duran file out of Shaw's hands regarding the Oswald events.

CI/SIG head Birch O'Neal, who spoke softly and with a distinct accent revealing his origin from the **state of Georgia**, tended to keep to himself. Nonetheless, O'Neal let it be known within a day of the assassination that Oswald might have been picked up by the Mexico City wiretapping operations **as early as September 27**, even though none of the September 27 visits had been reported by Mexico City to CIA HQ. The only way O'Neal could know is if he was told by someone at the Mexico City station. Someone had figured it out, and it wasn't all that hard, given the small number of Americans that visited either the Soviet or Cuban compounds.

Win Scott's manuscript is probably a red herring

On the other hand, Scott wrote a manuscript shortly before his death eight years later saying that **his cameras picked up Oswald coming in and coming out during every one of his many visits to the consulates.** It's hard to imagine just how his colleagues reacted to his proposal to tell this wholly undocumented story to the American people. Even the incomplete records indicate that Oswald was not picked up during at least some of his visits. When Scott met with the Warren Commission staffers months after the assassination, he

carefully explained to them that **the cameras had been completely unsuccessful** in capturing any photos of Oswald. I think Scott hated the notion that his station was less than competent in any way, and was willing to play with the historical record if necessary.

Whether or not Scott knew about the Oswald impersonation before the assassination, it is clear that he was inclined to tell some tall tales, and that his word cannot be trusted about the events involving Oswald. His own colleagues say the **same thing** about him. Goodpasture told some whoppers as well. The difference between the two of them is that she is still alive, became the CIA's historian on Mexico City's role in the JFK assassination, and was forced to change her story as more evidence came in. Nor, in my opinion, did she tell her whoppers to enhance her reputation. I believe her mis-statements were based on doing her duty to the Mexico City station, as she saw it.

Despite his denials, Bill Harvey was still involved with Cuban affairs after he left for Rome

Meanwhile, Bill Harvey was still enmeshed in Cuban intrigue. When he was the head of Task Force W, Staff D, and ZR/RIFLE, Harvey knew more than probably anyone about Cuban intelligence. Harvey testified that he had **nothing more to do with Cuba** after he left the USA to become Chief of Station in Rome in June 1963. A figure as prominent as Harvey could not have washed his hands of Cuba, even if that was his desire. He was too valuable to the Agency. He knew too much.

The following memos indicate that Harvey was lying:

1. During August 1963, Harvey was being copied on memos regarding the recent **FPCC chief Richard Gibson**, who had been pressured into fleeing to Switzerland in late 1962 and knew a little bit about Oswald's interest in the FPCC.
2. During September 1963, Harvey was in contact with potential Castro assassin AMLASH/Rolando Cubela's close friend AMWHIP/Carlos Tepedino. During the previous year, **Harvey had received approval from Potocki's CI/OPS office** to work with Tepedino.

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED 1998

21 OCTOBER 1963

TO : DIRECTOR, STATE DEPT
FROM : ROME
SUBJECT: CUBAN AFFAIRS
REF: DIA TOSAS (CUBAN AFFAIRS) 75731

1. WHILE YOUR AREA REPORT HAS BEEN WELL PHASED TO CONVINCE WITH DIA AND PASS AS WELL REPORTS OF AN AMERICAN AREA WHICH REPORTED BY TYPIC CUBAN AFFAIRS. OTHERS (CUBAN AFFAIRS) REPORTED AS RICHARD GIBSON. IF NEED ARISES, PLEASE REPORT DIA REPORT THAT THIS MATTER AND DIA REPORT.

END OF MESSAGE

BAZ/OM:HEI * AMWIP and ROME with 21 October 1963 and 21 October 1963.

3. During **October 1963**, Cubela and Tepedino met in **Rome** under CIA auspices, with Harvey in charge of **coordination**. Harvey was writing reports about Tepedino **right up to the week of the assassination**.

4. Wittingly or unwittingly, Tepedino's information was going straight to Castro. SAS counterintelligence chief Hal Swenson figured it out by 1965, when he put Tepedino on a lie detector machine and got him to admit that **Cubela was cooperating with Cuban intelligence**.

In its own words, the CIA was forced to assume that all Cubela and AMTRUNK activities were being **monitored or controlled** by Cuban intelligence. Only then were all ties with Rolando Cubela cut by the CIA, as Agency officer Brian Latell describes at great length in his recent book *Castro's Secrets*. Only then did Castro arrest Cubela, have him tried on disloyalty charges unrelated to his CIA activities, and give him a jail sentence that was combined with big freedoms.

Bill Harvey hosted a meeting between Cubela/AMLASH and Tepedino/AMWHIP at the Rome station during October 1963, and tracked Tepedino right into November.

I believe Bill Harvey was using Tepedino as a telephone to Castro's ear, and that Castro knew all about the CIA's plans to use Cubela to assassinate him, up to and including the Agency's delivery of poison and injection equipment to Cubela on November 22, 1963. We could mull over why Harvey was using Tepedino in this way, but it doesn't really matter in this analysis. The important thing is that Harvey was doing it, and lied about it right up to his death.

Bill Harvey and Staff D, Mexican intelligence, and the FBI all had access to LIENVOY's information during the autumn of 1963

It is well-documented that both Mexican intelligence and the top echelon of the FBI in Washington had access to LIENVOY. Although we don't know the mode of FBI access, I would assume that somebody in the FBI had a Mexican connection. It should be highlighted that LIENVOY's material went to Staff D – so Harvey and his people would have a long look at every bit of it. From there, Staff D would pass the material on to the NSA, where no one would ever see it again. Good luck to anyone submitting a FOIA to the NSA. That's an agency that makes the CIA look like the ACLU.

Curiously, Ambassador Thomas Mann, the titular State Department chief in Mexico, was said to be the only non-CIA US personnel in Mexico who knew about LIENVOY.[94] This means that even the FBI officers in Mexico did not know about this operation.

The September LIENVOY report, written by Scott in early October, mentions that there were **"two leads from LIENVOY of operational interest in September 1963"**. Neither of these calls were the September 28

call from "Duran and Oswald" to the Soviet consulate. That critical call is not mentioned, even though it was referred to in the October 1 call three days later and before the report went out.

CIA Headquarters went to **great lengths** to ensure that Duran was never interviewed or confronted by any American during the post-assassination investigation. If she had been, the falsity of the September 28 call would have been exposed. HSCA forced the issue and interviewed Duran in 1978. The problems with Duran's interviews with the Mexican DFS will be explored a little later on.

The October LIENVOY report does mention that "MEXI-6453 reported a (October 1) contact by an English-speaking man with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City. This was forwarded to Headquarters for further dissemination".[95] This, of course, was the phone call where a man identified himself as "Lee Oswald", speaking in broken Russian before resorting to English. **Why does the October LIENVOY report ignore the September 28 Duran-Oswald call?** Again, I believe it was because the September 28 call was mistrusted from the day it was made, and was held very closely as a secret.

The September 28 call was revealed to the FBI by Win Scott on October 16. Why? It took me a long time to figure out why the FBI was the only one to receive a written memo before the assassination about this Oswald call. One reason was because the CIA had a pre-existing agreement for "**special dissemination**" to the FBI of American citizens who contacted the Cuban embassy, the Soviet embassy, or American Communists in Mexico.[96] During 1963, the FBI processed the take on American Communists in Mexico.[97] In other words, the CIA had a duty to tell the FBI about the call.

There may have been a second reason, which was because the CIA knew that the FBI may have had access to the call through its own LIENVOY sources. Rather than pretend that the September 28 call didn't happen, the CIA de-emphasized its importance by writing the memo to expose the date of the call but to omit any reference to the Cuban consulate!

The October 1 call, however, was trumpeted far and wide throughout the Agency and to other governmental agencies. This disparity in reporting occurred even though transcriber Boris Tarasoff identified the September 28 caller and the October 1 caller as the same person.

As of October 8, Scott did not consider these Sept 28 and Oct. 1 LIENVOY calls as "operational". **He only considered the October 1 call as operational, and only after** he had received a October 10 memo from Headquarters addressing the Oswald visit at some length. I believe that Scott was feigning ignorance, and waiting to hear the signals received from Headquarters that will become the focus of discussion.

There is also a note from author Ron Kessler stating that: "...both the Mexican monitors (according to Arehart, outside staff agent) said caller (who called himself Oswald) had difficulty making himself understood (as I recall) **in both English and Russian**".

This was affirmed in a memo written by the FBI's Dallas chief Gordon Shanklin, who spoke with counterintelligence specialist Alan Belmont during the morning of November 23: "...the Agents who have talked to Oswald have listened to the tape provided by the CIA of the call allegedly made by Oswald to the Soviet Embassy, and they do not think that the individual was Oswald, as his voice is different and he spoke in broken English." [98]

In other words, the man called Oswald had a hard time speaking English as well as Russian! Given that the Oswald impersonator was not a native English speaker or Russian speaker, he may have been a Spanish speaker. Although I have explored the possibility that Shanklin confused "broken English", for "broken Russian", Kessler relied on "the monitors" for the statement that "Oswald" spoke both broken Russian and broken English. Also, the transcript reveals that the Oswald character asked the Soviet character "**please speak Russian**" after the Soviet started speaking English. As the Tarasoffs did not address the "broken English" aspect in their depositions, the area remains a little gray, but I still come down on the side of the argument that "Oswald" on the tapes of September 28 and October 1 was not a native English speaker.

As mentioned earlier, CIA translator Boris Tarasoff listened to both tapes and concluded that the same person made both the September 28 call and the October 1 call. The problem then and now is that we don't know who that person was, but there's many good reasons to conclude that it wasn't Oswald. In the words of Jack Whitten, the CIA's first JFK assassination investigator: "**No source then at our disposal had ever actually seen Lee Oswald while he was in Mexico.**" [99] As seen after the assassination, Whitten's candor is why he got taken off this case early on.

The Levister story

As Mexico City was the wiretap capital of the Western Hemisphere, it meant that Bill Harvey was still in the game in his last days at Staff D. Anita Potocki continued to reign as the queen of the Staff D files. Years later, after **inquiries** about a **Staff D/NSA file on Oswald** had been made and a Staff D Oswald biographic file had been **spotted**, she reported that Staff D had **no file on Oswald**. Staff D's material went directly to the National Security Agency.

What was the role of Staff D at the Mexico City station? I think that they were one and the same. Goodpasture was a Staff D officer. **This memo** indicates Chief Win Scott was also **Staff D**. Available personnel fitness reports indicate that all the main officers stationed in Mexico City may have been working with Staff D. LIFEAT chief **Tom Keenan** was **Staff D**. So was David Phillips, head of the Western Hemisphere covert action and the Cuba section, as well as his deputy **Robert Shaw**. Also intercept station

chief **Charles Flick**. Also the station photographer **Robert Zambernardi**. Charlotte Bustos, WH/3/Mexico, stationed at Headquarters, also answered to Staff D.

Some of the story recounted here is based on a report done by Paul Levister, a Staff D officer who was a wiretap expert. After his visit between September 22 and October 1, he wrote up a fifty page report on LIENVOY and LIFEAT.[100]

Levister's boss was a Headquarters officer whose pseudonym was Thomas Urquhart, described as the "principal end user" of LIENVOY.[101] Urquhart was a Staff D officer, and was probably Staff D chief Alex MacMillan, who had served as Harvey's deputy chief of Staff D before Harvey's dethroning by the Kennedys. MacMillan was close to Harvey and one of the two CIA men who attended his funeral.[102] **On at least one occasion, Urquhart came to the LIENVOY intercept center and monitored Cuban calls himself.**

In late July, the word was that SAS wanted verbatim transcripts from the LIENVOY monitors handling the Cuban take, and that this request was simply too difficult for the monitors. On **August 15**, there was a report that Scott was working on a sensitive Cuban case that was still **pending** as of **September 13** – the dates indicate that this was probably the attempt to recruit Azcue.

On September 20, right after the Azcue recruitment failed, the Mexico City station got a heads-up from Headquarters saying that Levister from FI/OPS would be visiting **during the week of September 22** with the intent to study the "uniquely productive" LIENVOY and LIFEAT. The memo indicates hope of resolving unstated security problems that are arising with LIFEAT.[103]

A mundane but real problem was that **there was no way to keep the tap routing line hidden** when it was run from the terminal of the telephone cable to the basehouse itself, and telephone security people had removed all the excess telephone lines from the terminal.

Another security problem that cropped up stemmed from the **retirement of LIFEUD-1** and how although he remained a part-time investigator, his new situation reduced his access to **LIFEUD-16**, an invaluable resource for the tapping of new target lines. Other problems included ongoing problems with telephone linemen and new construction in the area.

Levister wrote a first impressions memo to the chief of foreign intelligence upon his return on October 2, discussing how well the Mexico City station handled the take of LIENVOY and LIFEAT.[104] Did Levister have no idea of the concern emanating from the Mexico City station in the wake of the Oswald visits and calls?

The Staff D memos to the National Security Agency have disappeared from the record

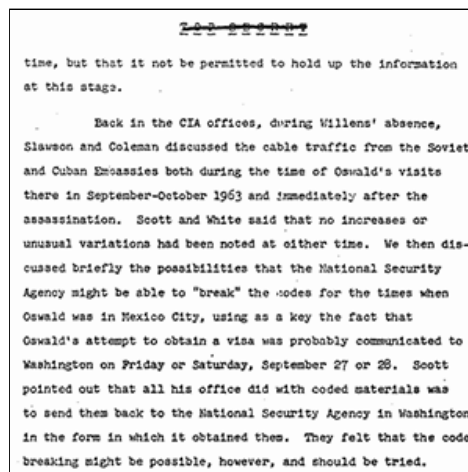
A Warren Commission staffer suggested to Win Scott that the National Security Agency (NSA) might be able to break **the codes of the cable traffic from the Soviet and Cuban Embassies** "for the times when Oswald was in Mexico City, using as a key the fact that Oswald's attempt to obtain a visa was probably communicated to Washington on Friday or Saturday, September 27 or 28. I assume the Warren Commission staffer was referring to Soviet, Cuban, and/or American codes. Scott replied that "all his office did with coded materials was to send them back to the National Security Agency in Washington **in the form in which it obtained them**. They felt that the code-breaking might be possible, however, and should be tried."

I understand Scott's reply as an acknowledgement that memos that included coded materials were commonly sent from Mexico City to the NSA. Any such memos would have been sent by Staff D, which was **the liaison to the NSA**. I have seen no such memos to either Staff D or the NSA in the files.

I also understand from the above discussion that Scott was acknowledging that a memo to Washington about Oswald's attempts to obtain a visa on September 27 and 28 was probably sent – and in a contemporaneous fashion. We have no record of any such memo being sent by Mexico City to anyone before the assassination. Nor do we have any record of any Staff D or NSA intercepts of Cuban or Soviet traffic between Mexico City and their respective capitals.

Most importantly, Scott seems to be admitting that there was a message to the NSA about Oswald on September 27 and/or September 28, while no such cable was sent to CIA headquarters!

I did a search for the documents sent by Mexico City to Staff D in the autumn of 1963. There are about eighteen of these dispatches. The HSCA realized that these dispatches **were missing from the files**. A hunt



The Mexico City station sent memos with coded materials to the National Security Agency during the time of the Oswald visit, but none of these memos can be currently located.

was conducted. Their present location is unknown.[105]

A 7/6/78 memo requested these **missing Staff D dispatches** as well as **many others**. The dispatch requests were included within #13 on the list. An internal memo asks “**is IMS going to do this?**” regarding item #13. (**IMS was an analyst group**.)

On 9/12/78, the CIA said that item #13 was **available for review**. But the eighteen documents directed to Staff D remained unretrievable, **because no “file number” was assigned to them**. The logical conclusion is that these dispatches received no “file number” precisely because they involve Staff D.

Finally, despite the specific requests of the Assassination Records Review Board, very few documents about the assassination have been provided by the NSA. The bulk of them were from their counsel’s office. While the CIA turned over hundreds of thousands of documents, the NSA flatly asserted that **none** of their intelligence documents contained anything of investigatory significance to the JFK assassination. Although the ARRB did a good job leaning on a variety of agencies, in this instance the Board **protected** NSA intercept data from disclosure.

In closing, we can see that Staff D’s work at the Mexico City station was one of the main pipelines for intelligence to the NSA in the Western Hemisphere. This was of critical importance to the intelligence community. If anyone had tried to reveal these operations in the wake of the assassination, there would have been a battle royal. I believe that the intelligence insiders who were part of the plan to kill Kennedy knew this, and counted on it.

This is best illustrated by the investigation conducted by the House Select Committee on Assassinations. Its chief counsel, Robert Blakey, was misled by the CIA so badly that he wrote years later: “Many have told me that the culture of the Agency is one of **prevarication and dissimulation** and that you cannot trust it or its people. Period. End of story. I am now in that camp.”

Because Blakey trusted the CIA, he spent most of his time doing some good work on the organized crime’s probable role in the assassination, but not enough time educating himself on the parallel role of certain intelligence officers. A letter written at the end of this two year investigation reveals that **Mr. Blakey knew very little about Staff D** – and when it came to **CI/SIG**, **he didn’t even know its name**.

Read Chapter 5: *The Mexico City Solution*

NOTES

1 *The memos involving Oswald in Mexico City often use the indicator LCIMPROVE, which means “counter-espionage involving Soviet intelligence services worldwide”*: The request for the definition of LCIMPROVE by government staffers to the CIA: “List of Names re Kennedy Assassination”, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 9/NARA Record Number: 104-10061-10115**. The CIA’s response: Id., **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 9/NARA Record Number: 104-10061-10115**.

2 *LCIMPROVE is all over the memos addressing Oswald’s instant visa to enter the USSR*: See Dispatch – REDCAP/LCIMPROVE – Procuring of Female Companionship for Gregory T. Golub, Memo from Chief of Station REDACTED to William Costille, 8/28/59, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 8: Golitsyn - Hernandez)/NARA Record Number: 104-10172-10294**.

Also see memo by William Costille, REDWOOD/REDSKIN/REDCAP/LCIMPROVE re Gregory Golub, containing two dates of 10/22/59 and 11/27/59, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 8: Golitsyn - Hernandez)/ NARA Record Number: 104-10172-10291**.

3 *John Whitten said, “I do not know whether you informed yourself about the magnitude of our political action program at the time - absolutely enormous...”*: **Lopez Report**, (HSCA, 1978) p. 178.

It should be noted that in terms of sensitivity, KAPOK seems to be the highest level, then RYBAT, then EYES ONLY. Memorandum re Reclassification of Document, 9/12/62, NARA Record Number: **1994.05.19.09:45:56:280005**.

One CIA officer claims that both KAPOK and RYBAT mean proscribed and limited in dissemination, with KAPOK simply being an older term. **HSCA Interview of William F. Larson**, 6/27/78, p. 65.

4 *During 1963, Cuba was considered the #1 priority of the station, and the Soviet Union was considered #2*: Anne Goodpasture, Mexico City Station History, p. 521. NARA Record Number: **104-10414-10124**.

5 *Jim Angleton himself told the Church Committee that Oswald’s defection and return to the US should have been “the highest priority for the intelligence community”*: Paul Wallach, Memorandum for the Record, re meeting with James Angleton on 10/3/75. **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10120**.

6 *An internal review revealed that the Mexico City base was the best-run in the Western Hemisphere and one of the best in the world*: **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10124**.

7 *The tap operations and the related surveillance took up the full time of two case officers at the station*: Levister memo, page 52 of 55, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6/NARA Record Number: 104-**

10052-10276.

8 *These listening posts were set up in homes because it made it easier for the operator to prevent sudden entry by phone company inspectors or repairmen:* “Debriefing of David M. Wilsted”, *Russ Holmes Work File*/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10053.

9 *LIFEAT's focus was mostly on targets' homes, with a few embassy taps:* One of these listening posts was set up at the home of Office of Technical Security technician Harvey Mulford. “MKC Base (NOC Harvey Mulford's residence)”, date uncertain, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10025.

10 *AQUATIC deployed a variety of intrusive techniques from the photo operations to opening mail to creating horrid smells that David Phillips referred to as “Who, Me?”:* Operational Monthly Report, November 1963, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 38*/NARA Record Number: 104-10106-10222. Also see David Phillips, *The Night Watch*.

11 *LIFEAT was able to access central telephone exchanges until 1963, when the company stepped up its control of personnel movements between and among these exchanges:* Project LIFEAT Renewal, 1964-1965, p. 2, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10054.

LIFEAT was set up when the Mexico City station opened under *Bill Doyle*. That was in approximately 1950.

12 *During 1958, the more sophisticated and centralized LIENVOY tap operation was brought into play:* “Intelligence Sources on Oswald's Visit to Mexico City During 1963”, probable author Anne Goodpasture, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36*/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10360.

This item provides the original location of the LIENVOY material; much of it may still be there.

13 *LIENVOY could tap any phone desired, while LIFEAT had to take more safety precautions:* *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6*/NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10208.

14 *Goodpasture opined that the DFS focused its attention on domestic political affairs:* Anne Goodpasture, Mexico City Station History, p. 374. NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10124. (“national security” vis-à-vis “domestic political affairs”) “Intelligence to Sources on Oswald's Visit to Mexico City in 1963”, p. 3. *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36*/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10359. (“hip-pocket”; “cruel and corrupt”)

15 *The LIENVOY report for September 1963 shows just how worried the Mexico City station was about the DFS as their partner:* *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6*/NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10083.

16 *CIA HQ and Mexico City station agreed before the assassination that the LIENVOY intercept center needed to be moved because it was insecure:* *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)*/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10049.

17 *Charles Anderson ran LIENVOY:* *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 35*/NARA Record Number: 104-10096-10310.

Anderson's pseudo was “Lewis J. Shoquist”. See: Interview with Charlotte Bustos, 12/2/76, NARA Record Number: 104-10095-10001. Also see CIA memo, 12/14/71, NARA Record Number: 104-10104-10011.

As the above document shows, it's hard to believe, but in the early 1970s the CIA referred to itself as “JKLANCE”, as a tip of the hat to John F. Kennedy and his Secret Service code name “Lancer”. I believe that the CIA adopted the name JKLANCE as a means of fending off the accusations that some of its officers were involved in the JFK assassinations, which began to heat up during the late sixties.

18 *Goodpasture was assisted at LIFEAT by Tom Keenan, who was adept at several forms of surveillance:* Tom Keenan, aka Jeremy Niarcos, was chief of LIEMPTY (visual and photosurveillance of Soviet embassy at three basehouses, access to the multi-line taps on LIFEAT, physical surveillance and mail surveillance of various targets throughout Mexico City). See LIEMPTY Progress Report, August-October 1964, NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10390; Crypts, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10029. Renewal of Project LIEMPTY for 1960, NARA Record Number: 104-10118-10334. Goodpasture, Mexico City Station History, p. 269, NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10124.

For more on Keenan, see Field Reassignment Questionnaire, 3/12/64, NARA Record Number: 104-10222-10009.

LIEMPTY had about fifteen agents. For more on its role, see Draft Paper on LIEMPTY Project, 1963. *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 18*/NARA Record Number: 104-10079-10282.

The outside case officer for LIFEAT was David M. Wilsted, known to indigenous agents as “Ingenerio Stanley”. Wayne Draband was his assistant, with Liembrace-8 as the backup technician. Carol K. Zinsmeister was the backup processor/translator and former basehouse keeper, Olga Parkinik was the backup processor/translator. The program had approximately 22 field agents, including LIFEUD-22 and LIFEUD-23 who filmed the Cuban Embassy. LIFEUD-22 and LIFEUD-23 were also known as LIONION-1 and LIONION-2.

19 *Goodpasture and Keenan found themselves delivering tapes in stealth, assuming "double and triple wingback positions" as they made their way to a secure location:* Cover letter is written by J.C. King, C/WH to Mexico City chief Win Scott, 12/30/63, attached to a 12/30/63 Levister memorandum, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10447.**

20 *According to Goodpasture, LIENVOY was run by Charles Anderson from 1961 to 1962 and by Frank Estancona from 1962 to 1964:* Goodpasture, "Background on Mexico City Station Assets", February 1977, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10427-10044.**

21 *LIENVOY-2's predecessor had been LIELEGANT, who Goodpasture described as putting the project through a shakedown during its initial four years:* Copy 7 of a duplicate file entitled, "Goodpasture": **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 26/NARA Record Number: 104-10086-10399.**

22 *LIENVOY-2 ran a group of informants as part of his work at the intercept center:* Request for Renewal for Project LIENVOY, p. 3, 1/16/63, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10045.**

23 *Philip Agee - a former CIA officer left the US in protest of its policies - thought that LIENVOY-2 was the President of Mexico, and he almost had it right:* Philip Agee, *Inside the Company: CIA Diary* (Stonehill: New York, 1975), p. 613.

24 *President Lopez told Scott that LIENVOY-2 - the DFS' field agent who answered to Flick - had just come up with the September 28 transcript:* **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 47/NARA Record Number: 104-10132-10224.** (LIENVOY-2 is explicitly cited). See also: **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10422-10149.** (LITENSOR is explicitly cited – but magnification reveals that the "2" in LIENVOY-2 was blacked out.)

Was the "2" in LIENVOY a typo, caused by redacting and then unredacting sensitive words? Here's other versions referring to "LIENVOY 2", **here, here, here.** After review, I think I am reading it correctly.

25 *A short story shows the delicacy of this type of work...:* Request for Renewal for Project LIENVOY, p. 2, 1/16/63, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10045.**

26 *The transcription room was staffed by Mexican Army officers:* **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10360.**

HSCA Segregated CIA Collection/HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6/NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10208. (LIENVOY flow chart, 1/1/65)

Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10033. (LIENVOY flow chart, 11/30/66)

HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10044. (4/4/63 memo - contact LIENVOY/2 in an emergency)

An example of **LIENVOY work load for 1966** – can be extrapolated for 1963.

27 *Technician Charles Flick aka Arnold Arehart was the sole American case officer for the LIENVOY intercept center. Supervising over thirty employees, he held the fort full-time from early in the morning until late at night:* **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (staff notes)/NARA Record Number: 180-10141-10217.** Also "Request for Renewal for Project LIENVOY", 1/16/63, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10045.**

For the background showing that Arnold Arehart is the pseudonym for Charles Flick, see the index cards with numbers - the **subject card file**. These cards' numbers match the **black notebook** provided by the CIA. **Arehart is #73** (Flick).

28 *The first taps were done within the center of the telephone company...:* **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10447.**

29 *It was important to create tapes, as there was every chance that "in the hands of an inefficient and corrupt (transcriber) there was every chance that the substance of conversations was colored and distorted, unintentionally or by design."*: Levister memo, 16 of 56 pages. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10447.**

30 *In 1958, LIFEAT became its own project, and the remaining LIPSTICK portions were re-named as LIEMPTY:* LIEMPTY was a new cryptonym for the LIPSTICK project. Goodpasture, **Mexico City Station History**, pp. 269-270.

Renamed as LIEMPTY in 1958: Records re Mexi Op, p. 1, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10023.** LIFEAT broke away from LIEMPTY.

31 *Goodpasture's duties included the handling and dissemination of the take from the three photo surveillance sites:* LIFEAT tap and Soviet photographic take was obtained by Goodpasture, **Deposition by Herbert Manell**, 4/28/78, p. 4.

A memo in September 1964 says that Goodpasture would continue to analyze the finished take from the photo surveillance sites. Soviet data was provided to Frank Estancona and Tom Keenan. Cuban data went to John Brady.

32 *Alvarez would do almost anything he was asked to do, and put an emphasis on photographic work:* Anne Goodpasture, *Mexico City Station History*, p. 21. To understand the Alvarez/Gerende relationship, see the cards with numbers - *subject card file*. These cards' numbers match the *black notebook* provided by the CIA.

33 *The LIMITED take yielded no pictures of Oswald:* Goodpasture, *Mexico City Station History*, pp. 271-272.

34 *Goodpasture wrote that LIEMPTY-14's "daily logs and reports were detailed and complete":* *Id.*, at pp. 272-273.

35 *LICALLA, the third site, focused on the back garden within the compound and away from the entrances to the Soviet compound:* NARA Record Number: 104-10103-10360. For an overview of LICALLA, *see the map* of the three photo bases trained on the Soviet compound.

36 *The station claimed that LILYRIC was generally in operation between 0900 and 1500, and LIMITED between 1200 and 1800. The station gave itself wiggle room by saying that these hours could change:* *Summary of File Review*, 10/31/78.

37 *On the date of the visits by the man called Oswald, the last photo was taken at 1146, before any of his alleged visits to the Soviet compound:* Soviet Photo Coverage from LIMITED Base, September-October 1963. NARA Record Number: 180-10143-10144. This matches the *log* and *film* records for September 27.

38 *Oswald allegedly visited the Soviet embassy only once on Friday, between about 12:30-1:30 pm:* Newman, p. 356, relying on Nechiporenko's recollections.

39 *Goodpasture testified to the HSCA that LILYRIC photographs was destroyed for space considerations, but she believed that the negatives were still in existence:* *Deposition of Anne Goodpasture*, 11/20/78, p. 51.

40 *A review of the Mexico City records indicates that the June-Dec 1963 LILYRIC photos were destroyed in 1967:* Review of Mexico City Station Files at Records Center, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection*, Box 26/NARA Record Number: 104-10086-10010.

41 *A couple of LILYRIC photos from October 2, 1963 did survive, apparently due to FOIA requests made promptly after the Act went into effect in 1967:* "Chronology of documents released under FOIA". Surviving documents were 935 927F and 935 927G. *Russ Holmes Work File*/NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10077.

42 *Although the logs and contact prints from LILYRIC are missing, the negatives of the LILYRIC photos appear to be on file with the CIA:* Goodpasture testimony, 4/13/78, pp. 47-51; *Goodpasture Deposition*, 11/20/78, pp. 50-51.

43 *The HSCA believed that a CIA memo provided additional evidence that Headquarters had custody of the LILYRIC negatives:* "Summary of File Review Conducted at CIA Headquarters on 10/31/78", p. 1, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (staff notes)*/NARA Record Number: 180-10143-10144.

Documents indicate that the file number for LILYRIC appears to be 050-006-074/06, with the title "(O)FACTOR/(O)ABSINTH formerly LIEMPTY/LILYRIC". See memo by Anne Goodpasture, LA/M&CAM to Mexico City, 4/21/77, NARA Record Number: 104-10307-10037. Also see Records re Mexico City Photo Operations, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10023.

44 *Records of these negatives, as well as other photos, tapes, and transcripts, can be found in this CIA chronology:* CIA Documents re Transcripts/Tapes/Photos, 1963-1967, *Russ Holmes Work File*/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10021.

45 *The Cuban consulate had just reopened after a year of closure during the week before September 27:* AQUATIC Photographic operation, Operational monthly report, September 1-30, 1963: *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection*, Box 38/NARA Record Number: 104-10107-10187 (unredacted version); 1994.08.10.16:49:04:850028 (redacted, within chronological file).

Here's a *summary* of what appears to be AQUATIC reports.

46 *A new camera for the Cuban consulate door was being set up and tested on the very day of Oswald's visit:* See above. Also see attached chronology: *Russ Holmes Work File*/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10027.

47 *We have a few stray photos, but where are the daily sets of the consulate photos?:* See the *Lopez Report*, p. 120, affirming the failure to produce the consulate photos and the LILYRIC photos.

48 *... After all these years, the existence or non-existence of these photos should be put to rest:* See the *Lopez Report*, 1979, pp. 97 (Watson), 99 (Smith), 102 (Piccolo).

49 During this period, LIFEAT's focus appeared to be sites of particularly strong counterintelligence interest: Memo re LIFEAT in the early sixties, CIA author unknown, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10050. Note that the LIENVOY intercept center was also referred to as an LP (listening post). Anne Goodpasture on one occasion refers to the LIENVOY intercept center as the basehouse listening post.

50 Both Goodpasture and Cuban case officer Bob Shaw remembered that LIFEAT tapped into certain lines within the Cuban compound during 1963: Deposition of Robert Shaw, 5/16/78, p. 20. NARA Record Number: 180-10110-10017. Shaw's testimony was that "a mix" of the two tap operations was used at the Cuban compound.

51 Why are all the records of LIFEAT for the first eleven months of 1963 missing? A CIA officer wrote about these missing records: "What is going on?: "Photographic requisition/handwritten notes", produced by Latin American Division Chris Hopkins, 2/25/77, LA Division Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10307-10055. The missing LIFEAT records are from December 1962 to 12/3/63, within file 50-6-32/7. Supposedly, the entire LIFEAT file can be found here, at HSCA Reel #24, #30165. The LIFEAT file itself should be at the National Archives.

52 Goodpasture wrote that there was no indication that Mexican intelligence knew about LIFEAT: Anne Goodpasture, Mexico City Station History, p. 261.

53 The LIENVOY wiretap system was set up in early 1959: Mexico City Station History, p. 34. This is affirmed by Levister's memo of 12/30/63, which states that LIENVOY had been in operation for about five years.

54 LIENVOY attached 32 taps to target telephone lines at the telephone company central office serving the embassies and other targets: Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10042.

55 ...The Mexicans make the connections in the exchanges and maintain the listening posts: Philip Agee, Inside the Company: CIA Diary, pp. 532, 613. Richard Helms also testified about a tap-sharing arrangement between the CIA and the Mexican government.

56 The Mexican monitors in the intercept center prepared the daily summaries: "Request for Renewal of LIENVOY Project", 1/31/64, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10049.

57 Both the DFS and the high echelons of the FBI had access to LIENVOY: Rex Bradford, More Mexico Mysteries, Kennedy Assassination Chronicles, Volume 7, Issue 4. This article refers to the following two documents: A telephone conversation between DCI John McCone and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, 11/26/63, 11:20 am, and portions of the Ray Rocca deposition, 7/17/78, particularly pp. 277-278.

58 The four monitors, LIENVOY-4, 5, 11, and 12, were highly motivated: HSCA interview with Charles Flick, pseudonym Arnold Arehart, 6/2/78 (not at MFF). Also see LIENVOY chart, 1/1/65.

59 One monitor in particular was very good in isolating intelligence. He became the head monitor and office manager, answering directly to the civilian in charge. His command of English also made him very helpful: Levister memo, 12/30/63, page 23 of 55. NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10276.

60 Journalist Ron Kessler wrote that two of the Mexican monitors who handled the Oswald calls to the Soviet consulate commented to Flick that the caller had a hard time making himself understood in either English or Russian: Handwritten note re Kessler interview with Charles Flick, 11/30/76, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 35/NARA Record Number: 104-10095-10001. I suspect that these "monitors" may have actually been the CIA translator team of Boris and Anna Tarasoff, discussed in the next chapter.

61 We do have a complete, unredacted listing of the LIENVOY taps during June 1963: Memo from Mexico City Station chief Win Scott to Chief, Western Hemisphere J.C. King, "Monthly Operational Report for Project LIENVOY", June 1963. Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10072.

The DFS lines that were tapped were 46-11-30 and 46-09-50. It appears that these taps were shut off on 9-18-63, and maybe in anticipation of Levister's visit. Is it possible that any Cuban taps were removed on or about Sept 23 for the same reason? Levister arrived on September 22.

62 Here are the LIENVOY tapped lines at the Cuban compound during Sept 1963: Lopez Report, 1979, p. 57.

63 14-92-14 - Teresa Proenza's line (cultural attaché) - this may have been her living quarters: Re April 16 1963 (tap on Judith Ferretto's phone re ZRKNICK): "TP's phone is 14-92-14". NARA Record Number: 104-10073-10342.

64 25-09-14 - Commercial office used by Luisa Calderon (commercial attaché): 25-09-14 M24, L24 Polished English (1317-1344) Transcripts from Cuban Embassy and Cubana Airlines, 11/22/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10404-10426.

25-09-14 M24 L24 Spanish (1556-1638) Nico, et al. are here. Telephone Transcripts, 11/22/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10193.

25-09-14 C.M24 Spanish (1730) Calderon knew almost before Kennedy...

25-09-14 C.M24 Spanish,(1730) **Another version** of C. knew almost before Kennedy...

25-09-14 M24 L24, Spanish, (1556-1638)

no phone C.M24 Spanish (1810) **reference to Concepcion**, not in English.

65 14-13-26 - *Chancery line used by Teresa Proenza (cultural attaché):* Transcript of phone call from Soviet consulate to Cuban consulate about Oswald, 9/27/63: Duran told Soviet officer on September 27 that Proenza's phone is 14-13-26. NARA Record Number: **104-10086-10013**.

66 *The chancery and consulate lines were the ones for foreigners to call. Of those lines, only Proenza's line - 14-13-26 - had a LIENVOY tap during the Oswald visit to Mexico City:* Win Scott, Chief, Mexico City to J.C. King, C/WH, Monthly Operational Report, 10/8/63, NARA Record Number: **104-10052-10083**.

67 *The only other operative LIENVOY taps during the Oswald visit were on the ambassador's private line - 14-42-37, and the Commercial Office - 25-09-14, used by Luisa Calderon:* **Lopez Report**, p. 57. For whatever reason, Calderon's line was not listed on many of the monthly reports. I did see Calderon's line listed on the **August 1963 LIENVOY report**.

68 *A CIA officer testified that AMOTs were brought into listening posts in the Western Hemisphere to work as monitors:* Deposition of William Sturbitts, 4/16/75, p. 71, NARA Record Number: **157-10011-10083**. I am convinced from the context, the number of letters, and the fact that the AMOTs were being dissolved at the time of the deposition that "AMOTs" is the phrase used by Sturbitts in this deposition.

69 *Here are the tapped lines at the Soviet compound during September 1963:* Monthly Operational Report, September 1963, Project LIENVOY, p. 2, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6**/NARA Record Number: **104-10052-10083**.

70 15-12-64 (*Soviet film representative - residence and home of suspect GRU officer Vladimir Obrubov, who distributed Soviet commercial films in Mexico*): Request for LIENVOY Project Renewal, 1/11/65, p. 6, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6**/NARA Record Number: **104-10052-10208**.

71 ...*The monitors knew the voices of the targets and their correspondents:* Levister memo, 12/30/63, page 26 of 56, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)**/NARA Record Number: **104-10188-10447**.

72 *Each unit that listened to the take on each wire was composed of a "held dial" recorder and an Ampex 601 tape recorder...:* Report of Paul Levister, 12/30/63, page 29 of 56, NARA Record Number: **104-10188-10447**. (cleaning and maintenance)

HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: **104-10188-10049**. (technical equipment in repair)

73 *Goodpasture would process the take between 8-9 am, and have any items of unusual significance on Scott's desk by nine:* Levister Report, page 38 of 56, 12/30/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)**/NARA Record Number: **104-10188-10447**.

Id., p. 39. ("highlights report, transcripts, and translations"),

Mexico City Station History, p. 413, **Russ Holmes Work File**/NARA Record Number: **104-10414-10124**. ("items of unusual significance")

Fitness Report for Ann L. Goodpasture, reporting period January-December 1963, NARA Record Number: **104-10118-10428**. ("processes take")

74 *Bob Shaw said that if you read two pages of resuma you would have the gist of many pages of tap:* Deposition of Robert Shaw, pp. 20-21, 5/16/78. **HSCA Security Classified Testimony**/NARA Record Number: **180-10110-10017**.

75 *Manell estimated that 30% of the take was retained and kept in case files, while the remainder was thrown away:* **Deposition of Anne Goodpasture**, 12/16/95, pp. 60-61.

Also see Levister Report, 12/30/63, page 47 of 55. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6**/NARA Record Number: **104-10052-10276**.

76 *Each year, the station would prepare 150 memoranda for the State Department and 75 for the FBI, based on information obtained from the phone taps:* Levister memo, 12/30/63, p. 49 of 55. **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6**/NARA Record Number: **104-10052-10276**.

77 *The Russian tapes were transcribed by other contract agents not directly affiliated with the LIENVOY site:* Anne Goodpasture, Mexico City Station History, p. 413. NARA Record Number: **104-10414-10124**.

78 *Two lines were in the home of its "guiding spirit", which was the former Mexican president, the pro-Communist Lazaro Cardenas:* Monthly Operational Report, Project LIENVOY, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6**/NARA Record Number: **104-10052-10083**. ("spiritual leader")

79 As Elena Vasquez worked for Cardenas and had a romantic relationship with Teresa Proenza, she also got LIENVOY coverage: Dispatch, Win Scott to Chief, WH Branch, 8/31/62, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10051. The phone number for Vasquez was 25-07-77.

80 When adding in two other lines of MLN members and the two Cuban lines, altogether these nine target lines made up 80% of the LIENVOY production: Levister report, 12/30/63, page 43 of 56, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10447.

81 Like LIENVOY, LIFEAT snooped mostly on people on the left. The phone calls made by FDR-style former president of Guatemala, Juan Jose Arevalo – referred to as the "Latin American exile" – accounted for 60% of the LIFEAT production: Levister report, 12/30/63, page 44 of 56, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10447. Also see Report re LIFEAT, author unknown, 7/8/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10034.

82 This harassment included agent "Oliver Scantling" aka Juan Nepomuseno Frias Ramirez mailing "poisoned" candy to Arevalo's family (which included five children) as he campaigned for a second chance to serve as president while in exile in Mexico City: Memo from Win Scott to Chief of Operations, DDP, Renewal request for Project LIEMPT, 1/8/60, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 28/NARA Record Number: 104-10088-10328.

Oliver Scantling's real name is Juan Nepomuseno Frias Ramirez: List of Names re Kennedy Assassination Investigation, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 9/NARA Record Number: 104-10061-10115. Note the "t" (true) name alongside the "p" (pseudo) name. It's not impossible, however, that "Nepomuseno" was simply another alias.

83 One key project was focused on the corporation Transcontinental S.A. in Mexico City, engaged in bringing black market vehicles from the United States into Cuba...: Project LIFEAT, Project Review (Parts 1 and 2), 6/1/63, pp. 2 and 5, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10052.

84 During 1962, Cortez had worked alongside Dimas Figueredo (pseudonym AMSUPER-1): GYROSE was a routing indicator for Task Force W. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 40/NARA Record Number: 104-10110-10739.

85 It made Oswald feel important, just to be on the fringes of something as exciting as foreign trade: Robert Oswald, *A Portrait of Lee* (Coward-McCann, 1967) p. 74.

86 This group included many left luminaries such as Hollywood 10 members Dalton Trumbo and Albert Maltz, who had come to Mexico during the height of the McCarthy era in the fifties: Project Review and Project Outline (Parts 1 and 2) re LIFEAT, p. 3, 6/1/63, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10052.

87 The wiretap operations provided data on the "overt and covert activities of the Hollywood Ten to regain their former status in the US film industry": Id., p. 6.

88 The world of counterintelligence is revealed in LIFEAT's monitoring of subjects of ZRKNICK interest, which included a tap on the home of Cuban commercial attaché Luisa Calderon: LIFEAT Progress Report, July 1963, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10294; also see LIFEAT Progress Report, August-October 1963, NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10293.

Also see that on 11/9/63, a specific type of wiretap surveillance was conducted on the home phone of the Cuban commercial attaché (HMMW-22536). This is almost certainly Luisa Calderon, whose office line was covered by LIENVOY. See reference to this in the Lopez Report, footnote 188, page 14 of footnotes.

HMMW-22536 mentions that "the product...is of interest to Special Affairs Staff and JMWAVE" and that coverage of a home phone of a Cuban official was done to support the sensitive AMROD operation. A more redacted version is part of a file of Mexico City dispatches. For more on AMROD, see this memo referring to "the Proenza case".

89 ... One can assume that this clue was planted by conspirators who knew that the CIA response would be to suppress the truth: Peter Dale Scott, "Overview: The CIA, Drug Traffic and Oswald in Mexico", Dec. 2000.

90 Although the originating tap system for these calls are redacted, the "redaction number" indicates that they all came from the same source. LA Division Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10307-10046.

91 According to Alan Belmont, the number three man at the FBI, the voice said to be Oswald's was reportedly not that of the Dallas Lee Harvey Oswald. Belmont's source was Gordon Shanklin, the chief of the Dallas FBI office, who was relying on the reports of his own agents who had spoken with Oswald in the past: See the Lopez Report summary on Belmont's discussion with the Dallas FBI office, amendment to footnote 614 to the Lopez Report.

To read the entire letter from Alan Belmont to Clyde Tolson, 9:15 am, 11/23/63, go to the John Armstrong site at the Poage Library, and look up pages 38-39.

The key language is this: "Shanklin said that from an initial examination of the photograph of the individual who visited the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City on October [sic] 1963, this individual does not appear to be Oswald, as he looks to be older, heavier, and with more hair. Also the Agents who have talked to Oswald have listened to the tape provided by CIA of the call allegedly made by Oswald to the Soviet Embassy, and they do not think the individual is Oswald, *as his voice is different, and he spoke in broken English.*"

92 Deposition of Anne Goodpasture, 12/15/95, pp. 13, 15, 22; Deposition of James Angleton, HSCA deposition, 10/5/78, p. 157.

93 "Robert B. Riggs" was Goodpasture's pseudonym: Chronology of Duran interrogation, p. 4, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6/NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10126.

Mexico City flowchart, 1/1/65, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 6/NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10208.

94 Curiously, Ambassador Thomas Mann, the titular State Department chief in Mexico, was said to be the only non-CIA US personnel in Mexico who knew about LIENVOY: LIENVOY Project Renewal, 4/4/63. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10044.

95 The October LIENVOY report does mention that "MEXI-6453 reported a (October 1) contact by an English-speaking man with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City. This was forwarded to Headquarters for further dissemination": "Monthly Operational Report for Project LIENVOY", 11/7/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 32/NARA Record Number: 104-10098-10230.

96 The CIA had a pre-existing agreement for "special dissemination" to the FBI of American citizens who contacted the Cuban embassy, the Soviet embassy, or American Communists in Mexico: HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10049.

97 During 1963, the FBI processed the take on American Communists in Mexico: LIFEAT Progress Report, April-June 1963. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10040.

98 ...the Agents who have talked to Oswald have listened to the tape provided by the CIA of the call allegedly made by Oswald to the Soviet Embassy, and they do not think that the individual was Oswald, as his voice is different and he spoke in broken English: Memo from Alan Belmont to Clyde Tolson, 11/23/63; go to the John Armstrong site at the Poage Library, and look up pages 38-39. See endnote 85, above.

99 In the words of Jack Whitten, the CIA's first JFK assassination investigator: "No source then at our disposal had ever actually seen Lee Oswald while he was in Mexico.": John Whitten, "First Draft of Initial Report on GPFLOOR Case", circa 12/20/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10019-10021.

100 Some of the story recounted here is based on a report done by Paul Levister, a Staff D officer who was a wiretap expert. After his visit between September 22 and October 1, he wrote up a fifty page report on LIENVOY and LIFEAT: Monthly Operational Report, Project LIENVOY, September 1963, p. 4, NARA Record Number: 104-10052-10083. (visit between Sept 22 and Oct 1); Paul Levister, Report by KUTUBE/Ops, 12/30/63, NARA No. 104-10188-10447.

Although I am uncertain, I believe Levister (who was described as a Headquarters technician) may have been an analyst named Walter Jessel.

Goodpasture wrote that deputy chief FI Ronald "Alex" MacMillan asked Jessel to come to Mexico City to observe what Macmillan considered to be the finest technical surveillance operations in the agency. As stated earlier, I believe that Alex MacMillan was Thomas Urquhart. Alex MacMillan was one of the only two CIA men to attend Bill Harvey's funeral.

In 1963, Macmillan moved up from deputy chief of FI/D to chief after Harvey stepped down. I am not certain whether Goodpasture is referring to Levister's September 1963 visit or an earlier visit.

Jessel was described as an officer in OPC's Eastern European division, who studied the operations of a number of early fabricators and wrote a paper describing their methods, after which most egregious errors of naivete were avoided. He organized a file retrieval system to make sense of chaos. After Jessel left for IBM during the 1960s, a system called WALNUT was created which was allegedly very effective. See Thomas Powers, *The Man Who Kept the Secrets*, p. 42; also see Richard Helms, *A Look Over My Shoulder*, p. 97-99 (re the Austria-Hungary chief of station).

101 Levister's boss was a Headquarters officer whose pseudonym was Thomas Urquhart, described as the "principal end user" of LIENVOY: Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10038.

102 Urquhart was a Staff D officer, and was probably Staff D chief Alex MacMillan, who had served as Harvey's deputy chief of Staff D before Harvey's dethroning by the Kennedys. MacMillan was close to Harvey and one of the two CIA men who attended his funeral: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 302.

103 Levister wrote a first impressions memo to the chief of foreign intelligence upon his return on October 2, discussing how well the Mexico City station handled the take of LIENVOY and LIFEAT: Memo from

Chief, WH Division to Chief, Mexico City, re LIFEAT, 9/20/63, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection** (microfilm - reel 23: LIENVOY, LIFEAT, LIONION)/NARA Record Number: 104-10188-10038. On LIFEAT security problems, also see HMMW-11843 and HMMA-22115.

104 *Levister wrote a first impressions memo to the chief of foreign intelligence upon his return on October 2, discussing how well the Mexico City station handled the take of LIENVOY and LIFEAT*: Memorandum for Chief, Foreign Intelligence from Paul Levister, 10/2/63, **Russ Holmes Work File**/NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10035. Note that Levister's initials on this memo were "gc".

105 Most of the missing dispatches from Mexico City to Staff D in fall of 63 were apparently located by the CIA, but it is hard to determine where these documents are now. **About 18 dispatches or their attachments were missing**:

Here's a typed up list by CIA or HSCA noting the files "sent to FI-D" missing from HMMA series.

22305, 22338, 22339, 22344, 22350, 22351, 22363, 22394, 22413, 24424, 22443, 22461, 22466, 22491, 22494, 22501, 22525, 22526.

Here's a dispatch list from 10/31 to 11/26 showing what documents are missing... most of these are FI-D docs.

10/17/63 HMMA-22305. This dispatch to Staff D survived, don't know where the attachments are. HMMA-22305 was **CIRCLED** as missing along with HMMA-22293, which actually is there, but **HMMA-22394 about 201-178122 is not** – 201-178122 is **Manuel Calvillo**. HMMA-22293 is apparently a CIRCLED error.

10/29/63 HMMA 22338, 22339 – dispatches to STAFF D - **CIRCLED** as missing - both these files are **reported missing by the HSCA**. A review of the Mexico dispatch files affirms that HMMA 22338-22339 are missing:

Compare **HMMA 22337** (page 75 of dispatches) and **HMMA 22340** (page 76 of dispatches)

10/29/63 HMMA 22344, 22350, 22351, 22363 – dispatches to STAFF D - **CIRCLED** as missing. All four files are **reported missing by the HSCA**.

A review of the Mexico dispatch files affirms that these four files are missing. Compare **HMMA 22349** (page 88 of dispatches), **HMMA 22352** (page 89 of dispatches), and gap of missing numbers to **HMMA 22372** (page 90 of dispatches)

10/28/63 STAFF D **HMMA-22394** sent 11/7, **CIRCLED** as missing.

Document listings:

These listings include correspondence venues referred to as HMYA and HMMS, as well as **the Mexico City correspondence with HQ known as HMMW and HMMA**.

11/7/63 Staff D - Mexico City memos missing from files HMMA-22418 AND hmma-22424, both **CIRCLED** as missing, both Staff D documents.

A review of the Mexico dispatch files affirms that these two files are missing.

Compare **HMMA 22417** (page of dispatches) and **HMMA 22419** (page of dispatches). HMMA 22418 is missing.

Compare **HMMA 22423** (page 51 of dispatches), **HMMA 22425** (page 52 of dispatches). HMMA 22424 is missing.

Reported missing on list: HMMA-22418 AND HMMA-22424.

HMMA 22442, HMMA 22443, HMMA 22444 - first memo is Mexico City's LIEMBRACE operation, other two memos are Staff D - **all CIRCLED** as missing.

HMMA 22442 HMMA 22443 HMMA 22444 - ALL REPORTED MISSING

A review of the Mexico City files affirms that the following files are missing:

Compare **HMMA 22460** (page 106 of dispatches) and **HMMA 22462** (page 107 of dispatches). **HMMA 22461 is missing**, a transmission to **Staff D**.

Compare **HMMA 22465** (page 110 of dispatches) and **HMMA 22467** (page 111 of dispatches). **HMMA 22466 is missing**, a transmission to **Staff D**.

Compare **HMMA 22491** – (page 150 of dispatches) and **HMMA 22493** (page 151 of dispatches). **HMMA 22492 is missing**, a transmission to **Staff D**.

Compare **HMMA 22493** (page 151 of dispatches) and **HMMA 22495** (page 152 of dispatches). **HMMA 22494 is missing**, a transmission to **Staff D**.

Compare [HMMA 22500](#) (page 161 of dispatches) and [HMMA 22503](#) (page 162 of dispatches). [HMMA 22501 is missing](#), a transmission to [Staff D](#). (HMMA 22502 is also missing, this could have been an attachment)

Compare [HMMA 22524](#) (page 181 of dispatches) and [HMMA 22527](#) (page 182 of dispatches). [HMMA 22525 and HMMA 22526 are missing](#), both are transmissions to [Staff D](#), sent on [November 22, 1963](#). Note that the list of documents “sent to FI/D” and created by the CIA is in error, dating the above documents as [December 2, 1963](#), not November 22, 1963.

11/8/63-11/11/63 [HMMA 22461](#), [HMM1 22466](#), [HMM1 22469](#).



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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpich

Chapter 5: The Mexico City Solution

Why Oswald's Cuba Connections Were Hidden Before the Assassination, Why the Assassination Was Covered Up – And What May Be A Looking Glass Into 11/22/63

Did you ever read Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*? The power of Verne's story is summed up in the sighting of the signature that the hero finds as he goes deeper into the abyss. Sometimes it was a message from the first explorer, Arne Saknussemm. Sometimes it was simply his initials –"AS". When you see where he left his mark, you know you are on the right course.

Studying the Mexico City story is like feeling your way through the dark. As you go down, you find yourself holding on to some cold walls. Remain confident in what you know about your path. Keep in mind the previous explorers. Sometimes you have to retrace your steps. Remember the central question you have to keep asking...

Before JFK was killed, why did the Mexico City station hide all the evidence of the Oswald visit to the Cuban consulate from CIA Headquarters, while admitting the visits to the Soviet consulate?

Or, to put it another way, why did Headquarters hide Oswald's return to the United States and subsequent history as a pro-Castro activist from the Mexico City station?

In other words, why was everything that might lead to a connection between Oswald and Cuba suppressed from the record *before the assassination*?

We've just finished a study on wiretapping in Mexico City. Now let me offer a hypothesis that provides what I call the Mexico City solution to the suppression of Oswald's connections to Cuba, why the assassination was covered up - and, just maybe, an important insight into the assassination itself. The reason for the suppression and the cover-up can be found by a long look at the impersonation of Lee Oswald in Mexico City less than two months before the assassination, and the disappearance of the wiretap tapes that documented this impersonation. The notion of Oswald being impersonated may seem fantastic to some. However, as discussed in Chapter 3, the CIA files reveal that impersonation is a tactic that the Mexico City station had used just two months prior to Oswald's visit.

After a great deal of reflection, I decided that it didn't make any sense to hide my conclusion on how these events are linked to the assassination of JFK. What is presented here will not answer all the questions, but it offers a working solution that is based on the facts that we know.

Researchers such as Peter Dale Scott, John Newman and Jefferson Morley confirm much of what is set forth here. The reader is invited to join in, contribute, and add to this body of research. There's more to learn, and I could be wrong, but I think I have the gist of it right.

My hypothesis of the Mexico City solution

It looks to me like CIA Cuba operations officers were among the prime suspects in an October 1963 investigation designed to figure out who impersonated Oswald and Cuban consulate secretary Sylvia Duran on the telephone call to the Soviet consulate on September 28. In this investigation, the CIA officers went to great pains to omit from their memos any reference to any Oswald visit to the Cuban consulate, any reference to Oswald's membership in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, and any reference to his attempts to get a visa.

Why was any reference to Cuba omitted? I believe it was done to prevent the rank and file of the Cuba division of the CIA from knowing about the details of the investigation. If there was no reference to Cuba in this investigation of Oswald, then there would be no reason to include the Cuba division in the discussion. The Cuba division included both Harvey's successor Desmond FitzGerald and the Special Affairs Staff (SAS) at Headquarters, as well as the forward operating base in Miami for tactical operations on Cuba known as JMWAVE and run by Ted Shackley and David Morales.

Here's the center of the intrigue. It looks like someone in Cuba operations was a prime suspect in an investigation of the impersonation of Oswald. It had to be handled carefully, as **SAS had several of its officers embedded at the Mexico City station under Scott's command**. Another prime suspect was the

Mexico City branch of the FBI. Even the CIA's Mexico City station itself could also have been the source of the mole.

It is important to note that not only the FBI, but the Navy and the State Department were also included in the investigation. This was because all three of them had responsibilities for Oswald, and hence all three of them had to be examined for signs of penetration by enemy spies.

Under the Delimitations Agreement, the **FBI** and the **Navy** were charged with investigating and tracking an ex-Marine like Oswald once he had returned to the United States, and **the State Department had a potential interest as well.**[1] Furthermore, the State Department had done this work while Oswald was in the Soviet Union. This meant that these agencies were in charge of any debriefing of Oswald after his return to the United States. I believe that John Fain's interviews with Oswald in 1962 constituted the actual debriefing. In the real world, these three agencies had continuing responsibility for Oswald during 1963.

I believe that the impersonation of Oswald was done to plant a poison pill within any attempt by the CIA or the FBI to investigate the role of Oswald in the assassination of the President. I believe that after Oswald was impersonated, CIA investigators tried to capture the perpetrator. After an unsuccessful attempt, would those investigators be willing to have their futile efforts become public knowledge in the wake of the assassination? No way. The investigators would be threatened with the loss of their jobs and livelihood.

I offer the hypothesis that the impersonation of Oswald was an inside job and a key aspect of a plan to assassinate President Kennedy. The plan was for the Oswald call to be picked up by the CIA's wiretaps in Mexico City. That alone would be a significant roadblock in any investigation of Oswald, as the CIA considered the Mexico City wiretap operation one of its crown jewels. The CIA hierarchy wanted as few people as possible in the CIA to know about this operation, let alone the FBI and other US agencies. The notion of unveiling the Mexico City wiretap operation to the general public was a nightmare.

This nightmare was heightened by using Oswald to entice the Agency to start a molehunt to find out who made the call. After all, a molehunt had been done with the Oswald file in the past, using Ann Egerter at Angleton's "office that spied on spies" at CI/SIG. Molehunts were standard operating procedure for CI/SIG – its bread and butter. As Paul Garbler, **the CIA's first station chief in Moscow**, told a researcher: **"You know what CI-SIG was? Find the mole. That's all they had to do."**

Paul Garbler CIA staffer "You know what CI/SIG was? Find the mole. That's all they had to do. I have no idea what they were doing with files on Oswald. You opened this conversation by talking about a relationship between Oswald and Angleton. I totally unaware that there ever was one. I am unaware that CI/SIG ever had anything to do with Oswald at all. I could see that Angleton would have retained for his custody only some kind of Oswald file. I am unaware of which kind. I am not making an

*Paul Garbler, CIA staffer:
"You know what CI-SIG was?
Find the mole. That's all they had to do."*

Bringing Ann Egerter into a molehunt that relied on Oswald's biographical file meant that those trying to figure out who did the impersonation would use the Oswald legend in a paper trail that stretched into several US agencies and would be impossible to destroy later. It's hard to think of any reason to bring Ann Egerter back into the Oswald story in late 1963, other than to design a molehunt to find out if someone was trying to penetrate the CIA. That's how Egerter earned her salary as a CI/SIG analyst. That was the role of CI/SIG itself.

Whoever imitated Oswald on the telephone in Mexico City knew that such a paper trail would be a powerful way to blackmail the involved CIA and FBI officers after November 22 into deep-sixing *any* serious investigation of the assassination – even an internal inquiry that could be hushed up on the grounds of "national security".

If it went public that these officers had used the Oswald legend for a molehunt prior to the assassination, the result would be not only embarrassment or a security breach, but suspicion that they were involved in the assassination itself. At a minimum, it would mean the end of the careers of these officers. The impact on their families and their agencies would be devastating.

What got me thinking about a Mexico City molehunt was **Peter Dale Scott's analysis of molehunts** conducted by Egerter and others, some of which I discussed in Chapter 1 of this book, the *Double Dangle*. The Mexico City station was a very powerful station, and its abilities should be acknowledged even though I am incensed by their deeds. For the life of me, I couldn't understand why the station would create a paper trail that made them look suspicious and incompetent at the same time.

I think I have figured out the answer. Due to the September 28 phone call and the calls that followed, the Mexico City Station was duped into embarking on a molehunt to find out who impersonated Oswald and Duran in the phone call. In the process of conducting that molehunt, the paper trail of memos that followed compromised both Headquarters and the Mexico City station, making an honest investigation impossible.

Of course, there's a number of possibilities of who knew enough inside ball to get the Station to play itself out of position. I lean towards David Sanchez Morales, the paramilitary chief at the CIA station in Miami. Morales had been the founder and the intelligence chief for the AMOTs. The AMOTs were the shadow intelligence service designed by the CIA to take over after Castro was overthrown. The AMOTs were highly trained intelligence officers whose primary language was Spanish.

As discussed below, the September 28 conversation was in Spanish, broken Russian, and probably broken English. The September 28 call was probably made by two Spanish speakers, and it wouldn't surprise me if one or both of them were AMOTs from the CIA's Miami station. CIA officer William Sturbitts testified that AMOTs often worked inside the **listening posts** of audio intercept stations. Whoever made the calls knew

that the Mexico City station would be surprised by the call, and that a paper-driven molehunt was the logical response.

Morales had spent considerable time at the Mexico City station visiting David Phillips in the early sixties, and knew how Win Scott ran his shop. If Morales needed any help in knowing what it would take for the Mexico City station to convince Angleton's people to conduct a molehunt - a doubtful proposition - he would have picked up some tips from Bill Harvey. It's documented that Harvey knew **how to run a molehunt**, not to mention how to conduct an operation without writing anything down. As Harvey's executive officer said, "...you think I was **tight lipped**. He could run rings around me."

Morales, Roselli and Martino worked together for years in efforts to assassinate Castro. All three men made damaging admissions about their own involvement in the assassination of JFK, as detailed at length in Larry Hancock's *Somebody Would Have Talked*.

Harvey's people in CI and Staff D - Neill Prew, the Potockis, Lou DeSanti, "Thomas Urquhart" (the possible pseudonym of the new staff D chief Alex MacMillan) - hover over what I consider most of the important events. Some or all of these officers may have been unwitting, but they passed along reports that provided very important information about the wiretap system, key Cuban informants, and targets for disruption such as Cuban consul Eusebio Azcue and press attaché Teresa Proenza.

Someone wanted to use the Oswald tapes and the ensuing paper trail to blackmail the leading players in US intelligence after JFK was shot. They wanted a cover-up, and they got one.

There was a joint agency operation in place to embarrass the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, right when Oswald was planning to go to Mexico City and the Soviet Union.

I think the place to begin this study is with a hard look at the joint anti-FPCC operation set up by the CIA and the FBI.

During the second half of 1963, Lambert Anderson held down the Cuban desk for the FBI's Nationalities Intelligence division. Anderson and his fellow supervisor Marvin Gheesling knew that a man from Dallas named Lee Oswald had been **arrested for publicizing the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC)** throughout New Orleans that summer, and the two men **placed this information** into Oswald's FBI **security flash file**. On August 21, the day Oswald was publicly outed in the New Orleans media as a former defector to the Soviet Union, **Anderson sent memos out to Dallas and New Orleans** that specifically asked the New Orleans FBI office if Oswald was engaged in activities that endangered US security.

After a month of silence, Anderson received a response **on Sept 13th** from Dallas agent Jim Hosty, who was transferring the case to the New Orleans office. Hosty had a source inside the New York City FPCC office, almost certainly staff member Victor Vicente (see Chapter 3) who had been part of **Anita Potocki and Lou de Santi's operation in July when this FPCC staffer was sent to Cuba** to meet with Castro and Che Guevara. In two short paragraphs, Hosty said that Oswald was a subscriber to the Worker, New York's **Communist newspaper**, and that he had a track record of distributing pamphlets in Dallas on behalf of the aforementioned **Fair Play for Cuba Committee**.

The New Orleans FBI office was trying to figure out if Oswald was a good source, a troublesome character, or both. In the memo that transferred the Oswald file from Dallas to New Orleans, it's a mystery why Hosty didn't check the box that would have told New Orleans that **Oswald had a security flash**.



On 9/13/63, FBI supervisor Lambert Anderson received a note from Agent Hosty saying that Oswald had a subscription to the Communist Daily Worker and was leafleting for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

Oswald reveals himself as someone who can work with intelligence

Oswald himself had sought out the FBI office while he was in jail for the FPCC leafleting that had caused a scuffle with an anti-Castro organization and a resulting media splash. Oswald filled in the FBI agent on his political work in a friendly way and even told him about his **new FPCC card**. Oswald came across as someone who was not **dangerous**, and willing to work with the FBI on areas of mutual concern.

A few days later, Oswald wrote some notes that are highly revealing about his political views, the Communist Party, and US intelligence. These notes were created while preparing for a presentation he was making at the seminary attended by his cousin Eugene Murret. Because of the nature of this talk way out in the woods of Alabama, I think Oswald was preparing for a coming day when he would reveal his true identity to the world like a Marvel Comics superhero. He was a liberal ex-Marine - not a radical - that was loyal to the United States of America.

*"A symbol of the American way, **our liberal concession** is the existence in our midst of a minority group whose influence and membership is very limited and whose dangerous tendencies are sufficiently controlled by special government agents.*

The communist party U.S.A. bears little resemblance to their Russian counterparts, but by allowing them to operate and even supporting their right to speak, we maintain a tremendous sign of our strength and *liberalism*; harassment of their party newspaper, their leaders, and advocates is treachery to our basic principles of freedom of speech and press.

Their views no matter how misguided, no matter how much the Russians take advantage of them, must be allowed to be aired. After all, *communist U.S.A. have existed for 40 years and they are still a pitiful group of radical.* (sic).[2]

Hosty's observations about Oswald in Dallas turned into membership cards in Mexico City

Keep in mind that Hosty told Anderson on September 13 that Oswald had a subscription to the newspaper of the Communist Party, USA, and that he had a background of leafleting on behalf of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. We see the follow-up three days later, on **September 16**, when John Tilton of the CIA's Cuban operations in Miami asked Anderson to put together a joint agency operation designed to "plant deceptive information which might **embarrass** the (FPCC) in areas where it does have some support".[3] We will see that Oswald planted some deceptive information in Mexico City - he showed both his authentic FPCC membership card and his fake Communist Party card to Cuban consulate secretary Silvia Duran.

On the 16th, FBI records indicate that Oswald's security flash file with the FBI's Identification Division was reviewed, with Anderson's name written alongside.[4] On the 16th, **Anderson's name is written on Oswald's security flash** - although no document entered the file, it appears to be related to Tilton's request for help that same day. Tilton had been involved with the DRE **just days earlier** and may have heard from Anderson about Oswald's arrest.

On the 26th, Anderson confirmed that the anti-FPCC project was going forward, with plans to distribute "**propaganda in the name of the committee**". This joint agency operation was launched right during the Cuba division's project to recruit Cuban consul Azcue in Mexico City. As Azcue seemed sympathetic to Cuban exiles, he seemed like he might be ripe for recruitment. The problem was that Azcue was due to return to Cuba in a matter of days.

As discussed in Chapter 3, the plan to recruit Azcue had originated with **Bill Harvey, the former head of the Cuban division**. Harvey's successor Desmond FitzGerald renewed Harvey's call to recruit Azcue **during the summer of 1963**. The joint agency operation, in turn, was a follow-up from an initial joint operation based in New York City two months earlier, when **Harvey aide Anita Potocki** and Lou de Santi worked with the FBI to get New York FPCC staffer (and FBI agent) **Victor Vicente** into Havana, where he met with **Castro and Che Guevara**. [5]

Bill Harvey himself was still in the mix during late 1963. Although Harvey had turned over the reins to the top-secret NSA-CIA liaison office Staff D as well as the Cuban desk in early 1963, Harvey continued to serve as **the head of ZRRIFLE**, the get-Castro assassination program tucked inside Staff D. Harvey continued to meet with Johnny Roselli on a regular basis right up to his departure for Rome in **June 1963**. Harvey worked at Staff D under his pseudonym "**Daniel Presland**" until at least **October 11, 1963**. A Staff D memo a few days earlier said that **a personnel change was imminent**. This means that during the Oswald visit, Harvey continued to have access to cables and wiretaps from all over the world, including Mexico City.

Remember in Chapter 3, how CIA Central American chief Jack Whitten found out that CIA agent LITAMIL-3 was unsuccessful in his attempt to recruit Azcue? Whitten commented that it was a good moment to step back and "**let's wait for further developments**". Mexico City chief Win Scott had talked just days earlier about using LITAMIL-3 as part of a "**one-two punch**" to recruit Azcue. As of September 20, the "number two" punch had not yet landed.

The CIA Mexico City station was housed within the American embassy, and its officers were referred to as political attachés. As Jack Whitten said, "I do not know whether you informed yourself about the magnitude of our political action program at the time - absolutely enormous... **the thrust of the Station's effort was to recruit** Soviet, Cuban and satellite people."

Hosty's observations about Oswald got clever minds thinking about how to use this redefector

To understand what happens next, it's useful to follow the paper trail of the Hosty memo. As we discussed earlier, FBI officer Anderson learned about Oswald's connections with the FPCC and the Communist Party from Hosty on September 13. Anderson probably tipped off CIA officer Tilton by the 16th. It had to be an attractive prospect - here was a very rare re-defector, hoping to go to Cuba and then return once again to the Soviet Union.

The Hosty memo was received by the CIA's Jane Roman on the 23rd. As the liaison to CIA counterintelligence, it was Roman's job to pass it on to the person who needed to know about it. She gave it to Harvey's man CI/OPS Will Potocki **on the 25th**, the very day that Oswald left for Mexico City. Potocki in turn passed it on to Cal Tenney at the CI/International Communism desk - unfortunately, it's not dated, so we don't know when Tenney actually received it.

John Newman suggests that the Tilton/Anderson anti-FPCC operation was “CI/OPS-inspired”. [6] Whether or not Potocki was working with Tilton is not the end of it for me. I think that someone got wind of the anti-FPCC operation and piggy-backed a new operation on top of it that included the impersonation of Oswald.

The piggy-backers could have obtained access to the Oswald information from Potocki, Roman, Egerter, Anderson, or anyone else who could provide access to the file, or knew about the plans to fabricate documents to make the FPCC lose credibility. This kind of deception was known as a counter-intelligence program or “COINTELPRO”. Richard Cotter at the FBI, a Cuban specialist, knew about the Tilton/Anderson operation.[7] Cotter said that they had successfully run a COINTELPRO operation against the FPCC *in the past*.

The Hosty memo did not go into Oswald’s 201 file. Instead, it went into file 100-300-011, the CIA’s FPCC file. As the custodian of the 201 file, Egerter probably removed it based on her own volition or the request of her bosses Angleton and CI-SIG chief Birch O’Neal. But, in any case, Potocki had access to it.

Oswald’s visa requests were bound to fail, whether he knew it or not

Researchers have long debated if the real Lee Oswald went to Mexico City at all, and I remain agnostic on that subject. The journalist Jack Anderson reported in the Washington Post that the HSCA investigators wondered if “the CIA concocted the whole Oswald adventure in Mexico City in an attempt to conceal *his real activities in Dallas*”. There are reports that Oswald visited the anti-Castro activist Sylvia Odio in Dallas right about the same time, and even an unconfirmed report that he made a threat about killing the President at the Cuban Embassy.[8]

To keep things simple, I will assume that the real Oswald went to Mexico City, regardless of whether the person Duran spoke with was really him or an imposter. My focus is on the manipulation of the reports contained in Oswald’s file, not on Oswald the person.

Ostensibly, it looks like Oswald *left for Mexico City* after kissing his wife Marina goodbye in New Orleans on September 23. The lure may have been a little extra money at an opportune time. Oswald had experience in requesting money and favors. He had successfully obtained an instant visa to enter the Soviet Union when he defected four years earlier, getting it done in record time for an American at the height of the Cold War.

More often than not, Oswald has struck me as what the CIA called an “*unwitting co-optee*”. Such a person is someone who unwittingly takes action due to the initiative of the CIA. Oswald had a good reason to go to Mexico City. He wrote in his June 1963 passport application that he was planning to travel to Europe and *the USSR* later in the year. I think he was lured to go to Mexico City.

As the spy capital of the Western Hemisphere, Mexico City was a good place to negotiate with the Soviets for a visa to the USSR. Both Lee and his wife Marina had been stalled for months in their efforts with the Soviet embassy in Washington *to return to the Soviet Union* before the arrival of their second baby in October. Marina was seeking *permanent residence*. Oswald was more flexible, asking the Soviets to give her request *priority*. Once someone in US intelligence learned that Oswald hoped to travel overseas – probably by the issuance of his new passport in June - they may have taken action to grease the wheels. Money is a great way to do that.

Oswald may have even made some kind of handshake agreement to shake up Azcue and seeing how he responded to Oswald’s request for an instant visa. Any such deal may have included a visit to Valeriy Kostikov at the Soviet consulate, who had joined Khrushchev’s *entourage* as a *diplomat* during his visit to the US in 1959.[9] Kostikov was the *senior of the five officers* who dealt with visas and related matters. Given the depth of his inside knowledge into the Soviet government, it makes sense that Kostikov was noted on Sept. 27 as a REDCAP target for US intelligence to probe as a possible future defector.[10]

Some have suggested that Oswald’s real goal was to get to Cuba, and not the Soviet Union. Oswald had expressed interest in visiting on Cuba on several occasions over the years. However, if Oswald really thought that he was going to successfully get into Cuba during this visit, he’s not as smart as I thought he was.

The Cuban consulate secretary Sylvia Duran made it clear that the tried-and-true *manner* to get to Cuba was to have a US communist party member negotiate directly with representative of the Cuban communist party. Oswald showed up in Mexico City with no Soviet or Cuban sponsor on Friday, Sept. 27th.

As mentioned above, Oswald had a track record of success in obtaining an instant visa when he sought entry into the USSR in 1959. This time, he arrived at the Cuban consulate on a Friday, demanding an instant visa to get into Cuba *by the following Monday*. He went so far as to make up a yarn that the Soviet embassy in Mexico City had approved his visa to the USSR. In short, Oswald’s mission was probably *bound to fail*, whether he knew it or not.

Oswald’s effort in shuttle diplomacy between the Soviet and Cuban consulates did him no good. The Cubans, Mexicans, Russians, and Americans all pretty much agree that he visited the Cuban consulate *three times* and the Soviet consulate once on Friday the 27th. He told the Cubans he got the visa OK from the Soviets, and told the Soviets that he already had a Cuban visa. Consulate secretary Sylvia Duran talked to the Soviets, and both sides determined that Oswald was lying.

After Oswald had no luck with Duran, he went over her head and pitched his story to Duran's boss Azcue, but it didn't change anything. Duran's rapport with Azcue was good. Both Azcue and Sylvia's husband Horacio were **architects** and knew each other professionally.

Oswald's display of his brand-new FPCC and CPUSA cards seem like they came **right out of the Dallas FBI report two weeks earlier**, which identified Oswald as a communist and a Fair Play for Cuba Committee organizer. **The Cuban consuls had never seen a Communist Party card used as a form of ID.** Azcue was convinced that Oswald was a provocateur. They got into a shouting match that ended with Azcue kicking Oswald out of the consulate.

In fact, I noticed that he presented a card or credentials as belonging to the Communist Party of the United States. I understand, or it is also my understanding, that the Communist Party of the United States stated that he never belonged to the party. I was surprised by the fact that the card seemed to be a new card.

I must say that I also have been a Communist for a number of years and that generally we do not use credentials or a card to identify ourselves as members of the party. Rather, we are identified to ourselves as Communists by our own behavior and by our own ideas. I was surprised by his unusual interest in using identification as a Communist.

I would think it would be interesting to know how he obtained the card. It did have his name, and it did coincide with the same name that appeared in the other document. And, as I indicated, it

The Cuban consuls were stunned by Oswald's Communist Party card. They had never seen a Communist Party card as a form of ID.

Here's the verified events for September 28

The Mexico City station's procedure for wiretaps was to get a typed version of the audiotape in the hands of Mexico City Station case officer, Ann Goodpasture, by 8 am the next business day. After her review, she would have had it on the desk of station chief Win Scott by 9 am. Win Scott looked at the wiretap transcript of Duran describing Oswald, wrote on the margin: "**Is it possible to identify?**", and sent it back to Goodpasture. Win Scott ran a tight ship. It's safe to say that Goodpasture was right on it.

At about 9:45 am on Saturday the 28th, Oswald returned to the Soviet consulate and made a final pitch for an instant visa. He displayed his pistol, laid it down on the desk, said he was being harassed by the FBI, and started to weep. The Soviets emptied the bullets from the pistol, commiserated, and ushered him out at 10:30. Oswald was told that nothing more could be done but wait for the word from their embassy in Washington DC. The Soviet consulate officers all said that they never heard from Oswald again.

Both Oswald and Duran were impersonated in the call of the 28th

An hour after Oswald left the Soviet consulate on the 28th, we have a wiretap transcript of a call on the Soviet line made by Duran from the Cuban consulate to the Soviet consulate. When Duran put Oswald on the line, he said that **he had given the Soviet consulate the wrong address**, and that he had returned to the Cuban consulate to obtain the proper address that he had left with them because he had forgotten it. The Soviet officer invited him to come back over and give them the right address. Oswald said that he would. Again, the Soviets said that he did not return. This call is a fake. Let's view it from several vantage points.

This was the only call of the day placed by an outsider to the Soviet consulate

The Soviets say that **the switchboard was closed that day**. A review of the transcripts of the 28th reveals that this call was the only call that was not placed by a colleague, relative or a friend of someone at the consulate. **The calls for that day** concerned social affairs like going on a picnic, grappling with the gripe, and taking care of the children and the chickens. In other words, this was the only call of the day placed by an outsider to the Soviet consulate.

Documents have been tampered with to make it appear that Duran admitted seeing Oswald after the 27th

The Mexican reports about this September 28 call are intriguing. Sylvia Duran, a Mexican national, told the DFS officers who arrested her after the assassination that she **never saw Oswald again after the 27th**. Her family members said she told them the same thing. Peter Dale Scott wrote a stinging article exposing how Duran's statements to the Mexican police after the assassination were routinely mis-translated. Scott explains that her original statement given immediately after JFK's assassination has never been released, and that even the original transcript of her interrogation may still be in the hands of the Mexican government. [11]

What we do have is a **February 1964** translation where Duran says that after September 27th "**he never called again**". The Mexico City station's Cuba desk chief **David Phillips** arranged for the translation of Duran's statements at interrogation, and the final translation of the same statement is outrageous. Created in May 1964 and used as a Warren Commission exhibit, the final translation has Duran stating that "**she does**

(R.W., 28 Sep 63, p 3)

..Do you speak Russian? Yes. Why don't you talk to him..
I don't know.. /MO takes the phone and says in broken Russian/
I was in your Embassy and spoke to your consul. Just a minute.
MI takes the phone and asks MO in English what does he want?
/in Russian/ Please speak Russian.
What else do you want?
I was just now at your Embassy and they took my address.
I know that.
/speaks terrible, hardly recognisable Russian/ I did not know it then. I went to the Cuban Embassy to ask them for my address, because they have it..
Why don't you come again and leave your address with us, it's not far from the Cuban Embassy.
Well, I'll be there right away.

The English transcript of the September 28 calls reveals that this is the only conversation of the day where the translator was not able to identify any of the speakers.

not recall whether Oswald subsequently called her or not.” A review of these translations reveals that they differ in many other striking ways.[12]

Let’s put it this way. The CIA admitted that the **only hard evidence** they had of the Oswald visit to Duran on the 28th was the wiretap. That meant that no one at the consulate was able to verify Oswald’s visit, including Duran herself. Her denial is the best available evidence. As we will see later on, there is evidence that the tape of the September 28 call survived the assassination.

We even see that the CIA told the Warren Commission that “**we deduce**” that Oswald visited the Cuban consulate on September 28, but added “we cannot be certain of this conclusion”.[13] Why wouldn’t the CIA trust its own evidence that Oswald called the Soviet consulate? Such a statement hardly inspires confidence.

The last time Goodpasture was interrogated about this phone call, her interrogator referred to the caller on September 28 as “**Oswald or an Oswald substitute**”. Goodpasture didn’t even argue with him. She herself had referred in the past to “**the man calling himself Oswald**”, and “**the ‘alleged’ Oswald**”.

The American translators of the tapes were not interviewed for 13 years after the assassination

The Americans report that an audiotape of the September 28 call was delivered to the CIA’s Boris and Anna Tarasoff. This wiretapped call contained three different languages – as Boris translated Russian and Anna translated English while the monitors provided a Spanish translation, they worked on it together. Boris Tarasoff testified fifteen years later that he thought the Russian speaker as probably an officer named **Konstantinov** - although the Mexico City station prided itself as identifying all callers whenever possible, no intelligence officer or Warren staffer ever sought the identity of the Russian who spoke with Duran and Oswald.

This flat refusal to identify which Soviet spoke with Oswald falls into the same category as the Agency’s failure to question Duran or the Tarasoffs. The only reasonable explanation is that they knew what would they would find out and they didn’t want to know. Media consultant Brian Litman interviewed all of the Soviet officers, and by the end of this year we may know if a Soviet officer ever reported receiving this call. Stunningly, as we will see, neither of the Tarasoffs were never interviewed by anyone about their transcriptions of Oswald until thirteen years after the assassination, even though Boris’ transcription - under his pseudonym of “**Douglas Feinglass**” - was presented as authoritative evidence to CIA headquarters on November 23, 1963.

No American ever interviewed Sylvia Duran for 13 years after the assassination

Of the numerous officers interviewed after the assassination, I don’t recall any of them ever identified either Duran or Oswald as the speakers in the 28th call *on the record, under penalty of perjury*. Nor do I recall any of the monitors or translators identifying Duran or Oswald’s voices on the 28th. This is remarkable in Duran’s case, as she had been working at the consulate all summer and was identified in the photo logs back in 1962, on **August 7, 1963**, and as recently as **September 30, 1963**. We call her Duran simply because the **transcriber identified her as Silvia Duran**.

The transcripts are very strange. The original transcript in Spanish is **mysteriously faint** right in the area of the Duran-Oswald conversation and is essentially illegible. The English version of this transcript **does not identify Duran**, although all the other conversations are identified by speaker. A stand-alone version of this transcript **identifies Duran** as the speaker on the 28th, but it is **not confirmed** by the Mexico City officers. This is important because a stand-alone version of the transcript for the 27th **identifies Duran**, and is later confirmed (“**Duran**”) by one of the Mexico City officers.

CIA HQ went so far as to write that “**we do not want any Americans to confront Silvia Duran or be in contact with her**”. CIA HQ did not want it to get out that Duran never met with Oswald on the 28th. Mexico City station made sure on November 23rd that Duran was seized and held **incommunicado** until they learned how to handle her story. Although Duran was “**perfectly willing**” to come to the United States and answer the Warren Commission questions, it never happened. Duran, one of the most important witnesses in any JFK assassination investigation, was never questioned by Americans until her **interview** with Ron Kessler of the Washington Post in 1976.[14]

The September LIENVOY report written by station chief Win Scott on 10/8/63 mentions that there were “**two leads from LIENVOY of operational interest in September 1963**”, a woman professor from New Orleans contacting the Soviet embassy, and an unidentified Czech woman contacting the Czech embassy. Neither of these calls mention this critical Sept 28 LIENVOY wiretapped call from “Duran and Oswald” to the Soviet consulate, even though CIA regulations mandated reports on all US citizens that visited the Soviet consulate.



“we do not want any Americans to confront Silvia Duran or be in contact with her”

The phone caller spoke broken Russian and broken English, and knew that Oswald was in transition but not that he was moving away from his family

It was reported that two of the monitors said that the American in the Sept 28 call spoke **broken Russian and broken English**. My hunch is that these “monitors” were probably the Tarasoffs. The mystery phone caller may have been a Spanish speaker, possibly even an AMOT. There is testimony that **AMOTs worked in foreign listening posts as monitors**. The Mexico City monitoring station would have been a logical place for someone like AMOT chief David Morales to embed one of his people, or to elicit an informant from within the staff of Mexican monitors.

Oswald’s Russian was very good. Dallas translator Peter Gregory had written a recommendation for Oswald months earlier, verifying that **Oswald was qualified to be a Russian translator and an interpreter**. Gregory’s skills were considerable, and he was used by the Secret Service after the assassination.

On the Cuban side of this call, there was no LIENVOY wiretap set up on the Cuban consulate line. Because the records of the locations of the LIFEAT tapes are missing, there is no way to verify the source of what (if anything) was picked up on the Soviet tap. All hands say that the Cuban consulate was closed to visitors on Saturday the 28th. It’s well-documented that a Cuban exile named **Manuel Porras Rivera** was turned away by security when he tried to visit the Cuban consulate that day. Why would it be any different for Oswald, particularly after he was essentially banished from the consulate the day before?

Even if Duran’s testimony is considered not to be totally reliable, the testimony of the Tarasoffs and other factors indicate that Oswald was impersonated on the phone on September 28

The biggest argument against an impersonation of Oswald is that Duran may not be telling the truth. A recent book by Philip Shenon claims that Duran went to a twist party in Mexico City with Oswald during his visit. If Duran lied about “never seeing Oswald after the 27th” in this regard, it obviously calls her testimony about not seeing Oswald on the 28th in question.

I can’t and don’t rely on Duran’s testimony alone. Although the Warren Commission found “**no significant inaccuracies**” in her statements to the DFS, such a finding is not sufficient evidence to treat her testimony as basically trustworthy. What is more intriguing is that Duran provided the best evidence that she could in the face of DFS’ forcible interrogation techniques. They hurt her, left her with black and blue marks, and mis-translated what she said, but she did not back down.

Another reason why I remain convinced about Duran is telling the truth when she says Oswald did not come to the Cuban consulate on the 28th is that the circumstances of the revelation of her testimony jibes with the testimony provided by the Tarasoffs. Like Duran, the Tarasoffs make it very clear that no one questioned them about their transcription of the Oswald tapes until 1976. Not only did the Tarasoffs and Duran have to wait thirteen years before they were able to tell their stories under oath, but they were probably the three most important witnesses about Oswald’s visit to Mexico City. It makes no sense that they would all be insulated from questioning.

A third reason is that the comments of the Oswald caller reveal that he does not know that the efforts for a visa have come to a dead end. The caller is forced to elicit Kostikov’s name from the Russian. The “Cubans have my address” business is provocative and untrue.

A fourth reason is based on an admission by Goodpasture that she erred in her Mexico City history by claiming that Oswald contacted the embassies on September 26 and October 6. She admitted that **she believed the actual dates of Oswald’s visits to the embassies were September 27 and October 1**. That admission illustrates that she believed that there were only two dates when Oswald contacted the embassies, and that neither one of those dates were September 28.

Besides these four reasons, I can come up with a quick summary of at least ten other reasons discussed in this chapter:

1. The Cuban consulate was closed on Saturday, and it is well-documented that they turned away the anti-Castro activist Manuel Porras Rivera. Meanwhile, the Soviet consulate’s switchboard was closed – other than Duran’s call, the only calls that are recorded on the transcript from that day are insider calls from people who had friends or family at the consulate.
2. No one to my knowledge ever testified under penalty of perjury that it was Oswald or Duran’s voices on the tape of the 28th.
3. Boris Tarasoff believed that the person who identified himself as Oswald on the 1st was the same person who was on the tape of the 28th. Despite that identification, the Mexico City station took no action reporting this US visitor to the Soviet consulate.
4. However, Win Scott reported Oswald’s presence to CIA HQ regarding the October 1 phone call, but not the call of the 28th, even though he had a mandatory duty to do so. Another factor in this failure is that the October 1 call had no reference to Cuba, while the September 28 call was allegedly placed from the Cuban consulate.

5. CIA HQ went so far as to write that “we do not want any Americans to confront Silvia Duran or be in contact with her”.

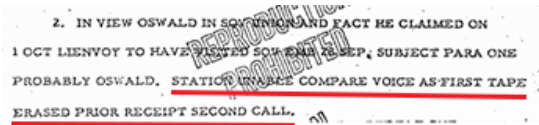
6. A CIA statement actually said that the Agency **was not certain** if Oswald was at the consulate on the 28th. Goodpasture identified the man as “**the man calling himself Oswald**”, and “**the ‘alleged’ Oswald**”, and voiced no objection when a questioner referred to “Oswald or the Oswald substitute.”

7. We have evidence that documents were tampered with, changing Duran’s testimony that she never spoke to Oswald again after the 27th.

8. The Oswald character in the September 28 and October 1 calls spoke broken Russian, and possibly even broken English. Oswald’s Russian was very good.

9. Goodpasture claimed that the tape of the 28th was destroyed by the 1st. That claim is not credible, as the protocol was to save tapes for 14 days and the Cuban tapes for 30 days.

10. Last, but not least, the stripping of all references to Cuba from Oswald’s biographical file, and the placement of these references in the file for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. This was a crucial aspect of hiding any supposed link of Oswald to the Cuban consulate.



Immediately after the assassination, Goodpasture reported to Headquarters that the September 28 tape was destroyed before the October 1 tape was obtained. But the protocol was to hold on to tapes for 14 days - and tapes from the Cuban consulate for 30 days.

Meanwhile, Kennedy and Castro were testing to see if peace was possible

There was a political reason, incidentally, to make Sylvia Duran look bad. As seen in this FBI memo, it had been **well-known** among intelligence throughout 1963 that **Sylvia Duran had been not only the secretary but also the paramour of Carlos Lechuga**, the Cuban ambassador to the United Nations. **It was reported in Feb 1963 that Lechuga had offered to marry Duran.**

Here’s a memo showing Bill Harvey’s long-time aides Neill Prew and Anita Potocki (Harvey’s assistant at Staff D) and Lou DeSanti copied on a memo in **January 1963**, showing them **watching Sylvia Duran very carefully** during her affair with Lechuga. These officers are **kept in the loop** repeatedly in the following weeks while monitoring Proenza and other attachés. Prew is copied again right before the **attempt to recruit Azcue in September 1963.**

During the week leading up to the Oswald visit to Mexico in September 1963, Lechuga was one of the two principal men on the Cuban side coordinating back channel negotiations between Castro and JFK to reach rapprochement. **On Sept. 23, Lechuga met with Kennedy aide William Attwood at the New York apartment of reporter Lisa Howard**, who had met with Castro and brokered this attempt to re-establish diplomatic relations in the last months of Kennedy’s life, and continued to try to keep it going during the first year of LBJ’s tenure.

The CIA’s top officials had been at the meetings where this **policy shift towards rapprochement** was under discussion **throughout the year** and right into **the autumn**. The CIA hierarchy gave orders that **channels of communication to Castro had to be kept secret** from the general public. The CIA chiefs knew that if word got out to the public, the anti-Castro forces would consider it a “stab in the back.” I’m sure that men like Morales did take it as a stab in the back. JFK was letting Castro know that peace was possible.

It is not credible that the tape of the 28th call was destroyed in three days

The Sept 28th call got the desired response from the Mexico City station. Based on their aforementioned practices, chief Win Scott would have had the transcript of the 28th call by the 29th, or the 30th at the latest. A copy of the transcript would also be **outed** to the hands of David Phillips. Like Harvey, Phillips wore more than one hat. Not only was Phillips the station’s head of **covert action**, but he was also the head of Mexico City’s **Cuban operations.**[15]

Phillips left on the 30th on a **nine-day trip**. His first stop was the CIA headquarters outside Washington, DC. On any such trip, he would generally meet with his boss, covert action chief Richard Helms. It stands to reason that he would spend some time with the head of Cuban operations, Desmond FitzGerald. As this was a counterintelligence matter, such a discussion would also have to include Jim Angleton or someone from his office. Assuming he met with his superiors, the four of them would have decided what action to take about the phone call of the 28th.

For this crowd, impersonations were old hat. Just two months earlier, **the Mexico City station had interrupted some business of a pro-Castro American cattleman by impersonating his contact, the commercial attaché Luisa Calderon of the Cuban consulate.** This time, the station’s trick had been turned back onto the station.

The officers at the Mexico City station told Congress years later that having an American visit the Soviet consulate was unusual. Win Scott only reported three such visits by Americans during the second half of 1963: The “Oswald” call of October 1, a **New Orleans professor**, and a drunk shouting in the middle of the

night. There are no pre-Nov. 22 reports discussing Oswald visiting both the Soviet and Cuban consulates. It was extremely unusual to have an American speaking Russian, much less speaking on the telephone directly from the Cuban consulate.

Years later, Jim Angleton was confronted by Senator Richard Schweiker on this very question. Schweiker reminded Angleton that Oswald's own wife thought that Oswald was from the Baltic states when they first met because his accent was so good, and suggested that since the Oswald on the telephone spoke Russian very poorly "you just wonder if they're the same person." Angleton did everything that he could to change the subject.

Wildest of all were the aforementioned reports that "Oswald" spoke both broken English and broken Russian. This tip was so sensitive that it was obtained by reporter Ron Kessler second-hand from "two monitors" (who may have been the Tarasoffs). But Kessler had an excellent primary source - Charles Flick (aka "Arnold Arehart"), the technician who kept custody of the Mexico City tapes. Corroborating evidence was provided by Dallas FBI chief Gordon Shanklin, who reported that after the assassination his FBI agents listened to a copy of a Mexico City tape purported to be Oswald. What they heard was a voice speaking in broken English who was not Oswald. (See <http://digitalcollections.baylor.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/po-arm/id/786/rec/1>, and go to p. 39)

On Tuesday, October 1, there were two more calls to the Soviet consulate by a man speaking broken Russian. He said he had called on Saturday the 28th and wanted to know the status of his visa request. He said that he had been speaking with Soviet consul Valeriy Kostikov, and that his name was Lee Oswald. This is a ridiculous statement. The Soviets in Mexico had told him "no", clearly and emphatically.

These October 1 calls went directly to Boris Tarasoff on a rush basis. When a call came in about an American trying to contact the Soviet compound, there was a procedure in place to contact Goodpasture within fifteen minutes, to arrange an immediate handoff of the tape, and to deliver it to the Tarasoffs with orders to transcribe it on the same day.

Boris Tarasoff had a special skill. Like the monitors at the intercept base, he had memorized the voices of many of the speakers that he had heard in calls to the Soviet compound. This skill was essential to the work of the station, which depended on identifying target persons and others picked up by the wiretaps. When he heard Oswald's voice in the October 1 call, he matched it immediately with his recollection of the voice he heard on September 28. [16]

When Boris and his wife Anna picked up Oswald's name on tape, he gave the tape to his contact Bill Bright. As discussed earlier, Bright was a new addition to the station, and had formerly been the man in charge of Oswald's 201 file for the Soviet division's biographical section. When he told Bright that the caller had identified himself as Lee Oswald, Bright became very interested and excited. Tarasoff said in 1976 that no one ever asked him after the assassination any questions about the Oswald tapes or transcripts. Tarasoff is one of the most important witnesses in the JFK case. But CIA HQ didn't want Tarasoff's story to be known.

Immediately after the assassination, Goodpasture reported to Headquarters that the September 28 tape was destroyed before the October 1 tape was obtained. This was an outright lie. The Mexico City station procedure was to hold on to tapes for two weeks. For tapes that emanated from the Cuban consulate, they held on to them for 30 days. There was even a special rack that the technical adviser had arranged to hold on to the Cuban tapes in chronological order. There is no way that a tape of this sensitivity was routinely destroyed in three days. Goodpasture had to lie about the September 28 tape, because this was a state secret.

David Phillips, the missing "third transcript" of Oswald, and the need for a plan

Once the station found out that the man who made the 9/28 call and the 10/1 calls identified himself as Lee Oswald, Phillips needed to know about it. The station would not want to leave a paper trail regarding this sensitive penetration matter that might be read by a CIA penetrator. On the night of October 1, a pouch was sent to Phillips at Headquarters. The CIA procedure at the time was that these pouched transmittals left no paper trail, other than to say that the items had been sent from point A to point B.

The pouch probably contained a transcript of the October 1 calls from the man calling himself Oswald. You have to wonder if it also contained a copy of the tape.

Many years later, Phillips told a very elaborate lie, claiming that he was in Mexico City working with the Soviet desk in preparing the draft of a response to the October 1 phone calls. He also claimed that the Soviet desk officer was lazy. That didn't happen - even Goodpasture said Phillips' story was not true. It is well-documented that Phillips was away from the Mexico City station at CIA HQ in Washington and then JMWAVE station in Miami between September 30 to October 9. When this documentation was brought to light, Phillips was forced to backtrack and fall back to a weak excuse that his memory was mistaken, and that he had not played any role in preparing this draft memo.

Phillips' initial testimony to the HSCA was amazing. Phillips testified that he recalled a record of Oswald calling the Soviet consulate and asking for financial aid. Phillips had embellished this story the day before by telling reporter Ron Kessler that Oswald asked for money in exchange for information, and was forced to concede during the deposition that "the information part" was made up. Phillips, however, insisted that the "financial aid part" was correct. There is no transcript supporting Phillips' testimony.

However, translator **Anna** Tarasoff testified that there was such a transcript, with Oswald identifying himself **by name** and asking for **financial aid**. Boris' specialty was in **Russian to English** translations, which is why Anna did the work. Both **Boris** and **Anna** said it was a "**long one**", that it was in **English**, that it was **transcribed by Anna**, who handled English speakers, and that they turned it in **immediately**. This specific sequence of events is why it stands out in their minds; as Boris said, "**well, that's it**".

Despite a search, such a transcript has **never been found**. Because of the discrepancy between the translators' memory and the transcripts, the Tarasoffs **provided** to the HSCA their original Royal portable typewriter so that **the type could be compared with the type on the transcripts**. The Royal typewriter, **in a brown case**, is sitting in the National Archives today. The comparison is still waiting to be done.

I believe that this missing "third transcript" of a call from Oswald on a date other than Sept. 28 and Oct. 1 probably did exist. Phillips' admission about Oswald seeking financial aid, made at the beginning of the HSCA investigation, made it clear that he needed to avoid telling too many whoppers on the record, given that the "third transcript" might turn up in the investigation. From then on, the CIA took a much tougher attitude to the HSCA. Phillips provided no new startling revelations when recalled in 1978.

Meanwhile, during the first days of October immediately following the October 1 phone calls, two posts went back and forth between the Mexico City station and CIA HQ. Mexico City expressed concern about trusting the local FBI office with any sensitive information – they were concerned that the FBI had been **penetrated**. HQ's response was to tell Mexico City to take no immediate action on the "**high level of penetration**" while they figured out how to best work with the FBI. The concern, of course, was to avoid any damage to their relations.

Phillips' next stop was to JMWAVE, the CIA's Cuba operations base in Miami. Upon his arrival on the 7th, Phillips was greeted by **John Tilton**. To recap, Tilton was the CIA Cuba affairs officer who worked with the FBI's Cuba affairs officer Lambert Anderson to put together the joint agency anti-FPCC operation that used Oswald in some way. The purpose of Phillips' visit was for two days of consultations.[17]

It seems reasonable to assume that Phillips met with Ted Shackley, the chief of the Miami base for Cuban operations, and that he passed on to them some version of his previous discussions with their colleagues at Langley. Did Phillips tell Shackley specifically about the Oswald impersonation? Or the molehunt? We don't know, but let's assume that he did and swore him to secrecy. After this meeting, the plan was completed.

A summary of what the Sept. 28 callers knew

Here's what I think happened next, based on my review of the documents from we have been looking at. I conclude that a plan went into effect on October 8. The goal was to smoke out the identity of the September 28 callers that pretended to be Duran and Oswald.

The person who was the titular head of this operation was analyst Ann Egerter. She had done the main handling of Oswald's file since 1960, reporting to her bosses Jim Angleton and Birch O'Neal. Egerter's group, CI/SIG, was known as the molehunting unit. She called CI/SIG "**the office that spied on spies**". For more background, see **my article on CI/SIG**.

A quick overview of what the Sept 28 callers knew:

1. Oswald was a Russian-speaker;
2. Oswald had previously met with Duran;
3. Oswald had just left the Soviet embassy earlier that morning on the 28th;
4. Oswald wanted to know on the 1st if his Soviet visa had been granted – because the September 28 callers made this call as well!
5. On October 1, the caller identified himself as Oswald, saying that he had called previously on the 28th. He then coaxed the Soviet officer who picked up the phone to provide Kostikov's name, claiming that his previous conversation had been with that man. A linkage between Kostikov and Oswald was now created.

Concern grew on Oct. 1 that the FBI office in Mexico City was penetrated

Keep in mind that right after the calls of Sept 28 and Oct 1, the station had immediately responded with a report to HQ admitting its fear that the local FBI field office had been **penetrated**.

On October 1, Bill Bright's defection target Bakulin – who was handling the double agents LAROB and LINEB-1 for the Soviets, as seen in Chapter 3 - was seen talking to Yatskov outside the Soviet Embassy.[18] Yatskov was the consul assumed to be in close communication with Oswald, as seen in a contact sheet for Oswald. This referenced list of contacts makes it clear that the CIA was convinced by October 1st that "Y talked to O" on September 28.[19]

At this point, CIA complaints surface about the FBI's operation. I believe the concern was that someone from the LAROB or the LINEB-1 operations might have obtained access to LIENVOY, and impersonated

Oswald and Duran on the telephone.

Bakulin and LINEB-1 met on October 1. Bakulin told LINEB-1 he had no money for him that day. Things had heated up. After the meeting, Bakulin was put on continuous physical surveillance by the CIA's Mexico City station unit known as LIEMBRACE.[20]

The next day, October 2, a memo went out from CIA headquarters discussing the danger that the FBI's field office in Mexico City had been penetrated, and that any coordination with that FBI office was "a delicate matter" that should be dealt with at the headquarters level rather than in the field.

The memo also said that the FBI leadership "instructed its Mexi rep to discuss with you pertinent details of such Russian CE ops (note: counter-espionage operations) as LAROB case". LAROB was a double agent handled by both Soviet officer Valentin Bakulin and the FBI in Mexico City. Bill Bright had been tracking this story, as discussed in Chapter 3. Although there was a danger that the FBI's relationship with LAROB might have compromised its own security, HQ valued its relationship with the FBI and told the Mexico City station that "we do not wish at present time to raise new issues in Mexico." [21]

On October 5, the Mexico City station reported that "HQs was deferring discussion of the high level of penetration, but would take it up after hearing results of closer liaison between (the Mexico City station and the FBI) in Mexico City." [22]

On October 7, twenty sets of reports about double agent LAROB were sent from the FBI to the Mexico City station and Headquarters.[23] Why were they sent? Because both the Station and Headquarters were worried that LAROB was insecure. This double agent or his contacts could have impersonated Duran and Oswald on September 28 and October 1. LAROB and his contacts were logical suspects.

If the local FBI field office had been subjected to a **high level of penetration**, then the Mexico City station could have been penetrated as well. The station itself had to be treated as a suspect in the molehunt.

Agreement to strip Oswald's biographical file of any pro-Cuban references before beginning the molehunt

The number one concern was that the LIENVOY operation had been discovered by Soviet or Cuban intelligence, blowing a highly valuable and sensitive asset of the United States. The impersonation could have been an effort by the Soviets or Cubans to rattle the Americans' cage by letting them know that their tap operation had been found out, and then taking careful note of the American reaction.

However, the Mexico City station could not assume that the calls were an operation conducted by Soviet or Cuban intelligence. It was a live possibility that these calls were an inside job. Any analyst could easily deduce that American intelligence knew a lot more about Lee Oswald than the Soviets or the Cubans.

Due to the nature of the security problem, the logical prime suspects would be the CIA officers working in Cuban operations and the FBI's double agents working with Bakulin. Also worthy of consideration were the Mexico City station and the domestic agencies responsible for handling Oswald – FBI, State, Navy. The immigration service also had a subsidiary role, as they were responsible for tracking Oswald's wife Marina.

A decision was made for the Mexico City station to make no reference to Oswald's visits to the Cuban consulate. All of Mexico City's references to the Oswald case would use the **LCIMPROVE indicator** of an operation designed to **counter** the Soviets, rather than the **TYPIC** indicator that would refer to Cuban operations.

Oswald's biographical file (known as his "201 file") would be stripped of any reference to his pro-Cuban activities, as well as any reference to any attempt to obtain a visa. These documents were removed from the 201 file and placed inside Oswald's FPCC 100-300-011 file tightly held by CI-SIG.[24]

Many documents still bear this original FPCC file number today, **crossed out** and replaced by the 201 number. This was done to create a plausible reason to prevent FitzGerald's Cuban desk at HQ and Shackley's Miami station from receiving any cables or dispatches about this molehunt. The Cuba operations officers had access to the August 1963 FBI report about Oswald based on his real name Lee Harvey Oswald, his actual slender build of "**5 foot 9, 140 pounds**", and his current status as a US resident; as you will see, they would have known that the molehunt descriptions of Oswald were inaccurate.

The Miami station had been included in **all** of the memos about the related Azcue operation. The two joint agency anti-FPCC operations of that year (discussed in Chapter 3) included several officers with the Cuban division, including Tilton himself. It was reasonable to assume that the suspects for the Duran and Oswald impersonation would include people from Miami with intelligence connections.

The heart of the plan was for Mexico City to add some marked cards based on phony information into their memo to HQ. Then HQ would do the same. Then see where those cards ended up. Both of these feints are part of the time-honored molehunt technique that Jim Angleton specialized in. The phony information simply created a brighter trail to follow.

Angleton believed Oswald was tied in with the Soviets

Although the Miami station was cut out of the chase, it may well be that Angleton refused to believe that Miami had anything to do with the Oswald phone calls. Angleton not only assumed that the Soviets were

constantly trying to penetrate the CIA, but he also assumed that **they knew that their compound was tapped in Mexico City**.

As I've said, molehunts were Jim Angleton's specialty. Goodpasture had served for years previously in the CI staff with Jim Angleton. Angleton and Harvey were not only close friends, but also at the mountaintop of top-secret CIA operations. No divisions were more sacrosanct than the CI division and Staff D. The role of CI/SIG within CI may have been the most sacrosanct of all, as it spied on CIA officers themselves and had to hide their role in order to remain effective. When Angleton heard about the Sept 28 phone call by "Lee Oswald" in Mexico City, it must have brought him right back to **the hunt for Popov's mole** on the day that Lee Oswald came to Moscow.

For years, Angleton was convinced that the Soviets were behind the Oswald story, until a Soviet double agent had him **doubting his certainty** in 1967. He was also shook up by an **internal KGB study** finding that the perpetrators of JFK's assassination were "**right-wing**".

It should be said that Angleton claimed to know things about the Mexico City story that are unsupported in the record. He testified to the Church Committee that Oswald was **arrested in Mexico City**, with a **plan to contact the Soviets while in Cuba**. He also said that there was a tie-in to a 1956 arrest of Fidel Castro in Mexico City years earlier for plotting Batista's assassination, and that both the arrests of **Oswald and Castro** were linked to Soviet third secretary Nikolai Leonov in Mexico City. The documents reflect no factual support for these Angleton claims about Oswald. Much of Angleton's testimony is blacked out to this day.

Angleton went on to claim that there were **several photos of interest**. Two of them were **photos of Leonov and Castro together**, found in Castro's possession when he was arrested in Mexico City in 1956, as well as a **photo of Castro's arrest itself**. The true version of this story is that **Leonov's business card was found in Castro's wallet**. Angleton also claimed that a **photo of Leonov was supposedly found in Oswald's pocket** when he was supposedly arrested in Mexico.[25]

Angleton may have made this yarn up, or it may have come from Mexico City's TARBRUSH program, which tried on at least **three separate occasions** during 1963-64 to **make Leonov look bad**. When Leonov got a couple months off in the spring of 63, he served as **Castro's interpreter** in the USSR. Clever minds thought that Leonov might be a good target for dirty tricks. It's not impossible that the supposed mastermind Angleton was taken in by the Mexico City station's own "black propaganda" program. If I could speak Russian, I would ask Leonov himself, who is still alive and **serves in the Russian Parliament** as of this writing.[26]

Goodpasture begins the molehunt with her use of the Mystery Man photo

I believe that Phillips' trip to Washington and Miami led to an unheard-of one week delay by the highly efficient Mexico City station. Only after Phillips' visit to Miami did the Soviet desk finally get the go-ahead to prepare a memo to CIA HQ on the October 1 phone calls. CIA HQ now had a total heads-up as to what would be coming from Mexico City.

As mentioned earlier, Phillips blamed the Soviet case officer **Barbara Manell** for the delay. Goodpasture said **Phillips had it wrong**, and blamed it on the time needed to get the Russian translation, coupled with the need to match the Oswald information with a photo. Boris Tarasoff said that he provided the translation immediately. He had so little work to do that he spent a lot of time at the embassy "**hanging around doing nothing**".

Tarasoff was originally brought to Mexico City before the station knew that **Tarasoff couldn't translate Spanish**. Another officer was brought out in early August who could speak **fluent Spanish**, and became one of Tarasoff's main contacts. His pseudonym was Orville Horsfall. Horsfall was the ubiquitous Bill Bright.

Goodpasture began the molehunt by using a supposed "Oswald photo" as the background legend for the Soviet desk's memo **sent out to HQ on October 8**. The memo reported that Lee Oswald called the Soviet consulate on October 1. He was described as 6 feet tall and with an athletic build. This description was nothing like Oswald, who was **5 foot 9 and 140 pounds**.

The Soviet desk officer said that Goodpasture **told her** that the photo log portrayed a six-foot "Mystery Man" with an athletic build **leaving the Soviet consulate on October 1**. He looked like an American and might be Oswald.

Goodpasture admitted finding the photo, but refused to take responsibility to admit that she thought the Mystery Man might be Oswald, saying that she **didn't remember** who suggested it. She did admit, however, that **she started screening the photos** once she found out that Oswald was probably an American. Her actions illustrate that the Mexico City station thought that the man calling himself Lee Oswald was important.

It was not unusual for the station chief Win Scott to press the officers to match a report of a phone call with a corresponding photo. It's unusual, of course, for Goodpasture and the Soviet desk



Commission Exhibit 237, one of the photos of the so-called "mystery man."

officer Barbara Manell to disagree about such a fundamental issue involving Oswald. It was also unusual for Goodpasture to provide the Soviet desk with a photo which was taken on October 2, while pretending that it was taken on October 1.

Goodpasture was supposedly relying on a photo log that separated October 1 and October 2 with a full line of red percentage marks. She claimed many years later that this was her mistake. She was ordered to review the dates immediately after the assassination and again in 1967, and yet she never “caught the mistake”.

This is not the kind of mistake that an exceptional officer like Goodpasture would make, who routinely received the highest rating of “outstanding” in her fitness reports. The staff of the House Select Committee on Assassinations reviewed this evidence in the 1970s along with her explanation, and concluded that Goodpasture’s story was highly implausible. Staffer Ed Lopez concluded that Goodpasture belonged in jail.

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TUESDAY 1th OCTOBER 1963      Log Film 144      Weather 1/100
Coverage: 900 to 1900      20 Exp.      Camera Setting 3.5-2.5"

1 1251 2URM platican con KAZ en el jardín
2 =====
3 1139 ANOV      out UMW a Norte por Tacubaya-Despide DEX-en Chev      375
4 =====
5 1150 U M M      out a Norte por Tacubaya en Ford37 verde(entr61141)      71033 DF
6 1205 LEON      in 2URM de Oriente por Chiconitepec de Falcon      372
7 =====
```

Goodpasture mistook this October 2 sighting as happening on October 1, even though the typeface separating the two dates was in red. She was told to double-check this item after the assassination and again in 1967, and on both occasions claimed that she had it right.

As a member of the top-secret communications office Staff D, Ann Goodpasture had been answering for years to Bill Harvey and his assistant Anita Potocki. David Phillips was also part of Staff D. Staff D received on a regular basis all the transcripts about what was picked up inside the Soviet and Cuban consulates in Mexico City. Staff D knew what was going on inside those consulates. As I said in the previous chapter, I view the Mexico City station as a Staff D outpost.

From review of the documents, it appears that the essential participants in any molehunt would have been CI chief Jim Angleton and his analyst Ann Egerter (holder of the Oswald biographical file from 1960-62); covert action chief Richard Helms and his assistant Tom Karamessines; Ann Goodpasture and David Phillips of both the Mexico City station and Staff D; Desmond FitzGerald and Ted Shackley from Cuba affairs.

Other possible participants might include John Tilton and Lambert Anderson, the architects of the joint agency anti-FPCC operation; Anita Potocki of Staff D, who had run the previous joint agency anti-FPCC operation; and possibly Staff D operative Bill Harvey himself.

Others who may have known some kind of operation was in place – but not necessarily the details, which would have been provided on a need-to-know basis – include WH head JC King, John Whitten at the Mexican desk, Whitten’s assistant Charlotte Bustos, Soviet officers Stephan Roll and Bill Bright, and Angleton’s liaison Jane Roman. Scott was described as a “fanatic” about running a “remarkably compartmentalized station”. It’s hard to imagine Scott being cut out of the molehunt, and it’s equally hard to imagine Scott wanting more than a couple of the Mexico City personnel in the know.

The stripping of Oswald’s 201 file

Oswald’s 201 file at CIA HQ was stripped of all references to his FPCC background, and placed inside the Agency’s FPCC file, or in a casual, working file in Egerter’s possession commonly known as a soft file. The purpose was to conceal this information from anyone who had access to Oswald’s 201 file. The procedure was that there was no way anyone was going to see the contents of a 201 file without the express consent of the CI-SIG officer in charge. Ann Egerter, the senior analyst and custodian of Oswald’s 201 file, was a learned lady.

Starting on September 23, Hosty’s report on Oswald went into the FPCC file, with the FPCC number 100-300-011 written on it.[27] Other pre-assassination FBI reports about Oswald, Cuba and the FPCC were directed to this file as well. It stayed in there until March 1964, after the assassination.

This insulated anyone else from learning about Oswald’s history as a pro-Castro activist. CI-SIG held the FPCC 100-300-011 file tightly in its possession, and the routing sheet shows that the first document went straight to Will Potocki, and then other members of Angleton’s CI division.[28]

Why was the Hosty memo inserted in the FPCC file on September 23, even before Oswald left for Mexico? I think it was to mislead other CIA officers about who Oswald was. I do not know why, but my hunch is that John Tilton and Lambert Anderson wanted to conceal their use of Oswald and his pro-Cuban background. The only people that saw the Hosty memo before the assassination were CIA counterintelligence officers.

If my hunch is right, this strategy drove the decisions that were made afterwards. After Oswald was impersonated, an internal investigation began within the CIA. That investigation decided to maintain Tilton’s original approach - do not reveal Oswald’s full history to other members of the Agency. The best way to do that was to eliminate any reference of his visits to the Cuban consulate.

By early October, the 201 biographical file was stripped of almost all of its documents. The purpose of this stripping was to make sure that the file “lied” to Bustos, who read it outside of CI-SIG and used it to prepare the twin October 10 memos. The stripping ensured compartmentalization, so that Bustos and others

with no need-to-know did not know about Egerter's molehunt. Although the CIA's pioneering computer system would inform an inquirer that documents were missing from the file, there was no way of knowing their contents until the documents were in one's hands.

Charlotte Bustos at the **Mexico desk at Headquarters** had access to the 201 file. A note from the CIA's document file expert Paul Hartman reveals that at the time of the assassination **there were only five documents physically located in the 201 file.**[29]

Two were State Department documents, one was a Navy document, and the other two were FBI documents, all of them dating back to Oswald's time in the Soviet Union.[30] The other documents were missing from the file when it was reviewed in **February 1964**. A March 1964 memo to the Warren Commission from chief Richard Helms **restored the missing documents to the 201 file.**

Thirty-seven of the **forty-two** documents that made up Oswald's 201 file in October 1963 had been removed and placed into a **separate file supposedly held by Bustos** before the assassination. Bustos claimed that **she wasn't even sure what file she was given**, despite her reputation of having an **excellent memory**. CIA's Paul Hartman, formidable in his knowledge on how to bird-dog documents, claimed that these 37 documents were removed because they dealt with "sensitive matters such as **wiretaps and surveillance**".[31] You can bet that Bustos had the 201 file with five documents left in it.

Most of these documents had nothing to do with wiretaps and surveillance – the only thing sensitive about them was that they would reveal Oswald's biography, which was the actual state secret. Virtually none of the **37** documents dealt with wiretaps and surveillance. Take a look at this chart, which illustrates that **most of the documents were restored to the file after the assassination.**

Paul Hartman, a well-respected document analyst for the Agency, put great emphasis on a red herring. Hartman insisted that the computer list of the documents in Oswald's 201 file was always **available** during this time period. Hartman ignored that most of the documents in the 201 file were unavailable for reviewers such as Bustos, who had to rely on information given to her by Egerter when composing her letters.

Jeff Morley recounts a footrace between Egerter and Bustos to retrieve the 201 file after CIA HQ learned that JFK had been shot.[32] Egerter won the footrace, because she had the full file. Bustos did not.

The 201 file was stripped to hide not just Oswald's pro-Cuban background, but almost everything about Oswald's biography. In other words, Oswald would come across to Bustos as pretty much of a "nobody", a schlep of so little consequence that no one knew or cared if he had even returned to the United States after the last date in the file, May 1962.[33]

Now, armed with a stripped 201 file, doctored to lie to the reviewer, the coast was clear to let Charlotte Bustos rely on this file as she put her name on the twin 10/10 memos.

Although Bustos may have realized that there was some contradictory information in the two memos, she probably didn't suspect a molehunt since she was directly relying on the remnants of the 201 file and whatever she was told by the coordinating officers **Ann Egerter and Stephan Roll**, chief Soviet analyst and Bill Bright's ex-boss.[34] It was not known within the CIA that CI/SIG's role was to protect CIA's internal security, much less to conduct internal molehunts. As an inspector general wrote in a history of CI/SIG during this era, "it would be very seriously damaging to the efforts of the CI Staff **if it ever became known that it was engaged in any activities involving CIA employees.**"

Although Roll didn't have access to Egerter's files, Bustos thought that Roll's CI experience was very helpful in "**assessing...** (whether this was) a serious matter or not".

Bustos is known as the author of the twin October 10 memos, but there was no reason for her to know that they were filled with marked cards. She knew simply that she was relying on information not in the file, provided to her from Egerter.

Bustos' boss John Whitten - and his boss William Hood – probably knew no more than Bustos. All three of them were with the Western Hemisphere division, who had no need to know about the molehunt. Tom Karamessines, the aide to covert action chief Richard Helms, may or may not have been tipped off about the gambit. The fewer people that knew, the better the chances were that they would actually capture the mole.

Angleton's aide Ann Egerter had an elaborate role. She was the one who had originally created Oswald's 201 file in December 1960, while he was still in the Soviet Union. When the files were originally in her hands, she dubbed him "Lee Henry Oswald" and his new wife with the maiden name of "Pusakova" rather than "Prusakova". These "marked cards" for **Lee** and **Marina** were used again in the twin Oct 10 memos. Warren Commission attorney David Belin saw these repeated anomalies in the Headquarters files, but mistakenly dismissed them as not **significant**. Belin might have changed his mind if he had known about the role of CI/SIG and its prime directive to smoke out spies trying to penetrate the CIA.

Egerter knew his real name was Lee Harvey Oswald. She had been reading about him for years as "Lee Harvey Oswald" in monitoring the US-USSR mail-opening program known as HTLINGUAL. Index cards for the HTLINGUAL program **display "Lee Harvey Oswald" and Egerter's name together.**

Egerter designed the twin 10/10 memos to initiate a clash between the higher and lower echelon of the agencies

The twin Oct 10 memos were cleverly crafted. One went to the national headquarters of the FBI, State, and Navy, and contained a description of "Lee Henry Oswald" as "6 feet tall, athletic build, age 35", a deliberate lie. This description was similar to a file card description of Yuri Moskalev, who CIA officers believed was probably the "Mystery Man" in the October 1 photo. The photo was not provided but was available if needed. It also claimed that this information was being shared "with your representatives in Mexico City". But that was not true, either.

The second memo went directly to the Mexico City station itself, with a different description of "Lee Henry Oswald" as "5 foot 10, 165 pounds" that matched the Robert Webster-like description of Oswald used by Egerter and the FBI for molehunting purposes during Oswald's days in the Soviet Union. (A CIA note during the seventies confirms that the Agency knew there was confusion in identifying the two men, although I haven't yet found the full memo itself.)

Unlike the first memo, the second memo said that the last information on Oswald was when he was in the Soviet Union during May 1962, where he had "matured". And where the first memo provided the Mystery Man description to the headquarters of the FBI, State and Navy, the second memo instructed the station to share the Robert Webster-like description with the local Mexico City offices of these same agencies!

A very clever aspect of all this was that the memo to Mexico City said that their latest info on Oswald was from May 1962, but to hold this information back from the FBI and other agencies. Bustos testified that the inaccurate information originated from the State Department, which brought into play the rule of "don't disseminate information obtained from another agency to any third party." Otherwise, the whole game would have been blown, as FBI agents and others had provided post-May 1962 information about Oswald to the CIA.

Also, by asking the Mexico City station to withhold this information, Headquarters was effectively preventing the Mexico City station from obtaining the knowledge that the FBI, Navy, and State had responsibility over Oswald's case and would have recent information about Oswald's life back in the United States.

1. ON 1 OCTOBER 1963 A RELIABLE AND SENSITIVE SOURCE IN MEXICO REPORTED THAT AN AMERICAN MALE, WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS LEE OSWALD, CONTACTED THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY INQUIRING WHETHER THE EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED ANY NEWS CONCERNING A TELEGRAM WHICH HAD BEEN SENT TO WASHINGTON. THE AMERICAN WAS DESCRIBED AS APPROXIMATELY 35 YEARS OLD, WITH AN ATHLETIC BUILD, ABOUT SIX FEET TALL, WITH A "RECEDING" HAIRLINE.

3. THE INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPH ONE IS BEING DISSEMINATED TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN MEXICO CITY. ANY FURTHER INFORMATION RECEIVED ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE FURNISHED YOU. THIS INFORMATION IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE.

END OF MESSAGE

DIR 74673 to State/FBI/Navy (excerpts).
This cable passes on the false "Mystery Man" description of Oswald, along with orders to disseminate this description to the local offices of these agencies in Mexico City.

1. LEE OSWALD WHO CALLED SOVEMB 1 OCT PROBABLY IDENTICAL LEE HENRY OSWALD (201-289248) BORN 18 OCT 1939, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, FORMER RADAR OPERATOR IN UNITED STATES MARINES WHO DEFECTED TO USSR IN OCT 1959. OSWALD IS FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE POUNDS, LIGHT BROWN WAVY HAIR, BLUE EYES.

3. LATEST HDQS INFO WAS ODACID REPORT DATED MAY 1962 SAYING ODACID HAD DETERMINED OSWALD IS STILL US CITIZEN AND BOTH HE AND HIS SOVIET WIFE HAVE EXIT PERMITS AND DEPT STATE HAD GIVEN APPROVAL FOR THEIR TRAVEL WITH THEIR INFANT CHILD TO USA.

4. STATION SHOULD PASS INFO REF AND PARA ONE TO TPFLIDE, ODENVY, ODOATH, AND ODURGE LOCALLY. INFO PARAS TWO AND THREE ORIGINATES WITH ODACID.

5. REF AND POSSIBLE IDENTIFICATION BEING DISSEMINATED TO HDQS OF ODENVY, ODACID, ODOATH, AND ODURGE. PLS KEEP HDQS ADVISED ON ANY FURTHER CONTACTS OR POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF OSWALD.

DIR 74830 to Mexico City Station (excerpts).
This memo passes on the false Robert Webster-like description of Oswald, along with orders to disseminate this description to the Headquarters of the same agencies referenced in the previous memo.

The hope was that one of the marked cards would pop up in the wrong hands in the midst of this Egerter-created clash between the agencies' headquarters and the local agencies' offices. When Egerter was questioned by Congress about these two different descriptions, she said that she couldn't explain why it happened.

When Angleton's CI liaison Jane Roman was shown these two memos many years later, her audiotaped response was that this was "indicative of a keen interest in Oswald (within the Agency), held very closely on the need to know basis". Even when she wrote a letter complaining about how her interview was interpreted by the media, she admitted that "naturally, Oswald was the subject of great interest to both the CIA and the FBI even before the assassination, CIA would have explored every available asset abroad to establish his motives and activities". [35] Think about it for a moment. How could the Mexico City station effectively discover what Oswald was up to, when the station was not even informed by its colleagues that Oswald had returned to the United States in 1962?

To make matters worse, nothing in the record shows that CIA made any attempt to get its assets close to key people such as Duran, Azcue and Kostikov - or its informants LITAMIL-3, LITAMIL-7 and LITAMIL-9 - to find out anything about Oswald before the assassination, even though the only hard evidence that

they had about the visits to the Cuban consulate on the 27th and the supposed visit on the 28th were based on the wiretaps. Similarly, even eight months after the assassination, the Mexico City station wasn't sure who Oswald had spoken to inside the Soviet consulate.

The Mexico City station did not focus on learning more about Oswald's background. Their actions are consistent with a security breach – who impersonated him? Both the CIA and the FBI were nervous about Oswald in the weeks that followed. Starting on **October 7**, the CIA polygraphed many of its most trusted agents in Mexico City and throughout Mexico - **see my article** on this subject – a security measure that is strongly discouraged unless security has been compromised, because the recipients of the polygraph are usually deeply alienated as a result.

Meanwhile, the FBI fanned out among its **informants** and even **subinformants** in Mexico – **none** of them had heard of Lee Oswald. FBI agent Milton Kaack in New Orleans even went to the board of health and unearthed Oswald's birth records, apparently to assure himself of the identity of the man he was chasing.

Many people knew how to get Angleton fired up for a molehunt

As the efforts of the CIA and FBI in Mexico were unsuccessful, this provides further evidence that the source of the calls was probably in Miami. The twin 10/10 memos, like Goodpasture's memo, excluded the Cuba division from the list of recipients. The Miami station officers were basically cut out of the loop.

If JMWAVE chief Shackley was filled in on the molehunt by David Phillips in early October, this meant that Shackley's #2 man David Morales probably knew about the molehunt too. Morales' background provides a prime example of how treacherous this situation was. Morales and Mafia man John Roselli were Harvey's two trusted aides in his efforts within the ZRRIFLE assassination program to kill Castro. **As soon as he became the ZRRIFLE assassination chief** in November 1961, Harvey summoned Morales from Mexico City to work with him in the Langley basement and in Miami. [36]

Morales is among the best candidates as the initiator of the "Oswald" phone calls, with the intention of goading Angleton into starting a molehunt. Morales had a far better idea how the CIA would respond to these phone calls than any Soviet or Cuban spy ever would.

Larry Hancock and other authors recount how Morales, Roselli, and their courier John Martino made comments in the years after the assassination indicating that they played an active role in the killing of JFK. **Morales set up and led the counterintelligence network of Cuban exiles in the Caribbean known as the "AMOTs" or Operation 40.** During and even after the Bay of Pigs, Morales' AMOTs were designed to become the chiefs of intelligence in Cuba after the overthrow of Castro. Morales' paramilitary buddy Tony Sforza knew that Azcue and Duran were the ones greeting the public at the Cuban consulate.

Morales knew Angleton as a rival in the world of counterintelligence. Angleton's penchant for molehunts was no secret at the Agency. Morales and other officers didn't even need a tip from Shackley to know that a phony call from Oswald would trigger a molehunt by Angleton. Angleton and his closest colleagues were convinced by the Soviet defector Anatoly Golitsyn that the Sino-Soviet split was a fake, a story that caused a severe division within the Agency itself. Angleton drove so many officers out of the CIA by the time of his firing in 1974 that Congress was forced to pass a "**Mole Relief Act**" to compensate the unjustly fired officers.

Morales had more time under his belt in the military than Angleton. While Angleton had time under fire when serving as a CI officer in World War II, Morales was in the Army between 1946-1951, and was the **paramilitary chief** of the JMWAVE Cuban base in Miami, serving under the pseudonym of Stanley Zamka. Angleton suffered from some post-traumatic stress, but Morales was eaten up by bitterness about the Bay of Pigs.

Morales and his boss Ted Shackley were very closely bonded during their tenure. As mentioned earlier, they worked together closely on the Comando Mambises raids that kept the Kennedys and FitzGerald out of the loop. A stunning memo has emerged, written by a member of HQ's special research security staff. Dated October 15, it discusses Anita Potocki's report that the "top echelon" of the Special Affairs Staff (the Cuba division at Langley) wanted Shackley out **because he was selected by Bill Harvey**, and that "certain individuals are setting a trap to catch Shackley".

What we see here is an internal struggle within the Cuba division between pro-Harvey and anti-Harvey factions. Anita Potocki was a Bill Harvey partisan, and Shackley was always a Harvey man, which was probably why Potocki was so indiscreet that the security staff had to write a memo. Given that even her fellow partisan Neill Prew was "scared" of JMWAVE, the Potocki report is a sign that things in Miami were out of control. Did FitzGerald want Shackley out because of Shackley's disagreement with his plan to use the insecure AMTRUNK and Rolando Cubela as a way to kill Castro, or was it because the Miami station was under suspicion for wrongdoing? Was the "trap" a reference to the molehunt?

Potocki's note also mentions that **Shackley knew about HTLINGUAL**, Angleton's letter-reading project. This shows that the Miami station JMWAVE had access to Oswald's letters from the USSR. FitzGerald was no fan of Angleton, but I am unaware of any problem that Shackley or Morales had with the angler man.

Like many of the haters of Castro in Miami, Morales was a very dangerous man. Like Harvey, Morales hated the Kennedys. Other CIA men in the Cuba division felt the same way. Sam Halpern, the executive officer for the Cuba division at Langley during the tenure of both Harvey and FitzGerald, hated the Kennedy approach of "busy-ness" towards Cuba. Halpern told Washington Post reporter Jefferson Morley,

"I'll tell you one thing, I didn't know that word busy-ness. It was never mentioned by Des [FitzGerald] when he came back from that meeting, and it was a good thing he didn't because you might have had a Seven Days in May at that point." [37]

The twin October 10 memos meant that the CIA and FBI could now be blackmailed

In my mind, the twin October 10 memos are the most important documents that we have. Keep in mind that the CIA officers who created them were focused on capturing whoever had impersonated Oswald and Duran. However, the creation of these twin memos was an ideal blackmail device. This was a golden opportunity for someone like David Morales, who was a former CI chief himself. There was now a strong and robust paper trail between CIA HQ and the Mexico City station, filled with inaccuracies and half-truths about Lee Oswald.

I have set forth what I believe is the reasonable explanation for the creation of these twin October 10 memos, and welcome debate on the subject. Any alternative explanation, however, is useless if it fails to thoroughly address the various aspects of these memos that we have just reviewed. After analyzing the contents of these memos, I do think that what has been discussed here is the simplest and most straightforward explanation.

Right before the 10/10 memos were created, the alarm that Oswald was a security risk was turned off

Meanwhile, the very men who dreamed up the notion of luring Oswald to Mexico City received one of the 10/10 memos. Even though the 10/10 memos were destined only for Soviet desks, the FBI copy was forwarded to the Nationalities Intelligence division which focused on Cuban affairs - and then directly into the hands of FBI supervisor Lambert Anderson. The words "Nat Int", "Anderson", and "Wannall" (Anderson's boss) can be seen on the FBI's copy of the memo. Ordinarily, there was no reason to forward this memo to Nationalities Intelligence - they did not work the Soviet beat. But, as we have seen from the beginning, Lambert Anderson was one of the two men at FBI headquarters who was specifically charged with handling the Oswald file and who had run the joint agency anti-FPCC operation. The other was FBI counterintelligence supervisor Marvin Gheesling, who had placed Oswald on the security watch list four years earlier when he went to the Soviet Union.

The day before the 10/10 twin memos were created, Gheesling took Oswald off the security watch list after talking with Lambert Anderson. Both Gheesling and Anderson had signed off on a watch list document placed in Oswald's file on August 13 after Oswald was arrested in New Orleans for breach of the peace while leafleting for the FPCC. Gheesling wrote that once he learned that Oswald was arrested, he told Anderson that Oswald should be taken off the security watch list because he had inadvertently forgot to remove his name after Oswald's return from the Soviet Union. [38] Anderson confirmed that someone had told him that the security flash had been removed because it was no longer necessary once Oswald had returned to the United States.

One immediate problem with both of their stories is that their boss Bill Branigan wrote on 11/22/63 that the very reason Oswald was put on the watch list was to ensure that "any subsequent arrest in the U.S. was brought to our attention". So why take him off the list after he was arrested?

An even more intriguing problem, with Gheesling's story in particular, is that he wrote that he removed Oswald's name from the security watch list on October 9 right after he learned about Oswald's arrest. Gheesling's explanation flies in the face of the aforementioned watch list document showing that both Gheesling and Anderson knew about Oswald's arrest around August 13. Gheesling's name and initials "wmg" are also on other memos discussing Oswald and his arrest dated August 21 and August 23.

The probable solution is that Anderson got wind of a tip. On October 8 Anderson received a Sept. 24 report of Oswald's arrest, which revealed Oswald's request to speak with an FBI agent and share quite a bit of information while in jail. [39] My conclusion is that on the 9th the two men came to some kind of mutual understanding that Oswald was helpful to the FBI, and saw no reason to keep him on the security watch list. "Anderson" of "Nat. Int." is written on the watch list file, underneath the date of October 10. As a result, no alarms went off at the FBI when the 10/8/63 memo about Oswald being in Mexico City and trying to contact Kostikov arrived on the 10th. Any alarm that might have sounded about Oswald being a security risk appears to have been deliberately turned off by Gheesling and Anderson.

The intriguing question is whether Gheesling and Anderson took Oswald off the security watch list based solely on the report about Oswald's cooperation with the FBI, or whether they had also been tipped off that a molehunt was about to begin with Oswald's file. The timing would suggest that both factors were in play.

If the officers in the Cuban division had received a copy of either one of the twin 10/10 memos, they would now know that the Cuban angle on the Oswald story had been methodically erased from the paper trail between CIA HQ and Mexico City. That would have been a key tipoff that an investigation had begun.

Although none of the officers in the CIA's Cuban division got a copy of either of the 10/10 memos, it does appear that Anderson got a copy of one of them. Anderson could have easily told Tilton. If that happened, then the CIA's Cuban division officers could have learned about the 10/10 memo from Tilton. These officers had a number of ways to obtain this confirmation, but the Tilton route would have been one of the simplest. The only problem with this aspect is that it seems unlikely that Tilton would be willing to be a

conduit to any organizers of a plan to kill the President, given that his role in the anti-FPCC operation was a matter of record within the Agency.

There is also no sign that anyone at the CIA or the FBI was seriously concerned that Soviet consul Valeriy Kostikov was part of the KGB's "assassination bureau" known as Department 13 prior to the assassination, as was claimed by Angleton's colleague Golitsyn and by the Soviet Union section right after the assassination. This was because Angleton had told the FBI as recently as June 1963 that **the CIA had no information that Kostikov had anything to do with Department 13**. Both the FBI and CIA had been tracking Kostikov's double agent (FBI code name TUMBLEWEED; CIA code name AEBURBLE) for months, and the FBI relied on Angleton's reassurance that there was **no evidence** that Kostikov was a member of Department 13. If there was any genuine concern, CIA counterintelligence would have kept Kostikov firmly in their sights after **Mexico City mentioned Oswald's call to Kostikov on October 8**.



Patch worn by John S. Tilton when he was running the assassination-driven Phoenix Program in Vietnam.

Now that the paper trail was created and the molehunt was under way, the Sept/Oct callers were in position to spring the trap. Look at the situation.

1. Goodpasture at the Mexico City station had **made up a fake story** that a probable KGB agent – the “Mystery Man” – was actually Lee Oswald.
2. CIA HQ then sent out a memo to the FBI and other security agencies providing Goodpasture's false and misleading description of Oswald as “**6 foot, athletically built, 35 years old**”, with the insinuation that there was no longer any reason for Oswald to be considered as security risk because he had “**matured**”.
3. Simultaneously, CIA HQ sent out a second memo to its Mexico City station providing a second subtle but false and misleading description of Oswald as “**5 foot 10, 165 pounds**”. If Oswald was in the middle of an assassination, both the CIA and the FBI would be disgraced if the extent of their prior knowledge of Oswald was discovered.

The anonymous report of a shooter who was 5 foot 10 and 165 pounds

On 11/22/63, at 12:30 pm Central Time, President Kennedy was fatally struck by rifle fire to the head. At 12:43 pm, a sighting was alleged by a “white man” to Inspector Herbert Sawyer, and it immediately went out over the police radio. The description was similar to the “Robert Webster description” in the 10/10 memo sent to the Mexico City station: A man who was “**5 foot 10 and 165 pounds**” was seen firing from the Texas School Book Depository.

The witness had **no description of his clothing**, which makes no sense. When a witness sees a man firing prone from a window ledge at waist height, the most important details would be provided from his clothing. **How could anyone estimate the shooter's height or weight, when his entire body was not even visible?**

Sawyer turned the witness over to an unknown sheriff's deputy on the scene. **Neither the supposed witness or the deputy were ever heard from again**. A man named Howard Brennan claimed to be the witness, but even J. Edgar Hoover agreed that Brennan was not the man and the witness remained **unidentified**. Brennan did not remember the details recalled by Sawyer's witness. We'll come back to this story in greater detail in the next chapter.

This extraordinary sighting was a signal to the hierarchy of the CIA and the FBI. How were they going to explain the paper trail with the phony descriptions of Oswald? Or why Oswald's hunt for visas was hidden from the record? Or Oswald's background with the communist-friendly FPCC? Or Oswald's multiple visits to the Cuban consulate?

If any of the information above had been revealed to the public in the aftermath of the Kennedy assassination, heads were going to roll. Officers would be fired, families would be disgraced, even the agencies themselves might be dismantled. The domestic upheaval in the United States would be enormous, even unprecedented. Would there be war against Cuba? Or the Soviet Union? Or would conflict erupt within the United States itself, aimed at those whose actions had resulted in the death of a popular President? One thing I just can't find is anyone at the CIA or FBI standing up and saying, “Gosh, that 5 foot 10, 165 pound description for the shooter that came over the police radio in the first minutes after the shooting is the exact same description we used for Oswald for the last three years”. It had to be covered up.

Angleton's team **did not provide both of the twin 10/10 memos** to either J. Edgar Hoover or the Warren Commission, which would have revealed the two descriptions of Oswald and his background to different individuals in different agencies. Goodpasture **hid their dual existence** in an in-house chronology she prepared for her own boss during the late sixties. Intelligence writer David Wise complained in 1968 that the Warren Commission only got one of these documents in **paraphrased form** – and now we can see why.

The CIA insisted on only providing **paraphrased copies**, with the actual documents not released to the public for many years.

The House Select Committee on Assassinations received a full version of one memo and a partially-redacted version of the second memo in the late 70s. A comparison of the two revealed the two Oswald descriptions, but not the deceptive manner that these two descriptions were **disseminated among the headquarters and the field offices of these agencies which reveals the existence of the molehunt**. The twin 10/10 memos, the rest of the paper trail of the molehunt, the Oswald tapes, and the impersonation of Oswald had to be buried as deeply as possible. The CIA and the FBI had been successfully blackmailed. This is not an intricate scenario. All the organizers needed was some dirt. They had plenty of it.

Read Chapter 6: *The Set-Up and the Cover-Up*

NOTES

1 *The Delimitations Agreement treated ex-Marines such as Oswald as a Navy and FBI case and of potential interest to the State Department as well*: CIA draft memorandum for the record, author unknown, 11/27/76, p. 8, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 35/NARA Record Number: 1993.08.12.14:43:41:870060**.

See the Delimitations Agreement, p. 1, Reel 48 – Folder S –Delimitations Agreement, NARA Record Number: **1994.03.08.08:54:41:370005**.

My reading is that the FBI and Navy had no responsibility for him while he was overseas. Oswald's position as an ex-Marine was as "inactive reserve" or as a "civilian", not "active" or "retired", which would have made him the Navy's responsibility. While abroad, Oswald was the responsibility of the CIA and the State Department. After Oswald's return, he was the FBI's primary responsibility under the Delimitations Agreement. *Id.*, p. 2.

Oswald was on "inactive reserve" when he entered the USSR: **SA John Quigley report on Oswald**, 8/15/63, p. 5, Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 17, Exhibit 826.

Jim Angleton's colleague Ray Rocca was very confident about this aspect of the case at deposition. "Under the Delimitations Agreement, he was strictly the Navy's baby, and the FBI's baby, and that is it." **Deposition of Ray Rocca**, 7/17/78, p. 246.

Pursuant to this analysis, the FBI would be the designated agency to conduct the debriefing of Oswald, and the evidence indicates that that is what John Fain did upon Oswald's return. There is a "12-20-61" note on Oswald's FBI file saying, "Subject should be interviewed upon return to U.S." **FBI Oswald Headquarters File (105-82555)/FBI 105-82555 Oswald File, Section 1**, p. 54.

2 *A symbol of the American way, our liberal concession is the existence in our midst of a minority group whose influence and membership is very limited and whose dangerous tendencies are sufficiently controlled by special government agents*: Warren Commission Hearings, **Exhibit 102**, Vol. 16, pp. 441-442 - handwritten notes for a late August 1963 presentation by Lee Harvey Oswald at the Jesuit seminary attended by his cousin Eugene Murret. These notes were later transcribed into printed text by the Warren Commission.

3 *Starting on September 16, John Tilton of the CIA's Cuban operations in Miami worked with Anderson to put together a joint agency operation designed to "plant deceptive information which might embarrass the (FPCC) in areas where it does have some support"*: Memo from Sam Papich to D. Brennan re FPCC, 9/18/63, **DDP (Deputy Director for Plans) Files/ NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10151**.

4 *On September 16, FBI records indicate that Oswald's security watch file was reviewed, with Anderson's name written alongside*: Security watch file for Oswald, 9/16/63, **FBI 105-82555 Oswald HQ File, Section 1**.

5 *The joint agency operation, in turn, was a follow-up from an initial joint operation based in New York City two months earlier, when Harvey aide Anita Potocki and Lou de Santi worked with the FBI to get New York FPCC staffer (and FBI agent) Victor Vicente into Havana, where he met with Castro and Che Guevara*: Victor Vicente's name has been released, as revealed by David Kaiser, *The Road to Dallas*, p. 296.

Also see Memorandum for the Record, Lou De Santi, 7/10/63, p. 2, NARA Record Number: **104-10308-10163**; also see the LA Division's notes of this operation, prepared in the late 1970s, **attached** to this same document.

6 *John Newman suggests that the Tilton/Anderson anti-FPCC operation was "CI/OPS-inspired"*: John Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, (2008 edition) p. 625.

7 *Richard Cotter at the FBI, a Cuban specialist, knew about the Tilton/Anderson operation*: Memo from Lambert Anderson to Special Agent in Charge, New York, 9/26/63, **DDP (Deputy Director for Plans) Files/NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10152**. See the note on the file "W (probably Ray Wannall, head of Nationalities Intelligence) for RDC (Richard D. Cotter)".

8 *There is an unconfirmed story about Castro reporting that he heard that Oswald made a threat to kill the President at the Cuban embassy:* This story is poorly verified – although the documents are buried deep in the Warren Commission files, the recent book by Philip Shenon states that key staff members such as David Slawson and the rest of the surviving staff were wholly unaware of the story. If the story was true, why wasn't it properly investigated? Supporting evidence would provide powerful support for the lone gunman theory and quell much of the argument about Oswald's motives.

Like the Duran and Tarasoff stories discussed herein, key principals were not re-questioned, namely FBI informant Jack Childs/SOLO and CPUSA member Beatrice Johnson. Fidel Castro, Eusebio Azcue and Silvia Duran were questioned – all of them denied knowing anything about such a story. Because Childs and Johnson were not sought out and rigorously questioned, my best opinion is that this incident as stated never happened.

Nonetheless, this incident should be investigated further. If it took place, it's worth noting that the second-hand quote of Castro records him as surprised that it allegedly occurred in the embassy and not the consulate; that, in turn, raises perennial question of whether the visitor was Oswald or an impersonator. Also, the facts about the Oswald-Azcue confrontation may have been "mangled" by the time the story got to Castro.

If Jack Childs/SOLO was telling the truth...a big if...about Fidel being told after 11/22 that Oswald came into the Cuban **embassy** and on his way out shouted, "I'm going to kill Kennedy", a few things would have greater clarity. For starters, the Oswald character would have been told "you're in the wrong place - go to the consulate".

Castro said that when Oswald "stalked in and walked in and ran out that it itself was a suspicious movement, because nobody comes to an Embassy for a visa (they go to a Consulate)." See Jim Hosty's *Assignment: Oswald*, p. 277, or to the **second document** below.

There's support from a surprising quarter. **Teresa Proenza, the cultural attache, also reported being approached by Oswald in the embassy**, and passed him on to someone higher in rank - that certainly wasn't Duran, who was lower in rank and worked in the consulate.

Here's the very first document, a 6/11/64 26-page SOLO report that is constantly referenced...<http://vault.fbi.gov...part-60-of/view> (p. 86 is the page about LHO, 19 of 26) written by ACB of the NY field office to the Director, starting at page 68.

"(Castro) said Oswald was involved. Our people in Mexico gave us the details in a full report of how he acted when he came to Mexico to their embassy. He said first of all nobody goes that way for a visa. Second, it cost money to go that distance. He stormed into the embassy, demanded the visa and when it was refused to him headed out saying I'm going to kill Kennedy for this.

Now **here's the second document**, on the next day, 6/12/64. This follow-up is from JDO at the NY field office to the Director, where Childs is quizzed at great length about anything else he might know about Oswald in Mexico City. Hosty has a copy of it in his book at 276-278, the FBI website has it at <http://vault.fbi.gov...rt-59-of-1/view> (pp 58-59) This document states that the man called Oswald visited the Cuban Embassy - not the Consulate.

"I was told this by my people in the Embassy - exactly how he (OSWALD) stalked in and walked in and ran out. That in itself was a suspicious movement, because nobody comes to an Embassy for a visa (**they go to a Consulate.**)"

"The informant stated that the implication was that **Oswald came running in like a "mad man" demanding a visa** and immediately the people in the Embassy suspected that something wrong - why go to the Soviet Union through Cuba?"

"...(Oswald) yelled on his way out '**I'm going to kill that bastard. I'm going to kill Kennedy**'."

"(Jack Childs) was of the opinion that the Cuban Embassy people must have told Oswald something to the effect that they were sorry that they did not let Americans into Cuba because the US government stopped Cuba from letting them in and that is when Oswald shouted out the statement about killing Kennedy."

The report states that Beatrice Johnson (the CPUSA liaison to the Cuban Communist Party) and Fidel's physician and aide Rene Vallejo were with Castro and Childs in the conversation. According to Silvia Duran - although she never referred to her by name - Beatrice Johnson was someone Oswald should have contacted if he was serious about wanting to go to Cuba. AS Beatrice Johnson was the CPUSA liaison to the Cuban Communist Party, working with those two parties were the way Silvia told LHO that most people from the USA use to go to Cuba.

Here's the third document, a memo from Baumgartner to Sullivan on 6/12/64. Note how the story wobbles: "Castro reportedly stated, 'our people gave us the details in a full report of how he (Oswald) acted when he came to Mexico to their embassy (uncertain whether he means Cuban or Russian embassy)."

The **fourth document**, Hoover's famous memo to Rankin on 6/17/64, scrubs away

- 1) any reference to the Cuban consulate, or
- 2) "my people" at the Embassy,
- 3) the man called Oswald running in "like a mad man", or

- 4) the people in the embassy suspecting something was wrong, or
- 5) the man calling JFK a "bastard".

In short, it erases Fidel's astonishment that Oswald went to the embassy instead of the consulate.

The FBI and CIA chiefs weren't about to let J. Lee Rankin, counsel for the Warren Commission know all that. A question I have is whether Rankin or any other Warren staffers ever actually saw this memo?

If this event occurred, it looks like this was an entirely separate incident than the three incidents that Duran had with "Oswald" at the consulate. This would be a fourth incident, with "Oswald" at the Cuban Embassy.

9 *Any such deal may have included a visit to Valeriy Kostikov at the Soviet consulate, who had joined Khrushchev's entourage as a diplomat during his visit to the US in 1959:* Memo from American Embassy, Moscow to Secretary of State, 8/31/59, [Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10412-10000](#).

Khrushchev and his entourage arrived in the United States on September 15, and left on the 27th. Oswald left the USA on September 18. History Channel, "[This Day in History](#)", September 27, 1959.

10 *On the day of Oswald's arrival in Mexico City, there was a 9/27/63 memo about Kostikov that had a REDCAP heading:* Memo from Win Scott, to Chief, WH Division, 9/27/63, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 9: Hernandez - Loganov\)/NARA Record Number: 104-10173-10310](#).

11 *Peter Dale Scott wrote a stinging article exposing how Duran's statements to the Mexican police after the assassination were routinely mis-translated:* See Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics II*, "The DFS, Silvia Duran, and the CIA-Mafia Connection: Did Staff D Feed the Kostikov Lie to the CIA?" p. 117.

12 *A review of these translations reveals that they differ in many other striking ways:* Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics II*, pp. 120-130.

13 *We even see that the CIA told the Warren Commission that "we deduce" that Oswald visited the Cuban consulate on September 28, but added "we cannot be certain of this conclusion":* Memo from Deputy Director of Plans Richard Helms to Warren Commission counsel J. Lee Rankin, 2/19/64, p. 2, [NARA Record Number: 1993.08.04.19:02:07:310033](#). I was drawn to this observation by John Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, p. 408.

14 *Duran, one of the most important witnesses in any JFK assassination investigation, was never questioned by Americans until her interview with Ron Kessler of the Washington Post in 1976:* Washington Post, November 26, 1976, A7; [3 AH 22](#) (1978).

15 *Not only was Phillips the station's head of covert action, but he was also the head of Mexico City's Cuban operations:*

On covert action, see Deposition of David Phillips, 4/25/78, p. 59, NARA Record Number: [180-10110-10016](#). On Cuban operations, see Memorandum of John Tilton to Mexico City station, 10/4/63, NARA Record Number: [104-10086-10003](#).

David Phillips replaced Howard Hunt as the head of covert action in Mexico in 1961. A CIA memo in the early seventies states that [Hunt's security file was mistaken](#) in stating that he was Chief of Station or Chief of Mission during that era, as he was actually chief of covert action. As near as I can determine it, Hunt was the [chief of station](#) in the [early fifties](#), and then was assigned to Mexico City as a covert action chief for the Bay of Pigs operation in 1960-1961. Phillips became the chief of covert action in [late 1961](#). I have seen no indication that Hunt was in Mexico City in September 1963, other than Tad Szulc's useful biography on Hunt, which I think was in error regarding its statement that Hunt was the "acting station chief" in September 1963. See Szulc, *Compulsive Spy*, pp. 96-99.

Hunt then picked up this story and made the claim himself in *Cigar Aficionado*, December 2000. I have seen no documents to support Hunt's claim. The record for 1963 shows that [Howard Hunt](#) was the [chief of the Research and Publications Branch](#) of the covert action wing of the [Domestic Operations Division](#) (DOD) in [Washington, D.C.](#). Hunt's immediate boss was [Stanley Gaines](#), who was either Chief of Operations or Executive Director. Domestic Operations was a new section of the Agency headed by Tracy Barnes and set up by Richard Helms to take care of the proprietaries and other components of the CIA's disparate enterprises. The covers had put CIA agents in various different lines of work such as journalism, academia, mass media, business, and the military. Domestic Operations was always keeping their eyes open for foreigners in the United States that could be recruited to be agents abroad. Hunt [admitted](#) that his publications had the effect of propaganda and influenced the American reading public.

16 *When he heard Oswald's voice in the October 1 call, he matched it immediately with his recollection of the voice he heard on September 28:* [Boris Tarasoff deposition](#), 4/12/78, p. 32.

17 *Phillips' next stop was to JMWAVE, the CIA's Cuba operations base in Miami:* DIR 73214 of 4 Oct 63: "Mr. David Phillips, newly appointed Chief PBRUMEN [Cuba] Ops in MEXI will arrive 7 October EAL FL 655 for two days consultations WAVE". NARA [#104-10086-10003](#). JMWAVE was the SAS forward operating base in Miami for tactical operations on Cuba.

18 *On October 1, Bill Bright's defection target Bakulin – who was handling the double agents LAROB and LINEB-1 for the Soviets, as seen in Chapter 3 - was seen talking to Yatskov outside the Soviet Embassy:*

Mary Ferrell notes on HSCA Reel 49, Box 27, Folder C.

19 *This list of contacts makes it pretty clear that the CIA was convinced by October 1 that "Y talked to O" on September 28: List of Records and Files on Suspect RIS Officers, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10414-10342.*

20 *After the meeting, Bakulin was put on continuous physical surveillance by the CIA's Mexico City station unit known as LIEMBRACE: Memo from Mexico City to Director, 10/9/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10092-10338.*

21 *The memo also said that the FBI leadership "instructed its Mexi rep to discuss with you pertinent details of such Russian CE ops (note: counter-espionage operations) as LAROB case": Memo from Director to Mexico City, circa 10/2/63, DIR 73144 reads in total – except for the blurred sections: "Re coordination of FBI (oper?)ations in MEXI, - in liaison with ODENVY (note: FBI) is still delicate matter which AMDEAD at HDQS 0-- directives foresee that certain types of operations may be coordinated at HDQS rather than in the field, on the whole our relations with FBI on world-wide and PBPRIME and CE (note: US and counter-espionage) matters are extremely productive and still improving and we do not wish at present time to raise new issues in Mexico...FBI has agreed and has instructed its MEXI rep to discuss with you pertinent details of such Russian CE ops as LAROB case."*

22 *On October 5, the Mexico City station reported that "HQs was deferring discussion of the high level of penetration, but would take it up after hearing results of closer liaison between (the Mexico City station and the FBI) in Mexico City": Memo from Mexico City station to Director, 10/5/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10092-10297.*

23 *On October 7, twenty sets of reports about double agent LAROB were sent from the FBI to the Mexico City station and Headquarters: Memo from Win Scott to Western Hemisphere chief J. C. King. James Angleton and the Chief of the Soviet Union division David Murphy also received copies. 10/11/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10215-10258.*

24 *Oswald's biographical file (known as his "201 file") would be stripped of any reference to his pro-Cuban activities, as well as any reference to any attempt to obtain a visa. These documents were removed from the 201 file and placed inside Oswald's FPCC 100-300-011 file tightly held by CI-SIG:*

These documents include the routing slip of Jim Hosty's 9/10/63 letter discussing Oswald's communications with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and the American Communist Party;

The routing slip for the FBI 9/24/63 letterhead memo discussing Oswald's arrest while leafletting on behalf of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee;

The routing slip for the 10/25/63 FBI report on Oswald's pro-Castro activities, as well as the 10/25/63 memo itself.

There is an HSCA log that shows all the 201 documents that went into the FPCC 100-300-011 file. HSCA log, Reel 48, Folder W, NARA Record Number: 1994.03.08.12:00:04:120005.

25 *Angleton claimed to know things about the Mexico City story that are unsupported in the record: Deposition of James Angleton, 6/19/75, pp. 52, 53, 60. Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10005.*

Also see notes of Paul Wallach, pp. 2-3, 10/28/75, Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10120.

Angleton focuses on KGB officer Nikolai Leonov as being at the center of both events. Here is a bio of Leonov: HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 8/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.10.11:07:49:620340.

Castro, Che Guevara and their colleagues were arrested in Mexico City on 6/20/56. The arrests were conducted by the same man who later interrogated Sylvia Duran, Fernando Barrios Gutierrez (LITEMPO-4). See the New York Times obituary for Fernando Barrios Gutierrez, 11/1/00.

Castro was facing charges that he had Communist ties, and Havana demanded his extradition for more than a month before he and his men were finally freed. Tad Szulc, *Fidel*, pp. 360-364.

In a February 1976, Angleton tells the story one more time for the next seven pages - now the name of the double agent earlier referred to "Byetkov" is reviewed by Peter Deryabin.

In this memo, there is a deletion. Is this the allegation of Oswald being arrested in Mexico City while carrying a picture of Leonov?

It seems that Angleton got his information from Byetkov in 1967, but not certain.

Angleton describes Win Scott as a CI man.

Mexico City? Angleton says file filled w/"garbage": "We speculated all the time as to whether it was foreign, domestic, or whether there was a double mission or whether he had gone sour on them, or that General Walker, all that was speculated..."

Angleton thought the CIA Cuban operations were penetrated, and that's why the Bay of Pigs failed.

26 Mexico City's TARBRUSH program tried on at least three separate occasions to make Leonov look bad: Nikolai Leonov was Third Secretary and assistant cultural officer at the Mexico City station between 61-64. When Leonov got a couple months off in the spring of 63, he served as Castro's interpreter in the USSR. Goodpasture records Leonov chatting with Peter Kihss of the NY Times two weeks after the assassination. Mexico City chronology 1963-68, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 30: Mexico City Station File\)](#)/ NARA Record Number: 104-10522-10085.

A version with redactions that is easier to read. It adds that “[Barbara Graham](#)” did the work-up on Leonov:

On 6/29/64, the suggestion was made to use the CIA program TARBRUSH to tie Leonov to the “subversion of Mexico somehow”. Memo by Peter Baranowski, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 53: Hemming - Lorenz\)](#)/NARA Record Number: 104-10218-10023.

This bio sheet discusses [a little more about Castro's arrest](#) and how Leonov was a TARBRUSH target three times - the other two incidents were all about Soviet-Cuban subversion, in May and October 63.

By 8/1/63, Army intelligence was reportedly convinced by the CIA's program that Leonov was bent on [subversive activities](#).

This almost illegible document shows that there was a “[black propaganda operation](#)” being waged against Leonov by the Monterrey station in 1963.

The CIA admitted that there was suspicion that [Leonov's picture was planted inside Fidel Castro's wallet](#) at the time of his arrest.

The more common story is that Leonov's card was found amidst Che Guevara's papers.

Paco Ignacio Taibo, *Guevara, Also Known as Che* (Macmillan, 1999), p. 70.

After Leonov's stint in Mexico City from 1960-68, he went on to be #2 at the KGB between 83-91. He now sits in the Russian Parliament and is a colleague of Vladimir Putin's.

27 See that the first page of Hosty's report originally had the smoking file number on it: Initial page of Hosty's report, 9/10/63, has “100-300-11” crossed out on it. Oswald 201 File, Vol 1, Folder 2, [p. 50](#).

Routing sheet for 9/10/63 Hosty memo, DBA-51407, [ARRB 1995 Releases](#)/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10045.

28 CI-SIG held the FPCC 100-300-011 file tightly in its possession: One document list has a “Formerly Filed” column with the above-mentioned Hosty report on Oswald and the FPCC entitled “CI-SIG File (351 164) 100-300-11”. List of Documents, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 12. NARA Record Number: [104-10067-10403](#). The 351 164 number is Oswald's Office of Security number, showing that CI-SIG is holding the FPCC file with the Office of Security. Other pre-assassination FBI reports from Quigley and de Brueys went into this FPCC file as well.

A second document list has a “Location of Original” column with these three Oswald/FPCC reports in “CI-SI File 100-300-11”. This shows that the FPCC file was held specifically by CI-SIG. “[Response to HSCA Request of 9 March 1978](#)”, items 40, 41, 47.

29 However, a note from the CIA's document bird dog Paul Hartman reveals that at the time of the assassination there were only five documents physically located in the 201 file: Handwritten note by Paul Hartman with attachments, 10/20/75, [Miscellaneous CIA Series](#)/NARA Record Number: 104-10322-10043.

Rocca also said that when he saw the 201 file on the Monday after the assassination, there were only five documents in it and that they were all of an interagency nature: Memorandum for the Record, “Meeting of Mr. Rocca with Members of the Senate Select Committee Staff”, Robert Wall, AC/CI/OG, 11/13/75, [DDP \(Deputy Director for Plans\) Files](#)/NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10121.

Hartman went further and identified three of the five actual documents, saying that the other two were FBI documents: Paul Hartman handwritten note, 10/20/75, NARA# 104-10322-10043.

Hartman attached in his memo the State and Navy documents, but not the FBI documents, and with no explanation as to why he attached some but not others. One of the 10/10/63 memos states that the agency has no knowledge of Oswald's whereabouts after May 1962, indicating that Fain's August 1962 report documenting Oswald's return to the USA was not in the file.

The Church Committee was of the opinion that Fain's August 1962 memo was [in the file](#). I believe, as shown in the chapter, that the Church Committee was mistaken.

Another CIA memo says that once the files are entered into the computer system, there is no need for them to physically be in the file: Report, “Agency never had a relationship of any kind with Lee Harvey Oswald”, pages 32-33; [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(staff notes\)](#)/NARA Record Number: 180-10147-10163.

30 The five documents actually in the 201 file on 11/22/63 were two State Department documents, two FBI documents, and one Navy document: Paul Hartman handwritten note, 10/20/75, NARA# 104-10322-10043.

The “two State documents” are Despatch 809 of 5/26/61, referring to “Lee Harvey Oswald”, and another document of 10/13/61, referring to “Lee Harvey Oswald”.

The Navy document is DNA-1624 of 4/25/62, referring to “Lee Harvey Oswald”:

It seems pretty evident which were the two FBI files that remained in the 201 file: The two Fain reports from 1960 and 1961: See Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, pp. 493-494. See the 1960 Fain report – DBA 49478 Routing and Record Sheet, 5/25/60, re DBF-49478, *Oswald 201 File, Vol 1*, p. 137, and p. 139, referring to “Lee Harvey Oswald”;

And the 1961 Fain report – DBF 82181.

The Church Committee thought that the August 1962 Fain memo was in the file. “Preliminary Report into the Investigation of the Assassination of President Kennedy”, p. 30, *Church Committee Boxed Files*/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10141.

Their information was incomplete – they did not know that the Hosty, Quigley and De Brueys memos were missing.

31 Paul Hartman, formidable in his knowledge on how to bird-dog documents, claimed that these 37 documents were removed because they dealt with “sensitive matters such as wiretaps and surveillance”: If Hartman’s analysis is right, we have a pretty close guess as to which were the two FBI files that remained in the 201 file: Unless CIAHQ was lying to Mexico City about the 201 file not going any further than May 1962, they would have to be the two Fain reports from 1960 and 1961.

32 Jeff Morley recounts a footrace between Egarter and Bustos to retrieve the 201 file after CIA HQ learned that JFK had been shot: Jefferson Morley, *Our Man in Mexico*, p. 205.

33 It seems pretty evident which were the two FBI files that remained in the 201 file: The two Fain reports from 1960 and 1961: See Newman, *Oswald and the CIA*, pp. 493-494. See endnote 30, above.

34 Bustos said that after she wrote the rough draft... Interview by Dan Hardway and Betsy Wolf with Charlotte Bustos “Elsie Scaletti”, 3/30/78, p. 8, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (staff notes)*/NARA Record Number: 180-10140-10190.

Also see her deposition on 5/19/78, p. 32.

35 Jane Roman admitted that “naturally, Oswald was the subject of great interest to both the CIA and the FBI even before the assassination, CIA would have explored every available asset abroad to establish his motives and activities”: Jane Roman letter, undated but sometime in 1994, see final two pages. The Jane Roman letter is in the possession of the author.

36 Morales worked with Harvey in the Langley basement and in Miami: Bayard Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 179.

37 Halpern said, “I’ll tell you one thing, I didn’t know that word busy-ness. It was never mentioned by Des [FitzGerald] when he came back from that meeting, and it was a good thing he didn’t because you might have had a Seven Days in May at that point.”: Jefferson Morley recounts his interview with Sam Halpern, in Morley’s book *Our Man in Mexico*, p. 166.

38 Gheesling wrote that once he learned that Oswald was arrested, he told Anderson that Oswald should be taken off the security watch list because he had inadvertently forgot to remove his name after Oswald’s return from the Soviet Union: Gheesling claims he asked Anderson if he should take Oswald off the watchlist on October 9, 1963, and Anderson told him yes. Memo from W. Marvin Gheesling to James H. Gale, “Lee Harvey Oswald, Internal Security –R”, 11/26/63.(no electronic version available)

Here’s the relevant text in Gheesling’s letter: Gheesling is writing to James Gale, Hoover’s enforcer who disciplined Gheesling, Anderson, and sixteen other FBI officers for dropping the ball on Oswald’s case:

“The Security Flash...was removed by routing slip from me to the Identification Division 10-9-63 and Mr. Gale inquired as to why this Flash was removed since Subject was known to have been arrested by local authorities at New Orleans, La. for distributing “Fair Play for Cuba” pamphlets.

“This stop was placed 11-10-59 to assist in the Bureau’s being notified in the event subject returned to the U.S. under assumed name. When information was received that subject had returned to the U.S., the purpose of the stop had been accomplished. When case was closed by me on 9-7-62, I inadvertently did not remove the stop.

“I did remove the stop after receipt of the Identification Record 10-8-63 showing subject’s arrest by the New Orleans Police Department. At the time I removed the stop I advised SA Lambert L. Anderson, who was then handling the case, of the existence of the stop, the purpose for which it was placed, and that I was removing it. He had no objections to such action.”

Gheesling's memo also addresses to some degree the debriefing issue. He says he "instructed Dallas to be alert to subject's return to the U.S. and immediately upon his arrival he should be thoroughly interviewed to determine if he was recruited by Soviet Intelligence or made any deals with the Soviets in order to obtain permission to return to the U.S...(after two interviews) case was closed on 9-7-62 and an administrative tickler was set to review the case after one year to consider at that time whether additional investigation was warranted."

Anderson's story supports Gheesling: "I was orally advised (date not recalled) that the security flash placed by Soviet section (my note: Gheesling) regarding subject had been removed inasmuch as subject was now in the US and subject flash no longer necessary." [Memo from Lambert L. Anderson](#) to Inspector J. H. Gale, 11/29/63,

[FBI 105-82555 Oswald HQ File, Section 44](#), p. 32.

Gale wrote that one of the reasons for Gheesling's punishment was "stop placed against subject in Identification Section which was removed by (Gheesling) on 10/9/63 after subject arrested in New Orleans for Fair Play for Cuba Committee on 8/9/63. (Gheesling) advised stop was placed in event subject returned from Russia under an assumed name and was inadvertently not removed by him on 9/7/62 when case closed. Inspector feels (Gheesling) in error in removing stop on Subject in Ident on 10/9/63, particularly after arrest for Fair Play for Cuba Committee activity in New Orleans. We might have missed further arrests without stop in Ident. Inspector also feels (Gheesling) erred in not having additional investigation conducted when subject returned to the United States and (Gheesling) wrong in not having subject placed on SI (Author's note: SI is FBI shorthand for Security Index)." NARA Record Number: [124-10369-10042](#).

39 On October 8 Anderson received a Sept. 24 report of Oswald's arrest, which revealed Oswald's request to speak with an FBI agent and share quite a bit of information while in jail: Austin Horn, the Special Affairs Staff (SAS) liaison with the FBI, also got his copy of the September 24 report on October 8. The [routing sheet](#) indicates that Horn's copy was signed for by "LD", SAS/CI L. Demos. This document was passed on to SAS/CI/CONTROL, then Egerter, and then CI/IC Cal Tenney. Austin Horn was also known as [Rufus A. Horn](#), and was active on the Cubela case at its end in 1965. The relationship between Horn and Demos merits further exploration.



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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpich

Chapter 6: The Set-Up and the Cover-Up

The set-up

On November 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was shot at 12:30 pm. The following is a brand-new account on how Oswald was set up as the lone suspect. Although I am not convinced Oswald was innocent of involvement, I am convinced he was framed as the lone suspect.

Oswald may have been involved in the assassination in some way. To what extent, we still don't know. It's hard to think of a less secure sniper's nest than the sixth floor. **Six men** had been up there all morning on November 22 **laying a wood floor**, and they were nowhere near done. It was an optional sniper post at best. The entire sixth floor was **open storage space**. Anyone could walk in at any minute.

In fact, **the men had planned to eat lunch on the sixth floor that day**, and Bonnie Ray Williams left the floor at 12:15 only when he realized no one was coming up to join him. The sixth floor was not Oswald's turf – as an order filler, he would only come up there when **he needed some books to pack into a carton**, and then he was on his way again. The best evidence is that Oswald wasn't on the sixth floor on the day of the assassination, but on the first or second floor.

The two lunchroom theory

I don't have a well-developed two Oswalds theory, but I do have a two lunchroom theory. I never understood why there weren't more witnesses coming forward and saying that they saw Oswald in the lunchroom. Then I found out that **Oswald regularly ate his lunch in the first floor lunchroom** called the "domino room" where the African American employees would gather, instead of in the all-white, main lunchroom on the second floor that had all of the soft drink machines. This behavior was Oswald's regular practice. When he went to court in New Orleans in August 1963, he sat on the side of the courtroom with the African Americans. During that same month, Oswald was seen in the predominantly black voter registration line. Many African Americans were dissuaded from providing testimony due to racism, and this is one more example of it. Oswald himself told his interrogators that **he saw Junior Jarman and a second short another African American man that he recognized in the domino room** while he was eating lunch during noontime, which was subsequently verified. It has been suggested that Oswald may have left the domino room "to go up to the second floor to get a coke."^[1] Maybe we should rehabilitate what we called during the Vietnam War "the domino theory" - many things fall in line when you look at the story this way.

I'm also relying on several witnesses. Carolyn Arnold stated on November 26 that she saw Oswald on the first floor **a few minutes before 12:15 pm**. On the sixth floor itself, Bonnie Ray Williams told the Warren Commission that **he was up there until about 12:15**, and Oswald was not there. **Arnold Rowland** said that he saw an African American man and a white man **with a rifle** in two separate windows on the sixth floor at 12:15 pm. **Carolyn Walter** also saw two men on the sixth floor a few minutes later, one of them with a rifle. **The HSCA photographic panel found that someone rearranged the boxes in the sniper's nest within two minutes after the shooting** – given Oswald's verified appearance on the second floor with Patrolman Marrion Baker ninety seconds after the shots, **I don't see how Oswald had the time to do this rearrangement**.

I am admittedly moved by the tale presented by Barry Ernest in *The Girl on the Stairs*, one of the greatest stories about this case. Ernest tells the story of how he spent more than 35 years looking for a girl named Victoria Adams. Adams was in the stairwell of the Texas School Book Depository in the moments immediately after the assassination, interviewed in the ensuing days, and was **interrogated** by Warren Commission attorney David Belin. Adams' story was **rejected**, and she was a **discredited witness** in the Warren Report.

Adams and her friend **Sandra Styles** had been watching the motorcade from a fourth floor office window with **two other** women. Within **fifteen to thirty seconds** after the shots, Adams and Styles entered the stairwell and went down the stairs without seeing or hearing anyone else. Styles was interviewed **once** by the FBI and was ignored from then on. Both women were ignored by not just the Warren Commission, but all of the government's investigations over the years.

Both women verified that Oswald was not in the building's only stairwell during **the crucial ninety seconds** between the last shot and when **Patrolman Marrion Baker confronted Oswald on the second floor** on his

way upstairs to find the shooter. It would have been very difficult for Oswald to get down the seventy-two steps of the eight flights of stairs from the far corner of the sixth floor during those ninety seconds, especially because the “sniper’s nest” was on the opposite corner of the building from the stairs.

The vast majority of the available evidence indicates that Oswald was on the first or second floor during the entire time that the Kennedy motorcade passed by the Depository building. It wasn’t until 2002 that author Barry Ernest found Adams and was able to review the facts with her shortly before her death. The detailed account of Victoria Adams and Ernest’s thirty-five year quest to find her is **a powerful story**. I think it also has the advantage of being true.

The humanitarian weapon

It’s even less likely that anyone used the Mannlicher-Carcano later found near the sixth floor stairwell to fire at anything. This rifle is what Oswald supposedly used to kill JFK and wound Connally by firing three shots from behind the president’s car in the motorcade. It’s hard to imagine why Oswald would have used it – it was a mail order weapon ordered under the name of Oswald’s supposed chief of the New Orleans Fair Play for Cuba Committee, Alex Hidell. Of all the rifles in the world, what assassin would use a rifle that would maximize chances of getting caught?

This rifle was hardly an assassin’s choice – the Mannlicher-Carcano was a World War I relic best known as the “humanitarian weapon” during World War II because it never killed anybody on purpose - MCs could be purchased for three dollars each in lots of 25. On the day the rifle was found, the firing pin was found to be defective or worn-out, **the telescopic sight was not accurately sighted**, and no ammunition clip was officially reported. Without an ammunition clip, a gunman would have to hand-load cartridges. Firing three bullets in a few seconds would be impossible. Although the rifle was found near the sixth floor crime scene, I don’t think the rifle was used to shoot the President. I think it was used as a throw-down weapon with throw-down shells to frame the man called Oswald who worked on the sixth floor. Oswald always proclaimed his innocence. Why would he needlessly leave incriminating evidence at the crime scene?

The Dallas police investigators quickly came to a consensus that there were no more than three shots. Given the short time involved, four shots would indicate more than one shooter. Hoover wanted this to be a one shooter case, focusing on the shooter in custody. The question was how to show that three shots emanated from the sixth floor window. The evidence photos CE 510 and CE 716 do not show **three shells** on the sixth floor – they show **two shells and one live round**. The Dallas police inventory reflects this reality, listing **“two spent 6.5 hulls”** and **“one live round”**. The FBI report of the photographing of this evidence **states the same**, unreleased until many months after the Warren Report.

I think that whoever planted the evidence at the scene was hedging their bets as to whether the official story from this location was going to be “two shots” or “three shots”. The tableau was left in an ambiguous manner to leave room for the story to change if needed. Hedging his bets as well, homicide chief **Will Fritz said he kept one of the shells to use for comparison checks to find out how where the shells were obtained**. This makes no sense – the live round found at the scene would be the best way to conduct a comparison. The sheer audacity of titling these photos as “three cartridge cases” and “three shells” is stunning to this day. Whoever did it should have gone to prison.

Whoever fired the shots had to get away in moments. Assuming this was a professional operation, disguises may have been used. The enduring question for me was how did the elevators suddenly get stuck? The woman working at the credit desk reported that the electricity and the telephones in the Depository were **temporarily interrupted** as the motorcade drew near. One story is that “both elevators were stuck on upper floors” after the assassination. After hearing the shots, the stuck elevators were **why building superintendent Roy Truly and police officer Marrion Baker had to run up the stairs** ninety seconds after the shooting. Adams testified **that was why she and Styles had to walk down the stairs**, which they completed before Truly and Baker entered the stairwell.

I think that when Oswald heard that the President was shot, he realized that he had been set up. After Roy Truly **waved off Officer Baker** with assurances that Oswald was a Depository employee, Oswald realized what had happened and that he had to run. He first had to get his pistol at home. He simply wasn’t prepared for the tragedy that had just happened.

An unknown man provided “5 foot 10, 165 pounds” tip at JFK crime scene

Fourteen minutes after the shooting, a 12:44 pm radio call in Dallas gave a description of a man with a rifle on the 6th floor of the Texas Book Depository. This radio call was based on the report of an “unknown white man’s” report to police inspector Herbert Sawyer. **“Slender white male about 30, five feet ten, 165”**. [2] The dispatcher Murray Jackson relied on this description, **providing it again at 12:47, 12:49, 12:55 and 1:08**, offering it as **“all we have”** prior to the shooting of Tippit at 1:09 pm.

Ann Egerter and the FBI had used the phony Webster-like description of Oswald as “5 feet ten, 165” repeatedly to describe Oswald since his time in the USSR in 1960. This was no molehunt. This was a manhunt.

The specificity of the “5 feet ten, 165” tip cannot be squared with the impossibility of providing a height-and-weight ID of a sixth floor sniper



*The unknown white male's
“five foot ten/165”
description of the shooter was
announced five times by the*

located at a window and **only visible from near-waist height**. You're only seeing a **portion** of his body. There is no way to tell how tall he is, much less how much he weighs. What you would notice would be his clothes – but the witness noticed nothing on that subject.

*Dallas police dispatcher
Murray Jackson in the hour
after the assassination*

Also, there's nothing "slender" about any man who is 5 foot 10 and 165. Such a man comes up with a body mass index (or "BMI") of 23.7 – right in the middle of the American population. "Average" is BMI of between 23 and 26.

Oswald, however, was generally referred to as "slender" in his CIA and FBI records. His weight was generally between 126 and 140.

J. Edgar Hoover **exhausted all leads** before concluding that the 5'10"/165 description came from an "unidentified citizen" that approached Sawyer. No one ever convinced the FBI that the alleged witness Howard Brennan provided this tip. For whatever reason, Hoover was not willing to go along with the Warren Commission's finding that credited Brennan as the tipster. The HSCA took the same approach as Hoover and did not rely on Brennan in any way. The powerful evidence that Brennan was not the "unidentified citizen" can be reviewed in the attached endnote.[3]

Sawyer was asked if he personally received the "5'10"/165" tip, and he said that he did. When Sawyer was asked to **describe** the tipster, he said, "I don't remember what he was wearing. I remember that he was a white man and that he wasn't young and he wasn't old. He was there. That is the only two things that I can remember about him." [4] On another occasion, he said the man was **middle-aged**.

The tip about the five-ten/165 pound man is even more remarkable when you realize that Sawyer reported the witness' claim that the five-ten/165 pound man was "carrying what looked to be a 30-30, or some type of Winchester rifle". [5] When asked if the shooter "was still supposed to be in the building", Sawyer responded "unknown if he was there in the first place".

The five-ten/165 tip made it from Sawyer to Hoover in minutes. Hoover circulated among his top officers a chronology of what he learned in the first couple of hours after the assassination. At 1:07 pm CST, Shanklin told Hoover that "he had just received word the President was shot with a Winchester rifle". [6] Sawyer's tip was the only news regarding a Winchester. No one to my knowledge ever remarked that the tip largely matched Oswald's FBI description from 1960 until his arrest in August, 1963, when he was described as five foot nine/140. The absence of important evidence in the record - what Peter Dale Scott refers to as "the negative template" – is often the strongest evidence of all.

Something else to think about is that the CIA and the FBI both had computers in 1963. Within a very short period of time, a Soviet defector and Dallas resident such as Lee Harvey Oswald would have leaped right out from the CIA's Records Integration Division. As we have seen, the "five-ten/165" Oswald description was embedded right in FBI agent John Fain's May 12, 1960 memo that CIA officer Bill Bright went to great lengths to include in the CIA's Records Integration Division files. (See Chapter 1)

I believe that Sawyer was telling the truth. He was told that a man was carrying a Winchester rifle, and that he was 5 foot 10, 165, about 30, with a slender build. It wouldn't take long to find out which book depository employee fit that rough description.

I don't believe the unknown witness was telling the truth. The unknown witness was part of an assassination team. He was nondescript: White, not too young, not too old, clothing unknown. I conclude that fifteen minutes after the assassination, Oswald was swept into this case by someone with access to the FBI reports or the CIA HQ description of Oswald as "**five feet ten, 165**" [7], and knew how to get it onto the police radio.[8]

Oswald probably played no role in the Tippit shooting

After Sawyer called in with the five-ten/165 description, police dispatcher Murray Jackson explained over the radio that Sawyer's call was about a suspect in the President's shooting that had been sighted at the Texas School Book Depository. Two officers immediately reported that they were either at the location or en route. For no understandable reason, Dispatcher Jackson then summoned patrolmen J. D. Tippit and R. C. Nelson and mysteriously asked them to "**move into Central Oak Cliff area**". This is the neighborhood where Oswald lived. By this time, Oswald was heading for home.

Nine minutes later, Dispatcher Jackson informed Tippit at 12:54 that "**you will be at large for any emergency that comes in**" nearby "Lancaster and 8th" in the Oak Cliff neighborhood – placing him less than a mile from **Oswald's address at 1026 North Beckley** and far away from the manhunt in downtown Dallas three miles away! Years later, Jackson made the improbable claim to CBS News that he "realized that, as you said, that we were draining the Oak Cliff area of available police officers, so if there was an emergency, such as an armed robbery or a major accident, to come up, we wouldn't have anybody there..." [9]

The Warren Commission asked three officers if they could explain Tippit's movements on November 22. Not only could none of them offer a reasonable explanation, but none of them even knew that the dispatcher ordered Tippit to go to the Oak Cliff neighborhood. The Warren Commission also asked police chief Jesse Curry about Jackson's strange order to Tippit at **12:45 pm**, with special concern because it was **mysteriously omitted** from the **original transcription**. As one wag put it, Curry suggested that Tippit had moved out of his assigned district to search for his own murderer.

In a multiple hearsay story that is worthy of consideration, Tippit's father told author Joseph McBride that he learned from Tippit's widow that an officer told her that Tippit and another officer had been assigned by the police to hunt down Oswald in Oak Cliff. The other officer was involved in an accident and never made it to the scene, but "J.D. made it".[10] Tippit's widow has never made a statement for the record. When you have a witness that has offered limited interviews but no sworn testimony, that's when a hearsay account may provide the reason why the witness is reluctant to talk. Tippit's story is backed by none other than Johnny Roselli's associate John Martino – both of these men admitted their involvement in JFK's murder. Martino said that Oswald "was to meet his contact at the Texas Theater" in his Oak Cliff neighborhood.[11]

What makes this all even more intriguing is that even by the time of Tippit's death at about 1:09, Oswald has not yet been identified as an assassination suspect because **the shells were not found until 1:12**. Even after the rifle was found a little later, no one was able to tie the gun or shells to Oswald until early the next morning after visiting Klein's Sporting Goods in Chicago, where "Alex Hidell" had mail-ordered the Mannlicher-Carcano found on the sixth floor. Nor was Oswald noticed as missing from the Depository until well into the afternoon.

By around 1 pm, Oswald had reached his home in Oak Cliff, changed his clothes, grabbed his revolver, and went back out the door. A police car beeped outside Oswald's home shortly before he left. The distance from Oswald's house to theater was about a mile – three minutes if he got a ride, at least fifteen minutes if he was on foot. It was roughly the same calculus if Oswald headed towards the Tippit crime scene.

I think it's more likely that Oswald went straight to the Texas Theater, and was never at the Tippit crime scene. Butch Burroughs, a Texas Theater concessions employee for decades, told author Jim Marrs in 1987 that he sold Oswald popcorn right around 1:15 pm. Author Dale Myers challenged Burroughs, saying that he "told the Warren Commission that he didn't see Oswald slip into the theater. He also didn't mention selling popcorn to Oswald." Myers missed the point. Ticket taker Julia Postal quoted Burroughs as saying "Well, I saw him coming out.", presumably when Oswald bought the popcorn. Burroughs was never asked by the Warren Commission if he saw Oswald prior to the police hunt.

Burroughs didn't have much to offer the Warren Commission - it would be good to find out how he was prepared before his questioning - although he did hear from the shoe store owner down the street that someone had slipped into the theater without paying. This "someone" may have done it precisely to draw attention to Oswald. Burroughs didn't know who it was, but believed that anyone who did that had gone straight up the stairs to the balcony because otherwise he would have had the right angle to see who it was. Oswald was arrested on the ground floor. He told the Warren Commission, "I hope I helped you some", and the response was merely, "Yes, I hope you did too."

Burroughs also told Marrs that Julia Postal knew that she sold Oswald a ticket earlier that day, but **didn't want to admit it**. She moved away from Dallas to escape questioning on the subject. When Ms. Postal was asked by researcher Jones Harris if she realized upon seeing Oswald's face that she might have sold him a ticket, **she burst out in tears**.

Burroughs also saw someone who looked a lot like Oswald arrested about four minutes after he was. This Oswald look-alike was taken out through the rear of the theater, rather than the front. Bernard Haire, who ran his business Bernie's Hobby House two doors away from the theater, thought he had seen Oswald taken away through the rear doors for more than twenty-five years. When he learned that he had seen someone else, he was absolutely stunned.

Burroughs' story was corroborated by eighteen-year-old Jack Davis, never questioned by the Warren Commission, who remembered at 1:15 seeing Oswald squeeze in right next to him at the mostly deserted theater during the opening credits to the movie, then got up quickly and sat down next to someone else. Researcher Dale Myers states that the opening credits for the 1 pm movie ran at 1:20 pm.[12] The account from neighboring shoe store owner Johnny Brewer was that someone furtively entered the theater without paying at about 1:30 pm. That may have been when someone else entered, or it may have been Oswald after going outside to look for his contact. When Brewer saw the suspicious man enter the theater, he contacted the ticket-taker, and she called the police.

Davis stated that **Oswald sat next to him and then another patron** before going out to the lobby. According to author Lamar Waldron, Oswald was armed with half a **box top saying "Cox's, Fort Worth"**. If Waldron is correct, Oswald was apparently trying to meet someone who had the other box top half.[13] Manuel Artime did this kind of thing – his practice was to meet AMWORLD officers with **torn one dollar bills**.

Tippit made an unsuccessful attempt to call the dispatcher at 1:08, right before he stopped his car to question a young man on foot. Domingo Benavides, a key witness, was driving his car when he saw Tippit step out of his police car and reach for his gun as he walked towards the front of the car. When the young man saw Tippit draw, he pulled out his gun from his coat pocket and fired several shots at Tippit. The time of the shooting is estimated at 1:09.[14]

Another witness, Jack Tatum, reported that the gunman then stepped forward and administered a **coup de grace** to Tippit's head. The Tippit autopsy report reflected a shot to the head from **point-blank range**. The HSCA believed that a coup de grace indicated that "this action, which is often encountered in gangland murders...is **more indicative of an execution than an act of defense** intended to allow escape or prevent apprehension." Oswald was hardly a professional hitman, and this evidence is extraordinarily important.

One unknown man described Tippit's shooter as "5 foot 10, 160-170 pounds"

As soon as Officer Gerald Hill came on the scene, he was approached by an unknown witness. Hill said "the first man that came up to me, he said 'The man who shot him was a white male about 5 foot 10 inches, weighing 160 to 170 pounds, had on a jacket and a pair of trousers, and brown bushy hair.'" Hill never got the man's name, turned him over to another officer, and no one knows his identity.

Patrolman Howell W. Summers called in a description from witness Ted Callaway of a "white male, twenty-seven, five feet eleven, a hundred sixty-five, black wavy hair, fair complected, wearing a light grey Eisenhower-type jacket, dark trousers and a white shirt...(with) a 32 dark-finish automatic pistol." Oswald owned a 38 caliber revolver, not a 32 automatic.

Joseph McBride is the author of the new book *Into the Nightmare*, focusing on the Tippit case. A key aspect of the case is Detective Jim Leavelle's admission that cartridge shells supposedly found at the crime scene were never actually marked on the scene by the Dallas police. McBride points out that "given that the HSCA relied solely on the shells to make its case that Oswald shot Tippit, Leavelle's admissions that the shells were not marked at the scene help nullify that homicide case against Oswald." [15]

One aspect of the Tippit case has fascinated me since it was revealed by FBI agent Jim Hosty in 1996. Hosty revealed that FBI agent Robert Barrett said that a wallet containing identification for Oswald and his purported alias Alek James Hidell was left at the scene of Tippit's shooting and found by police captain W. R. Westbrook near a puddle of blood.

The two sets of identification for Oswald and Hidell being found in one wallet was particularly damaging to Oswald, as Oswald denied during the afternoon of November 22 that he was the owner of the rifle. It was worldwide news by 11/23/63 that the rifle that was left at the scene was purchased by mail order with a postal money order used by "A. Hidell" and listing Oswald's PO Box as the place for pick-up. It did not make the news that this postal money order had no stamp indicating that it was ever used or ever deposited.[16] Nor did it make the news that postal inspector Harry Holmes admitted that anyone who had access to Oswald's PO box could have picked up the rifle without even showing identification. Nor did it make the news that post offices were required by law to retain "delivery receipts for firearms" for four years, something not done in this case. A. J. Hidell was all over Oswald's phony FPCC literature as the fictional chairman of his fictional New Orleans branch. Oswald and Hidell were now tied together by the rifle and the wallet.

A second unknown man said the suspect handed something to Tippit through the open passenger window

FBI agent Barrett claims to this day that an unknown witness told him that Tippit pulled over and the gunman handed something through the open passenger window to Tippit inside the car. Barrett believes that Tippit saw the two IDs for Oswald and Hidell, got out of the car to question Oswald, and was shot. Barrett admits that he doesn't know who the witness was, and can't verify it, but the wallet was "there".

Who would hand their entire wallet to a police officer when asked for identification when not under arrest? Nor would any police officer make such a request – no officer wants to be responsible for its contents unless necessary. No one else recalls Barrett's version about the wallet. Ted Callaway and other citizen witnesses responded to the scene and called in the shooting by using Tippit's radio. None of the witnesses saw a wallet on the ground. Ted Callaway said "There was no billfold on the scene. If there was, there would have been too many people who would have seen it." It looks like someone planted a wallet with Oswald's identification on the ground at the scene, framing him with a throw-down wallet much as others have been framed with a throw-down gun.

A third unknown man handed Oswald's wallet to the police at the crime scene

I say that because since Hosty's revelation in 1996, we have learned quite a bit more, thanks to researcher Jones Harris. When Sergeant Kenneth H. Croy arrived as one of the first officers on the scene, an unknown man handed him a wallet. Croy handed the wallet to Sergeant Calvin Owens.[17] Owens apparently gave it to Westbrook, who displayed it to Barrett. After the wallet was videotaped, it went back to Westbrook's custody, and Hosty tells us that it was never seen again. Westbrook and Barrett were in charge of the scene at the Texas Theater when Oswald was arrested. When Oswald refused to provide his name, Westbrook ordered, "Get him out of here."

Mr. Hill. We were standing there with Inspector Sawyer and Assistant District Attorney Bill Alexander came up to us, and we had been standing there for a minute when we heard the strange voice on the police radio that said something to the effect that, if I remember right, either the first call that came out said that they were in the 400 block of East Jefferson, and that an officer had been shot, and the voice on the radio, whoever it was, said he thought he was dead.

At this point Sergeant Owens said something to the effect that this would have been one of his men. And prior, on our way to the location from the city hall, a description had been broadcast of a possible suspect in the assassination.

With the description, as I remember, it was a white male, 5'8", 160 pounds, wearing a jacket, a light shirt, dark trousers, and sort of bushy brown hair.

Another unknown man told Officer Gerald Hill at the Tippit crime scene that the man who shot the policeman was a white male about 5 foot 10 inches, weighing 160 to 170 pounds.

It is not known whether the application for post office box 2915 listed "A. Hidell" as a person entitled to receive mail at this box. In accordance with postal regulations, the portion of the application which lists names of persons, other than the applicant, entitled to receive mail was thrown away after the box was closed on May 14, 1963.¹⁸ Postal Inspector Harry D. Holmes of the Dallas Post Office testified, however, that when a package is received for a certain box, a notice is placed in that box regardless of whether the name on the package is listed on the application as a person entitled to receive mail through that box. The person having access to the box then takes the notice to the window and is given the package. Ordinarily, Inspector Holmes testified, identification is not requested because it is assumed that the person with the notice is entitled to the package.¹⁹

The rifle found on the sixth floor was ordered by A. Hidell, with Oswald's post office box as the return address. The Warren Commission was told by postal inspector Harry Holmes that anyone who had access to Oswald's PO box could have picked up the rifle without even showing identification.

The Mystery of the Wallets

by John J. Johnson

Introduction

In 1996 FBI Agent James Hosty, who was assigned to watch Oswald, published a book entitled *Assignment: Oswald* and for the first time, the public learned about an incident which had been related to him by FBI Agent Robert M. Barrett:

"When the report came over the radio that 'an officer was down' in the Oak Cliff neighborhood, Barrett had sped to the scene. When he got there, the ambulance crew had already removed Tippit's body. Captain Westbrook and the

I have to speculate that at the theater, Westbrook had handed the wallet to a lower-ranking officer, and in the confusion it was assumed the wallet had been retrieved from Oswald's person. The FBI decided to go with the official police version, even though Barrett's version was further proof that Oswald had in fact gunned Officer Tippit down. As Barrett said, the case against Oswald for killing Tippit was a "slam-dunk." (Hosty, p. 62. Author's underlining throughout this section.)

Incredible

An unknown man provided Oswald's wallet to Officer Kenneth Croy at the crime scene where Officer Tippit was shot. The wallet contained ID for both Lee Oswald and Alek J. Hidell. The finding of this wallet was hidden until 1996.

The history of Oswald's wallets can only be described with three words: Smoke and mirrors. Only after the release of the Warren Report did the FBI evidence inventory show three wallets for Oswald: B-1 (the arrest wallet), 114 (brown billfold) and 382 (red billfold). No wallets were found at his rooming house. No wallets are listed as recovered from the two searches of 11/22 and 11/23 at his wife's residence. Two wallets were supposedly recovered at his wife's home, but they are not listed in the search warrant affidavits and I can't find any explanation for how they entered the official Dallas inventory.

The "arrest wallet" appeared on videotape at the Tippit crime scene; we have discussed how no one knows how it appeared on the scene. This arrest wallet of Oswald's was supposedly removed from his pocket by Officer Paul Bentley following his arrest and while on the way to City Hall, Bentley said that he reviewed the contents and saw the identification for Oswald and Hidell. Since Bentley's recent death, FBI agent Robert Barrett now says that Bentley was lying.

On November 2013, the fiftieth anniversary of the assassination, an ABC news story discussed the discovery of retired FBI analyst Farris Rookstool that the videotape footage of the wallet matched the Oswald wallet that was entered into evidence. The videotape portrays circular snaps, metal strips, and a zipper over the cash compartment, just like the wallet in evidence. Barrett, who is still alive, attacks Bentley's identification for the first time in this November 2013 news story, saying: "They said they took the wallet out of his pocket in the car? That's so much hogwash. That wallet was in (Captain) Westbrook's hand." Why did Barrett wait fifty years to accuse Bentley of lying and obstruction of justice? Probably because Bentley had been Dallas' chief polygraph examiner during 1963, and it was dangerous for Barrett to challenge Bentley while he was still alive.

Bentley is the same officer who claimed that Oswald pulled his revolver out as they were trying to arrest him. Bentley also said that "I got ahold of his right arm, we got a thumb or something in between the firing pins that it mashed the firing, it just snapped slightly and kept it from going off...(the bullet) had been hit with the firing pin but not enough to go off." An FBI firearms expert later told the Warren Commission that "we found nothing to indicate that this weapon's firing pin had struck the primer of any of these cartridges." While several cops were subduing their prisoner, Oswald continually shouted, "I am not resisting arrest! I am not resisting arrest!" The shoe salesman Johnny Brewer heard a policeman shout, "Kill the President, will you?" Oswald was lucky to survive that day. But he did. His survival illustrates how the whole assassination operation was in danger of falling apart. That was not part of the plan.

The ABC story concludes, "Rookstool says the testimony of Barrett and Croy, Tippit's billfold, and the WFAA film prove that Oswald's wallet was at the scene of the policeman's murder."

I agree. The best evidence indicates that an unknown citizen brought the wallet to the murder scene, based on Officer Croy's interview with Jones Harris.

The cover-up

Angleton and Hosty said the cover-up was designed to protect the Soviets

My original goal in writing this book was to write about the cover-up, and to see if I could resolve the issue of the Mexico City tapes that survived after the assassination. The tale of the tapes took over my approach to this book. The result was a different book than I anticipated. The cover-up is a longer story that I can only sketch here.

I will confine myself mostly to the first days after the assassination, which shaped the investigations that followed, as well as just a few of the high points thereafter. Like the assassination, the cover-up story is so big that it will take many authors to adequately cover the ground. In this section, I rely more frequently on the work of researchers who have more expertise in other areas of the JFK case than myself. With the release of the bulk of the files in the 1990s, our ability to conduct an adequate analysis of the assassination and cover-up has just begun. There was no all-encompassing way to address this evidence without these documents. Most of the documents that survive are finally in our hands.

It is admittedly difficult at this late date to identify all of the individual perpetrators of the assassination. Naming the probable entities and the individuals who have plausibly admitted a role may be the best we can do – and that's a lot. But when it comes to the cover-up, it is not too late. If anything, it is the beginning. The evidence is available to anyone willing to read the documents. Dallas FBI agent Jim Hosty even revealed the cover-up in his book – however, his contention was that it was a benign cover-up by "President Johnson, the Warren Commission, the FBI, the CIA" that was conducted to avoid international tensions with the Soviet Union and Cuba, who he viewed as possible assassination co-perpetrators with Oswald.[18]

Cover-up architect Jim Angleton was motivated by the Mexico City situation, but would have little reason to quibble with Hosty's sentiments until 1967. That was the year that Angleton learned some information from a double agent that **"tended to absolve the Soviets"**. That was the same year that the KGB conducted a big study into the JFK assassination and concluded that it was a domestic operation. Angleton was shaken by this revelation, **obtained from a double agent known only as "Byetkov"**. Although **he tried to dismiss it**, he discussed it with the Church Committee during at least two depositions. In the ensuing years, Angleton had become so rabid in his search for moles within the CIA that he practically tore the Agency in two. He was forced to resign at the end of 1974.

There was a Gallup poll right after the assassination, asking Americans how many of them thought the Soviets, Cubans or Communists killed the President. Right during the height of the Cold War, only 1% of the population bought that story. See the adjoining Dallas Morning News article, 12/6/63.

Many chiefs simply didn't want to reveal intelligence secrets – some didn't want the Mexico City wiretap story to be made public.

Other CIA and FBI chiefs differed as to whether the assassination was perpetrated by foreign or domestic enemies, or whether Oswald acted alone. CIA chief John McCone believed there were **two shooters** in Dealey Plaza. Although Hoover publicly adopted the view that Oswald acted alone, he told his colleagues that he couldn't forget the CIA's **"false story re Oswald's trip in Mexico City"**.

We do know that there was deep concern about revealing the above-described events in Mexico City, the NSA/CIA wiretap operations, the extent of the intelligence agencies' prior knowledge of the re-defector Lee Harvey Oswald, the CIA's assassination programs targeting Fidel Castro and other world leaders, and the strong possibility that John F. Kennedy was killed in a cross-fire. We also know that they were concerned that if any of these facts hit the newspapers, public reaction could lead to an invasion of Cuba and even a war with the Soviet Union.

My reading of the evidence indicates that there was a rough consensus among CIA and FBI higher-ups such as Helms and Hoover within hours of the Kennedy assassination to push for a lone gunman theory based on Oswald as the perpetrator. During the afternoon of the 22nd, we'll review statements made by Hoover and the White House indicating that Oswald was the lone assassin, while the Dallas DA was convinced there was more than one shooter.

When Oswald died two days later, the world recoiled in horror at what appeared to be concerted action to shut Oswald's mouth. In stark contrast, intelligence chiefs were united in shutting down any serious investigation and moving towards a preordained conclusion with Oswald as the lone gunman. I expected a more limited cover-up, but this is where the evidence has taken me.

The national security cover-up began within hours after the assassination, due to two major factors. One was that the Mexico City-driven blackmail of the CIA and the FBI caused the compromised officials within these agencies to move towards a solution that would limit any serious analysis of who killed Kennedy and why. The other was to avoid any public debate that would point towards Cuba as a sponsor of the assassination. Such turmoil could lead to a nuclear war with the Soviet Union, which was greatly feared by Lyndon Johnson, Earl Warren and other American leaders.

The Mexico City-driven blackmail specifically included the agencies' fear of exposure of the Oswald impersonation, the possibility that enemy agents had penetrated the FBI's field office, the ensuing molehunt and paper trail. More generally, intelligence chiefs wanted to avoid any public exposure of the Mexico City wiretap operations and the supporting roles of Staff D and the NSA. Lee Oswald was well-known to most of the major agencies investigating the assassination – CIA, FBI, Navy, State and INS – and every one of them needed protective cover regarding their role in monitoring Oswald, quite apart from whether they were using the Oswald file for their own devices.

The national security cover-up was driven by Helms and Hoover, determined to protect not only their individual agencies but their personal careers from oblivion. Unlike men like Earl Warren and many political leaders, I don't believe that either Helms or Hoover were motivated by the fear of war.

Helms chose WH/3 chief Jack Whitten as the trailblazer through the worst of the dangers posed by the Mexico City blackmail. As we will see, after a month of letting Whitten take the heat, Helms was convinced it was necessary to pass the baton to Angleton.

Hoover disciplined Lambert Anderson, Marvin Gheesling, and sixteen other agents. His main frustration was that Anderson and Gheesling had removed the security flash on Oswald and that the other agents who had handled the Oswald file should have put the man on the security index. This sequence of events resulted in Oswald being "out of the spotlight" of the intelligence agencies, and particularly the Secret Service. If these FBI agents had not been playing fast and loose with the Oswald file, Hoover would not have been in such a tight spot.



Gallup poll taken within days of the assassination (click to see entire article)

How do you harmonize the shots, wounds, autopsy findings, and photos?

The JFK case has been marked by an **inability to harmonize the descriptions** of the shots, the wounds, the findings at the autopsy, and the photographic evidence. This has been because of a political need to control the autopsy and to ensure that the Zapruder film and other photographs were analyzed in a way that only reflected one gunman.

The government's version of the story could not include more than three shots, in order to avoid providing proof of a second gunman. But it had to include three shots, once it was evident that one of the bullets was a complete miss. That left two bullets to do all that damage to the President.

It was apparent that the President's nonfatal wounds were one in the **upper back** and a **frontal wound to the throat**, indicating two separate shots from the front and the back.

FBI officers at the autopsy reported that the doctors found a back wound **below the shoulders** and on a **45-degree downward track** from the inshoot at the back. That evidence was massaged by arguing that the President's body was **tilted**, causing a shot from the rear to go into his back and then out his throat.

On the throat wound, attending surgeon Dr. Malcolm Perry at Parkland Hospital was quoted in the White House's transcript of the 11/22 press conference that "there was an **entrance wound in the neck**" and that the bullet "**appeared to be coming at him**". When asked to clarify, Dr. Perry said "the wound appeared to be an **entrance wound in the front of the throat**". That same afternoon, Dr. Humes was told point-blank by a specialist that a finding of an entrance wound to the throat, given the other wounds, meant that there was **more than one gunman**. Nurse Audrey Bell reported Dr. Perry was very upset the morning of the 23rd, because the autopsy doctors "called from Bethesda two or three times in the middle of the night to try to get him to **change the entrance wound in the throat to an exit wound**". Autopsy radiologist Dr. John Ebersole affirmed that there was **communication between Dr. Humes and "Dallas" about the throat wound**, with Humes concluding that it was an exit wound. The efforts to get Perry to change his story eventually succeeded, with Dr. Perry forced to tell the Warren Commission that he was quoted **inaccurately**. Perry **did not know** that the White House transcript of the Parkland 11/22 press conference existed.

The President's fatal wounds were caused by at least two bullets to the head. The doctors who examined the President saw not only the **large gaping exit wound** to the back of the skull, but also a "small occipital wound" at the back of the skull, indicating a **double hit** from the front and the back. After many years of study, veteran investigator Josiah Thompson has concluded that the President suffered a glancing headshot to the **right temple** at frame 313, resulting in much of the front of his skull flying off. The President's brain matter was blasted out as he was thrown back and to the left, covering the motorcycle officers and Secret Service officer Clint Hill with gory debris. Thompson then finds a headshot to the base of his skull at Zapruder frame 328, causing the President's head to **go forward** at that point. This sequence of events would explain what looks like a **big exit wound** to what **most doctors state** was the **right rear** of his skull.

Autopsy photographer James Stringer was shown the National Archives photograph showing the President's **largely intact brain** after the shooting, and concluded that this is **not the photo** that he had originally taken. The FBI agent at the scene affirmed that **more than half of the brain was missing**. These gruesome facts set forth some of the strongest evidence that there were at least two bullets fired towards the front of the motorcade.

Extra bullets are hidden in the record and must be teased out, mainly because inexperienced and easily intimidated doctors – Dr. James Humes and Dr. Thornton Boswell - were forced to conduct a controlled autopsy. Their colleague, Pierre Finck, reported that an **Army general** ordered them not to dissect the back wound. Autopsy witness Richard Lipsey said that the doctors told him that this bullet was a shallow wound, **lodged in his back**. Alan Belmont told Dallas FBI chief Gordon Shanklin on November 22 that a bullet was "**lodged behind the President's ear**". Chief of Surgery David Osborne said that when he removed the President's coat an **intact bullet rolled out from his clothing** – but that intact bullet has now disappeared from the autopsy record. The only intact bullet in the record is the infamous "magic bullet" was supposed to have passed through both President Kennedy and Governor Connally, causing several wounds while remaining as good as new. Autopsy doctor Pierre Finck rejected the magic bullet theory because there were "**too many fragments**" remaining in Connally's wrist. Autopsy doctor Humes also **disagreed** with the single bullet theory. Two good-sized **bullet fragments** were found in the limousine. At least one bullet was found in Dealey Plaza and was **recorded by the FBI**, but never placed in the record.

The analysis of the Zapruder film was guided by the creation of **two sets of briefing boards** - one set was created on Saturday night the 23rd, and a second set was created on Sunday the 24th. The first set of briefing boards has never been seen in public, but the reports of those involved are that they revealed more than one shooter. It looks like Director McCone may have come to the two-shooter conclusion as early as that Sunday morning.[19] The second set of briefing boards - **consisting of four panels that offer a theory that depicts three shots** - provided the assurance of only one shooter, but I don't think McCone was ever convinced.

Why did Helms decide to have Jack Whitten conduct the investigation?

Even though CIA director John McCone believed there were two gunmen, the man who was making the decisions about how the assassination would be investigated was his subordinate in charge of covert actions, deputy director Richard Helms. I believe that Helms knew about the problems in Mexico City and with the story of Lee Oswald. Helms decided to put Jack Whitten in charge of the investigation. As Whitten

was the chief of WH/3 - the Western Hemisphere division covering Mexico and neighboring countries – he was a logical choice.

Helms asked Whitten to focus on the events in Mexico City, believing that he could manipulate him to stay out of the troublesome areas of that story. Whitten knew the backstory about the probe of Azcue and Kostikov in the fall of 1963, and would be motivated to keep the wiretap operations secret and free of investigation. Whitten had personally signed off on the 10/10 memos without realizing their underlying significance, which was a very important plus.

The goal was to avoid investigation of the other three circles of intrigue in Mexico City that Whitten knew nothing about: The Tilton-Anderson anti-FPCC operation, the molehunt that was embedded within those very 10/10 memos, and the impersonation of Oswald himself by parties unknown. I think that Helms believed that if Whitten remained ignorant of those three events, he would be an effective advocate of the official story.

Seven key points that I will review in this chapter

1. By 3 pm CST on the 22nd, Hoover called Bobby Kennedy and told him “I thought we had the man who killed the President down in Dallas.” During that afternoon, the White House Situation Room sent messages stating that there was no conspiracy. In the ensuing hours and days before the evidence was obtained and analyzed, the heads of the investigative agencies attacked any notion that there was multiple shooters.

2. During the afternoon of the 23rd, Goodpasture reported to Headquarters that the September 28 tape was destroyed before the October 1 tape was made, even though the policy was to hold on to tapes for at least two weeks.

3. By 6 pm on the 22nd, the Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade had stated publicly that he thought there was more than one person involved in the assassination. Johnson’s aide Cliff Carter called the District Attorney and told him not to charge Oswald with conspiracy. By the evening of the 22nd, FBI headquarters had convinced the Dallas police to send much of the evidence to FBI headquarters in Washington. Even prior to Oswald’s death, it traveled from Dallas to Washington in a paper-deficient manner that showed no concern about breaking the chain of custody in any subsequent trial and making a conviction of Oswald impossible.

4. During the morning of November 23, Hoover told LBJ that the Dallas FBI agents who listened to the tapes reported that it was not Oswald’s voice, and that the evidence indicated that there were two Oswalds in Mexico City. As we have seen, Hoover signed a memo in May 1960 stating that Oswald may have been impersonated. It’s a pretty sure thing that Hoover did not want his suspicions about Oswald being impersonated in 1960 or 1963 released to the American people. It meant that Hoover would have faced a forced retirement, at the very least.

5. After the CIA announced on the afternoon of November 23 that a mistake had been made and that the tapes were no longer in existence, a memo from Hoover was personally delivered to the Secret Service on November 24 stating, once again, that the tapes were still in existence and that the Dallas FBI agents who listened to the tapes said that it was not Oswald’s voice. This memo also said that Oswald acted alone. On April 9, 1964, these tapes were played by Mexico City officers for Warren Commission staffers David Slawson and William Coleman, who did not realize that there was any question about whether the voice they were listening to was Oswald’s. These tapes are presently missing, and may have been destroyed.

6. Hoover’s number three man Alan Belmont had a long investigative to-do list on November 23. In the moments after Oswald’s death on November 24, as the world recoiled in shock and fear of a broader plot, Belmont calmly reported to Hoover that the Oswald case was now closed. Assistant Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach echoed the same theme on November 25, and mused on how to convince the American public that Oswald was the sole assassin. On November 26, Belmont assured Hoover that all that was left to do was to “settle the dust”.

7. On November 23, Helms named Jack Whitten as the CIA’s lead investigator into the JFK assassination, with the focus on Mexico City. A month later, after it became clear that Whitten was heading in some dangerous directions, Helms asked Whitten to step down and named James Angleton as his replacement. Angleton immediately made the main focus of his investigation the possibility that Oswald was acting in complicity with the Soviet Union. Goodpasture referred to the “**investigation**”, using quotation marks.

November 22: The Immediate Reflex Was to Cover-Up

At Parkland Hospital, the Secret Service’s first response was to wash blood and brain debris off the presidential limousine

Shortly after the presidential limousine pulled into Parkland Hospital, a bucket of water was used by a Secret Service man to **wash blood and brain debris from the vehicle**. I am not forgiving about this. There is nothing innocent about this kind of act. This went against every single aspect of their professional training. The mandate is to focus on protecting the integrity of the crime scene. The moment the crime scene gets compromised is the moment when you know something is going terribly wrong. It gets worse.

Before the convertible top was put back up and the limousine was driven away, people reported seeing holes emanating right through the front of the windshield and elsewhere that did not match up with the holes that were documented on the following day. The limousine was then loaded on a cargo plane and taken to Washington before the Dallas police evidence unit was able to conduct an inspection. The limousine was then driven from Andrews AFB to the White House Garage, causing its contents to shift and thus causing further damage to the integrity of the crime scene. Only by 1 am on November 23 did an FBI evidence team arrive, nor was any diagramming of the evidentiary items begin prior to this time. We will never know the true status of the evidence offered by the limousine.[20]

In Langley, CI/SIG chief O'Neal's immediate response was to hedge

During the afternoon of the assassination, the first thing that CI-SIG chief Birch O'Neal did was to lie to the FBI's counterintelligence man in Washington, Courtland Jones. O'Neal was Ann Egerter's boss. O'Neal had to know about the lead role Egerter played in preparing the twin 10/10/63 memos. When Jones asked O'Neal what was in the file, O'Neal responded that "there is nothing in CIA file regarding Oswald other than material furnished to CIA by the FBI and the Department of State." [21]

As discussed in Chapter 5, Oswald's biographical 201 file had been stripped of all references to the pro-Cuban Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC), as well as other FBI memos that were dated after May 1962. Those memos were tucked away inside the FPCC file – what John Newman calls "the smoking file" – the file that had the good stuff about Oswald and Cuba. Anyone who read Oswald's stripped 201 file would not know about Oswald's pro-Castro background, or that he had even returned to the United States.

Once Oswald was captured, Whitten said that the "effect was electric" on the top CIA officials in Langley – many of them knew who Oswald was. O'Neal's immediate instinct was to hide from the FBI any personal knowledge of the CIA's memos about Mexico City and the transcripts and tapes of Oswald's adventures during that time. O'Neal also had to be thinking about the routing sheets for documents that showed how the CIA had monitored Oswald throughout his time with the Soviets, during his time with the right-wing White Russians and the left-wing Paines in Texas, as well as the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and the Cuban exiles in New Orleans.

Since the FBI had received CIA memos from Mexico City, O'Neal must have quickly realized that this effort was futile. O'Neal adopted a new line: "I recognized that it was our responsibility to give the fullest cooperation to the FBI and to protect the Agency with regard to any aspects of our operations..." [22] Nonetheless, once he learned about the shooting, O'Neal knew that a plan had to be made about how to deal with the Mexico City evidence. As the head of CI/SIG and Egerter's immediate superior, O'Neal should have known about the molehunt.

Hoover immediately wanted to declare Oswald as the lone assassin

Hoover made it clear to Bobby Kennedy by 3 pm CST that he believed the Dallas police had captured "the man who had killed the President". This was in stark variance to what Dallas, District Attorney Henry Wade was telling the world at 6 pm: "Preliminary reports indicated more than one person was involved in the shooting. The electric chair is too good for the killers." LBJ's aide Cliff Carter got on the horn and made sure that the D.A. did not charge Oswald with conspiracy. The Johnson team had been nervous about a military attack all day, and did not want to give any signals that could lead towards a conflict with the Soviet Union.

Hoover knew that the Bureau was compromised dealing with Oswald as the assassin, and that the enormous blowback might spell the end to the FBI's future. We have seen the record that revealed show Hoover's fears that Oswald might have been impersonated while he was a Soviet defector back in 1960. Hoover probably knew that the Mexico City wiretaps had picked up Oswald, and he certainly knew the national security implications of having to reveal the existence of the wiretaps. The Mexico City field office admitted on 11/22 that their month-long effort asking informants to figure out how Oswald had got in and out of Mexico had failed. Hoover knew that he had to closely manage the Oswald case as a matter of political survival.

Hoover's response was to demand that the Dallas police turn over their evidence to him. Dallas officer J. C. Day delivered the two hulls to the FBI by 2:15 pm CST on November 22, even though Hoover admitted that he had no jurisdiction over the case until after Johnson landed in Washington about 5:00 pm CST. Dallas police chief Jesse Curry told the Warren Commission that due to FBI insistence, on "Friday night we agreed to let the FBI have all the evidence and they said they would bring it to their laboratory and they would have an agent stand by and when they were finished with it to return it to us." Curry was upset about the chain of custody problems.[23] Dallas FBI chief remembered the intensity of the effort to get the evidence to Washington DC by Saturday morning.



At 6 pm on 11/22/63, Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade was telling the world: "Preliminary reports indicated more than one person was involved in the shooting. The electric chair is too good for the killers."

The **only inventory** for 11/22/63 that I can find contains the rifle, the pistol, bullet fragment, shell casings, a blanket, Oswald's shirt, prints, and paper and tape samples. **An evaluation** of the above evidence was sent from the FBI Laboratory to the Dallas police chief the next day. A few other items came in separately during the first 24 hours, **but not many**. I can't find an inventory for the **"four or five hundred"** other evidence items that **the FBI evidence technicians received during the initial twenty-four hours** – the lack of an inventory would break the legal chain of custody for all of these items.[24] How was the Dallas district attorney going to get a conviction against Oswald, who was still alive at this point?

The evidence technician James Cadigan affirmed that it was **"many, many items...a very large quantity of evidence that was brought in."** Cadigan also testified that **"time was of the essence and this material, I believe, was returned to the Dallas police within two or three days."** Someone drew lines through the original transcript of Cadigan's deposition and wrote **"delete"**.[25] This portion was excised from the official transcript, in an ultimately-futile effort to hide this original transport of evidence during the evening of November 22. The public was informed by the media that Tuesday the 26th marked the beginning of the transfer of evidence to Washington.[26] As journalist Jim Marrs put it, rather indelicately, **"Wouldn't any criminal be delighted if he could have complete, secret, and unsupervised control over all the evidence in his case for two full days?"**

In Mexico City, Win Scott's immediate response was to hedge

During that fateful afternoon, Mexico City chief Win Scott wrote a memo saying that he would **"forward soonest copies of only visitor to Soviet Embassy 28 Oct** who could be identical with Oswald."**[27]** Trained as a mathematician, Scott prided himself on being exact in all matters of substance. Why did Scott blend the two dates of the Oswald calls of September 28 and October 1 into **"October 28"** at a critical moment like this? Like O'Neal and Dallas homicide chief Will Fritz, Scott was hedging his bets while feigning ignorance about Oswald. Like O'Neal and Fritz, Scott was buying time to figure out what his story about Oswald was going to be. A CIA analysis states that **"the Agency and its field stations, particularly Mexico City and Miami, were not unmindful of the possibility that Oswald did not act alone."**[28] While Mexico City was on the move, there were no sudden moves in Miami.

During the evening of November 22, the Mexico City station sent the Mystery Man photos and a wiretap transcript to the Dallas FBI and to CIA HQ

In the moments after the assassination, Mexico City chief of station Win Scott asked Ann Goodpasture for the station's information on Oswald, as she understood the tape and phone set-up better than anyone.[29] For many years, Goodpasture went to great lengths to deny that she gave a tape of the man who called himself Oswald to Scott, **even at deposition**.

Goodpasture finally admitted in 1995 that she gave Scott a duplicate tape of the **Oct 1 conversation**, the last of the Oswald phone calls.[30] She claimed that the **master tapes were erased**. "I don't know what happened to the tape after I brought it in. I think I...gave it to the **(deleted)**". I surmise that the nine-letter deletion says **"FBI legat"**, which would mean that she gave the tape to the FBI legal attaché Clark Anderson. What we don't know is when she gave it to him. We also don't know if the tape made it onto the airplane to Dallas.

We know the Mystery Man photos and a wiretap transcript made it on the plane. Before any discussion about the transcript, take a look at how the photos were handled.

We know Goodpasture provided Scott with photos of the Mystery Man, who gave them to the legat Clark Anderson. CIA HQ sent a message at **7:36 pm CDT** and asked for the photos to be sent on the next available flight. Anderson called Alan Belmont and told him that **the photos were coming** by airplane to Dallas with his aide Eldon Rudd. This raised two problems for Goodpasture.

The first problem was that Goodpasture had led everyone to believe that the Mystery Man was Oswald, **as seen in the October 8 memo to CIA HQ**. I am convinced that Goodpasture originally chose the Mystery Man as fodder for the October molehunt, not to convince anyone that the Mystery Man was Oswald. The Mystery Man's description was useful for the molehunt. Like Oswald, the Mystery Man looked like an American. The Mystery Man was also similar to the **"5 foot 10, 165, 35 years old"** Webster-like description that the CIA had been using for Oswald since 1960. Now she was stuck with this story.

The second problem was that Goodpasture had also led everyone to believe that the Mystery Man photos were taken on October 1 at the Soviet embassy, when they were actually taken on October 2.[31] Since she also had available photos of the man taken on **the 4th at the Soviet embassy and the 15th at the Cuban embassy**, Goodpasture tried to obscure this second problem by giving Scott photos of the Mystery Man on all of these dates.

The evidence indicates that at the request of Ambassador Thomas Mann, Win Scott sent the Mystery Man photos of **"October 1"** and **October 4** during the evening of November 22 with the naval attache and the FBI legat's aide Eldon Rudd for the FBI to review. Did either Rudd or the naval attache carry the tape? Rudd denies it, but I see no record about whether the naval attache who was flying the plane might have had it. That would have been good compartmentalization. Rudd had no need to know.

Scott needed to get the bad news about the Mystery Man out of the way

Scott needed to send the Mystery Man photos to Washington, DC and get them out of the way. Given the Mystery Man description of Oswald that Goodpasture provided to Whitten's office back in October, it was time to get the bad news out there.[32] I do not think that Whitten knew about the molehunt, even if his subordinate Bustos did.

By the time the plane left off Mexico City, photos and TV footage of Oswald had been disseminated throughout the world. Any reasonable station officer would have realized that the Mystery Man was not Oswald. Like Goodpasture, I believe that Scott knew that the Mystery Man was not Oswald back in October. Oswald was arrested shortly before 2 pm CST, and his picture was all over the television in the USA by 4 pm CST. Mexico City and Dallas were in the same time zone. Before Scott sent the Mystery Man photos to the USA, all he had to do was pick up a telephone and ask someone to describe what Oswald looked like. Mexico City admitted seeing Oswald on TV the night of 11/22 and "obvious photos sent to Dallas were not iden with Lee Oswald held Dallas".[33]

Eldon Rudd left with Scott's package at 10:00 pm CST, with the naval attache flying the plane.[34] Probably for reasons of security, **the photos were mailed to WH chief J. C. King from Dallas** – there was no hurry, an accompanying memo showed Scott telling King the photos were of "a **certain person who is known to you**". Whitten sent a post at midnight CST saying to send a staffer with all photos Oswald to HQ on next available flight and to call him upon arrival.[35]

This was immediately countermanded in the next post sent moments later by "PWO", saying "No need send staffer with photos. We have asked Navy for photos again, but Mexi can see Oswald's picture sooner on the press wire." [36] But it was too late to stop the delivery of the Mystery Man photos to the USA. The photos were already enroute. This version of Bustos' 10/10 memo reveals that **PWO is Bustos**. I assume that Bustos was simply following Whitten's orders. Dallas FBI chief Shanklin's colleague Kyle Clark then sent on the photos to Hoover's office during the early hours of the 23rd, saying the photos were of the individual "**known as Lee Oswald as obtained from confidential source**"

In any case, the best thing for Scott was to get the Mystery Man photos that he had supposedly relied on in October to all of his bosses at CIA HQ right away. The pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald were all over the world by 4 pm Central Standard Time. As we will see, deputy chief **Alan White** (pseudonym **Robert Easby**) carried out his boss' dogged mission all the way.

Was the tape flown to Dallas, or did someone phone it in?

FBI agent Wallace Heitman was the Spanish-speaking agent in Dallas and was close with counterintelligence chief Bill Branigan. Heitman wrote a report about how Eldon Rudd picked up the package and proceeded to Dallas in the naval attache's plane. Look how everyone mentions the transcript but Heitman: **Heitman's memo mentions the photos, but no transcript**. Rudd's memo mentions photos and a transcript.[37] Heitman's partner Bob Odum reported that Heitman handed Rudd a transcript as well as photographic material.[38] The legat Clark Anderson wrote that Rudd delivered transcripts as well as photos.[39] Dallas FBI chief Gordon Shanklin said that Mexico City legal attaché Clark Anderson gave Rudd a transcript to bring. People have wondered if Anderson also gave Rudd or the naval attache a tape, or if a tape was played for the FBI agents in Dallas.[40]

This is worthy of discussion. As raised earlier, there's a good possibility that Anderson gave the tape to the naval attache, which would have compartmentalized the operation away from Rudd. Rudd had no need to know about the tape. It's worth noting that when Rudd was subpoenaed by the HSCA for close questioning on this point, he refused to testify. Rudd was protected from any contempt charge – as a Congressman, he had immunity from prosecution.

Another indication that the tapes may have been on the plane to Dallas can be found in a memo written by Bureau supervisor Burt Turner to the legal attaché Clark Anderson in Mexico: "If tapes covering any contact subject [Oswald] with Soviet or Cuban embassies available forward to Bureau for laboratory examination. Include tapes previous reviewed Dallas if they were returned to you."[41]

Burt Turner was considered one of the very best FBI agents of that time. When Hoover tried to demote Turner, **Turner successfully faced Hoover down**. How often did that happen? Turner's memo indicates that Heitman sent "tapes" as well as photos with Rudd to Dallas. In any swearing contest between Turner and Heitman, Turner would win. No contest.

November 23: How the Tapes Became a State Secret

November 23 was the day that the tapes became a state secret. Scott had decided to take a secretive approach with the tapes that supposedly contained Oswald's voice. Keep in mind that transcriber Boris Tarasoff and others had discussed the importance about any call made by an American to an "enemy" embassy, and that Scott had a separate file set aside for all Americans who visited representatives of a Soviet bloc embassy. (See Chapter 5) Such a tape was not likely to be erased.

The plane arrived at Love Field in Dallas at **2:47 AM** CST on the morning of the 23rd. Dallas FBI chief Shanklin mused in his report that Hoover's right-hand man Alan Belmont had told him that "we have on file practically all the information on Oswald down there in Mexico City *except the fact that CIA had secured some information that this individual very probably called from the Cuban Embassy to the Russian Embassy.*"[42] An October 16 memo to the FBI had tipped off the Bureau that **Oswald had personally met with Kostikov on September 28**, but did not mention the phone call later that day. The call on the 28th was

the hot topic of concern that terrible night, with the CIA unwilling to firmly commit that the caller was Oswald.

Goodpasture testified in 1995 that she recalled a reference that Rudd **hand carried the tape dub to Laredo**. If this is true, it would mean that the tapes were literally taken by Rudd from Dallas and down to the Mexican border. My belief is that the most likely scenario is that the tapes were played on the phone in Laredo. Peter Dale Scott, an ex-diplomat, has suggested that such a ploy would enable officers to state under penalty of perjury that no such tapes were played for them “in the United States”.

The importance of the sending of the tapes to the FBI cannot be overemphasized, for two reasons.

First, by sending the tapes, Scott was sending the most powerful evidence about Oswald. As we will see, this evidence was covered up almost immediately and denied under oath for many years.

Secondly, the following officers swore under penalty of perjury that the tapes did not exist by the time of the assassination: David Phillips (twice), Ann Goodpasture, Robert Shaw, and Deputy Chief of Station Alan P. White.[43] We know that Goodpasture lied; she was not just mistaken. Goodpasture said that it was her understanding that Rudd was given a tape to take to Texas and that Scott had a copy “squirreled away in his safe”.[44] Assuming that Phillips was in on the molehunt, then he lied as well. White’s credibility in this affair is low - Warren Commission staffers David Slawson and William Coleman admitted in a 2003 interview that White was the one who actually played the Oswald tape for them in Mexico City during April 1964.[45] Slawson had promised the CIA during the Warren Commission investigation that the report would say **nothing about the wiretaps**, before Slawson and Coleman admitted the existence of the tapes to researchers Tony Summers, Peter Dale Scott, and finally the Assassinations Records Review Board in the early 90s. Goodpasture then changed her testimony from “denial” in 1978 to “admission” in 1995.[46]

John Whitten is the only CIA official I know of who admitted under oath that the tapes existed at the time of the assassination before Goodpasture finally admitted the truth in 1995.[47] Whitten wrote in the days after the assassination that **“the actual tapes were also reviewed”** and a copy of the Oct 1 **“intercept on Lee Oswald”** was discovered after the assassination.

The Church Committee staff refused to accept the FBI’s assurances that the tapes had been destroyed. What the staff missed, unfortunately, was a report from Alan Belmont. (Since the action largely shifted from Dallas to Langley, events will be described using Eastern Standard Time.) At 9:15 am EST, Shanklin told Belmont that Oswald was impersonated on the September 28 call.

“The Agents who spoke to Oswald have listened to the tape provided by the CIA of the call allegedly made by Oswald to the Soviet embassy, and they do not think that the individual was Oswald, as his voice is different and he spoke in broken English.”[48]

Angleton himself had the highest praise for Belmont’s acumen. “In the old days, Oswald’s return to the US after his defection would have been the highest priority for the counter-intelligence community. However, when Al Belmont left the bureau, its CI (internal security) operations fell apart.”[49]

Because the existence of the Mexico City tapes was treated as a dark national security secret, the HSCA reported the stories of these tapes in a deceptive manner, saying in their reports that no **“recording of Oswald’s voice”** was ever “received” or “listened to” in the United States.[50] Peter Dale Scott suggests that “this language is a lawyer’s subterfuge: what was received and listened to was precisely not a recording of Oswald’s voice.”[51]

At 10 am EST, Hoover and LBJ discussed how **the Mystery Man photo and the tape did not match** with Oswald’s appearance or his voice – and how there may have been two people in Mexico City that day. Hoover also admits in private the opposite of what he has said in public: “The evidence against Oswald is not very very strong.” The entire tape of this approximately **fourteen minute** conversation has been mysteriously erased, while the transcript somehow survived.

After this critically important Hoover-LBJ call, things happen very quickly

At 11:45 am, someone at CIA contacted FBI liaison Sam Papich and told him about **the impersonation of Eldon Hensen in**



At 9:15 am EST, Gordon Shanklin (left) told Alan Belmont (right) that Oswald was impersonated on the September 28 call.



At 10 am EST, Hoover and LBJ discussed how the Mystery Man photo and the tape did not match with Oswald’s appearance or his voice – and how there may have been two people in Mexico City that

Mexico City back in July.

day. *Incredibly, this presidential phone call has been erased.*

Belmont told Tolson that he called Shanklin at 11:50 am EST.

This was at least their second conversation that morning about the agents and the tape. Years later, the Church Committee was fascinated by Belmont's story:

"Inasmuch as the Dallas agents who listened to the tape of the conversation allegedly of Oswald from the Cuban Embassy to the Russian Embassy in Mexico and examined the photographs of the visitor to the Embassy in Mexico and were of the opinion that neither the tape or the photograph pertained to Oswald, I requested Shanklin to immediately send a photograph of Oswald to our Legal Attache. This will be done by Agent Rudd who is returning to Mexico City by air. CIA in Mexico should check the photograph of Oswald against visitors to the Soviet and Cuban embassies to see if they can identify him."

Right after talking to Tolson about Shanklin, Belmont got on the phone with Shanklin's deputy Kyle Clark at 12 am EST. Belmont asked Dallas deputy chief Clark about the Hidell name, and whether one or two people had Hidell identification. Belmont asked Clark to explore all angles of the Hidell story, as well as any embassy visits by people who may be identical with Hidell in Mexico City. A big to-do list was created after this call.

Goodpasture, O'Neal and Helms suggest a change in the narrative

While Belmont was talking with the Dallas FBI office, Anne Goodpasture made an incredible statement in a memo at 11:59 am: "In view Oswald in Sov Union and fact he claimed on 1 Oct LIENVOY to have visited Sov Emb 28 Sep, Subject...probably Oswald. Station unable compare voice as first tape erased prior receipt of second call."

Those calls were made three days apart. The protocol was to destroy no tapes for at least two weeks, and 30 days for tapes on Cuba. According to Tarasoff's testimony, he would have just returned the tape on or about September 30.

It is obvious that Goodpasture was covering up, especially as we see that the Belmont-Shanklin conversation refers to unnamed FBI agents listening to the September 28 conversation. Goodpasture's testimony in 1995 refers to the October 1 conversation. Perhaps the duplicate of the tapes that the FBI agents listened to contained both conversations.[52]

At 12:10 pm, CI-SIG Birch O'Neal asks Mexico City "are original tapes available?" Author Rex Bradford asks: "(C)an this cable have been anything other than a big hint that a new story about the tapes' existence (or lack thereof) was desired?"

At about the same time, Goodpasture put out a big story. She said that "Douglas J. Feinglass (note: Boris Tarasoff's pseudonym) who did transcriptions says Oswald is identical to the person para one speaking broken Russian who called from Cuban embassy September 28 to Soviet embassy".[53]

This Tarasoff memo was passed on the same day from Helms to FBI liaison Sam Papich. Helms emphasized that voice comparisons were made and that the call on the 28th matched the call on the 1st. A plan seems to be taking shape. Tarasoff is never sought out for an interview. Instead, Tarasoff and his wife are hidden away from the investigators and treated as non-entities. Even five years later, when Goodpasture wrote a history of the JFK case, she referred to Tarasoff merely as "Transcriber" and said nothing about Oswald's supposed "terrible Russian".[54]

While Helms, O'Neal and Goodpasture were going through these machinations, Belmont was still ostensibly in the thick of his investigation. At 12:40 EST, Belmont called the legal attache Clark Anderson to let him know that Oswald's photo is being sent back with Rudd. We have some good stories (see Chapter 5), but no photos of Oswald in Mexico City have surfaced to this day.

During this day, Shanklin and Belmont have been the two men at the center of the investigative activities. During the afternoon, we see Shanklin offering a new tune. At about 3:30 pm EST (2030 Zulu), Shanklin tells Hoover "the actual tape from which this transcript was made has been destroyed". Ed Lopez and Dan Hardaway wrote a good memo about this change in the story.

I don't believe the change in the story. With the assistance of his aide Fletcher Thompson, Hoover then wrote a memo to the President, and another to the Secret Service chief Rowley, with both memos saying that FBI agents reviewed the tape and concluded that the voice was not Oswald's. The Secret Service's letter was hand-delivered on the morning of the 24th, indicating that the Secret Service and LBJ got the correct story while everyone else got the cover story.[55]

The attacks on Sylvia Duran

After Scott saw the photos of Oswald on TV the night of the assassination, he informed CIA HQ of his suggestion to Gustavo Ortiz (also known as LITEMPO-2, who would become President of Mexico in 1964) that Duran be arrested. Based on the Duran-Oswald phone call on September 28 from the Cuban consulate, Scott wanted Duran held incommunicado until she provided everything she knew about Oswald. Scott added that "LITEMPO-2 can say DFS coverage revealed call to him if he needs to explain." [56] This is another indicator that DFS had its own set of tapes and transcripts from the Mexico City station, and was not forced to rely on CIA largesse. These tapes may still exist today.

Duran was taken into custody by the Mexican police on November 23, and released the next morning. The Mexicans told Scott that they would pretend that the decision to arrest Duran came from “Mexican initiative” rather than from Scott.[57]

The official record of Duran’s interview is missing. We have a third-hand version, summarized and translated into English.[58] We also have reports from “R. L. Easby”, the pseudonym for deputy chief Alan White. The initial report from Easby states that “Echevierra told COS Duran was completely cooperative.” In fact, Duran was abused. This statement indicates that “Easby” may have inspired David Phillips; as we will see, Phillips falsely described the double agent Gilberto Alvarado as “completely cooperative” a couple of days later.[59]

From a conversation she had with Ed Lopez, we know that she said that her interrogators mistreated her during this interview and a second one days later.[60] The ambassador urged them to “go all out” while questioning her. Duran was interrogated by Fernando Gutierrez Barrios, the same DFS officer who threatened to hang Alvarado by his balls a few days later.[61] Duran told Joaquin Armas that she was shoved around and her arms had black and blue marks. Significantly, she was asked if she had intimate relations with Oswald. The initial report of her interrogation alludes to this, stating that Duran gave Oswald “on a piece of paper, her name Silvia Duran with the office telephone number but that Oswald was not given her address since he had no reason to have it.”[62] Historian Gerald McKnight states that “the line of questioning originated with COS Win Scott. The CIA was trying to force Duran to confess to entrapping Oswald, luring him with sexual favors into a Cuban conspiracy to kill JFK.”[63] That would have created the basis for an invasion of Cuba.

There is a mysterious unsigned memo in the files, extremely well written, with details few would know, and with a **Spanish phrase sprinkled in it**. The writer refers to the Marines as the “Infanteria de la Marina”. Win Scott wrote “**read to President the night of 11/25/63**”. This was the President of Mexico and not Lyndon B. Johnson.

It is designed to spread blame on **the Cubans and Soviets**, and Silvia Duran in particular. Oswald is described in the very first paragraph as 5’ 10”, 165, with blue-grey eyes. The memo then says that Oswald met with Duran at the embassy on September 28, and falsely states that “**no details of conversations Oswald had inside the Cuban embassy are available**.” We have Scott repeating a flat-out lie to the President of Mexico – as seen in Chapter 5, the wiretaps of September 27 are filled with details of what Oswald told Duran. The typeface in an adjoining document reveals it was written by the same person who ran the soon-to-be-reviewed **Alvarado scam** to push the story of a known **informant on the Communists**.

Who was that person? The “adjoining document” about Alvarado reveals the author to be **A. C. Plambeck** with the State Department’s **Office of Security**. I assume that Plambeck used the same typewriter in writing both the Alvarado memo and the author of the “5 foot ten/165” memo described above. Plambeck was with **Eldridge Snight**, a security officer for the **State Department** but identified by Win Scott as an “**officer of this Section**”. Snight was almost certainly Cuba desk officer Bob Shaw using his self-admitted **State Department cover**. The memo says that Oswald embraced a woman from “**Calle Juarez 407**”. That is the address for **Luisa Calderon**, who the station had been surveilling for months.

I believe Calderon was being used here as “embroidery” for the story because Cuban intelligence was questioning her loyalty based on **an alleged affair** with an American named **Oscar Cower** from Los Angeles. Calderon had also been unwittingly at the center of the impersonation that Phillips and Shaw had engineered to fool Eldon Hensen (see Chapter 3). Calderon was to become the focus of a CIA-driven wild goose chase with **a claim that she had foreknowledge** of the assassination. A LIENVOY tape revealed that when Calderon was asked if she had heard the news, Calderon had joked, “Yes, of course, I knew almost before Kennedy.” **The CIA did not provide documents to the HSCA** showing that Calderon’s initial response prior to the alleged “foreknowledge” was her **surprise and a statement that the news had to be “a lie”**.

I saw **Plambeck’s name on State Dept. documents** and thought that was his real name. However, this document reveals that Plambeck was an **officer at the Mexico City station**. Now I’m thinking that Plambeck was the Department of State cover for David Phillips. In other words, the 5 foot/ten 165 memo looks like a classic disinformation-driven **David Phillips** effort. Researcher Gus Russo believes that Plambeck was deputy station officer Alan White, but my opinion is that both Plambeck and Phillips use the same kind of flowery prose.

The FBI and CIA admit that there is no proof that Kostikov was ever part of any “assassination bureau” – Angleton’s contribution to the cover-up

Statements made by the Soviet consuls many years later (see Oleg Nechiporenko’s *Passport to Assassination*) indicate that Oswald personally met with Kostikov, Yatskov and Nechiporenko on the morning of the 28th, although we can’t prove that Oswald’s visit was known to the Mexico City station until much later. What we do know is that the Mexico City station claimed on the day after the assassination that it was very concerned about the October 1 phone call from “Oswald” to the Soviet Embassy, asking for Kostikov. If Kostikov was such a dangerous man, why wasn’t the CIA on top of Kostikov on a daily basis after the October 1 phone call was translated?

The answer is that no one was worried about Kostikov until after the assassination. Before that, the emphasis was in trying to recruit him to the American side – see, for example, **the REDCAP memo for**

September 27.

Right after JFK was killed, Angleton received a call from Anatoliy Golitsyn, a Soviet defector that had become Angleton's most trusted source. Golitsyn told Angleton that "the modus operandi with any defector from anybody's army to the Soviet Union required that he go through processing by the 13th Department of the KGB." [64]

This is why much ado was made on the day after the assassination about a claim made by counterintelligence chief for the Soviet station, Tennent (Pete) Bagley. Bagley insisted there was strong proof that Kostikov was a member of the KGB's 13th Department in charge of assassinations. [65] The CIA's belief that Kostikov was a member of Dept. 13 was based solely on a "clandestine contact." [66]

This contact was a double agent known as TUMBLEWEED. Kostikov made it possible for TUMBLEWEED to get together in the US with **Oleg Brykin, a KGB member of the 13th Department**. Golitsyn was the source of this information, passed on to Jim Angleton and then on to Bagley. [67] However, as stated in Chapter 3, Angleton had told the FBI as recently as June 1963 that **Kostikov had nothing to do with the 13th Department**. The FBI's response to Golitsyn's claim was that neither agency could be certain that Kostikov was part of the 13th Department. [68]

Bagley's strong opinion, however, was a force to be reckoned with. Bagley was the chief counterspy for the Soviet Russia division, and had been stationed in Switzerland (eventually to become station chief) during the time that Oswald was due to attend Albert Schweitzer College. [69] Bagley had been transferred from Berne to Langley where he gained a rapid promotion to become C/SR/CI.

Like Angleton, Bagley believed in Golitsyn's theory of the "Monster Plot" – that the entire Sino-Soviet split was a fake maneuver designed to lull the West into dropping its defenses and making itself vulnerable to the Communist menace. Bagley went so far as to write in his November 23 memo that **"one of Harold Wilson's principal scientific advisors is Captain Ian Maxwell, who has a long Soviet intelligence background**. This may shed new light on (Golitsyn's) report, i.e., that Harold Wilson may be a Soviet agent." Like Bagley, Mexico City station chief Win Scott was a "Fundamentalist" – one who subscribed to Angleton and Golitsyn's school of thought about a monolithic Communist threat – and it's no accident that Scott's pen name for his Mexico City memoirs was **Ian Maxwell**. Scott did not want Maxwell to be forgotten.

There has been speculation that Bagley may have played a role in suppressing Kostikov's name from the twin October 10 memos. Kostikov could have been the centerpiece of discussion, since Mexico City's memo of October 8 said that Oswald was trying to reach Kostikov on October 1. Many people believe that the absence of Kostikov's name in these memos was very important and helped "dim the lights" on Oswald prior to November 22. That may be true, but I think there's a more important insight here.

My thinking is that the alleged Kostikov-Oswald conversation was no secret. Kostikov's name was flagged in the **aforementioned Mexico City memo to the FBI on October 16**, with no expression of concern by either the letter-writer or any of the numerous recipients. The October 16 memo said that "Lee Henry Oswald" had talked with Kostikov on September 28. Written by Barbara Manell from Mexico City's Soviet desk, she directed a copy of the October 16 memo to the extremely anti-communist Ambassador Thomas Mann. Bert Turner at the FBI and key people at other agencies also received this information. Yet no one lifted a finger of concern. [70]

Manell could have toned it down by mentioning that Oswald and Kostikov were talking about a visa. Instead, she wrote that there was **"no clarifying information"**, which was not only untrue but added an unnecessary level of intrigue. When challenged on this point, Manell made it clear that **"they had no need to know all those other details."**

Similarly, Manell claimed that she did not know that the September 28 transcript mentioned the Cuban consulate, or she would have included that information in her memo. But she told the HSCA that she **"had rechecked the transcripts by this time"**, as otherwise she would not have used such certain language."

The memo also indicates that it was Manell herself who figured out that the officer who spoke to Oswald was Kostikov. Nothing in the record explains how she came to that conclusion. When interviewed, she didn't remember anything except she knew a lot about Kostikov, and **"I probably decided that it was Kostikov"**. Again, I do not see a hint of concern by anyone about Kostikov, Department 13, or anything else.

In regards to all of these items, Manell maintained that "we were told what to send and that is what we sent...I did what headquarters asked me to, to the best of my knowledge." [71]

Golitsyn played a role in sparking the conversation about Department 13, as he called Angleton on the day of the assassination and told him that "the modus operandi with any defector from anybody's army to the Soviet Union required that he go through processing by the 13th Department of the KGB...which is called their Affairs for Executive Action. And this was the SOP on the dealing with military defectors." [72]

The FBI did not want to let Golitsyn see their intelligence, saying that it was against their policy to provide such material to defectors. [73] By December 20, Win Scott wrote his superior that the CIA wasn't even sure whether Kostikov was **KGB or GRU** (Soviet military intelligence), which meant that Scott was uncertain whether Kostikov was part of KGB's Department 13. [74] A similar conclusion was drawn by FBI counter-intelligence head Bill Branigan, who told Division 5 chief William Sullivan that there was "no

indication that Lee Harvey Oswald was ever **recruited or trained by Department 13.**”[75] Nonetheless, Angleton’s assistant Ray Rocca wrote a damning report by the end of January, telling the Warren Commission that Oswald was mixed up with Kostikov, who worked with the **Soviet assassination specialists at Department 13.** Rocca added that Department 13 analyzed every military defector to the USSR “to determine the possibility of **utilizing the defector in his country of origin.**”

A report on “Soviet assassination and kidnapping” was presented to the Warren Commission on 2/17/64.[76] It focused on attacks on a White Russian official in 1954, Radio Free Europe in 1959, and what was known as “the Stashinsky murders” of the 1950s. The last case cited in the article is 1961, with the last page of the study concluding that “the assassination of an Allied official would be highly unlikely and probably unprofitable.”[77]

Shortly before the Warren Report went to press, Hoover aide John C. Stokes stated the CIA had “overstated its case” about Kostikov and Department 13. Stokes went to great lengths to point out that the FBI had provided all this information to Angleton before the assassination, and Angleton’s response had been to write a memo on June 25, 1963 saying there was no information in the files to support the claim that Kostikov was part of Department 13.[78]

By 1976, Angleton testified to the Church Committee that there was **never any confirmation** of the Department 13 story.[79] CIA counter-intelligence chief David Blee admitted in 1982 that the CIA was never able to prove that Kostikov was part of Department 13, and that the last known assassination attempt conducted by that agency was in 1959.[80]

There was never any good reason to believe that Kostikov was a member of Department 13 or any “assassination bureau”. It was made up from whole cloth after the assassination. It was a provocation, designed to distract the investigators. It’s entirely possible Golitsyn believed it, but Angleton used the Department 13 story to drive the cover-up. The CIA’s psychiatrist Charles Bohrer told the head of the Soviet Russia division that Golitsyn was offering much the same picture as he had when he defected to the USA, “dangling before the Agency very enticing and intriguing statements **in exchange for acceptance, entrée, support and control...**re Gaitskill, Wilson, Penkovsky, the Communist split, wild, crazy – the product of a sick mind?” Bohrer was stunned by Golitsyn’s contention that Prime Minister Harold Wilson was a Soviet agent.

Golitsyn had been seen a year earlier by another CIA psychiatrist, Dr. John Gittinger’s, whose 1962 report was much the same as Bohrer’s in 1963. Gittinger said that “our tests showed Golitsyn was clinically paranoid. I know I wouldn’t trust him any further than I could throw a bomber. I find it amazing how much of what he said was accepted. It remains incomprehensible to me...He suffered from a form of megalomania.”[81] For Jim Angleton to rely on Golitsyn’s speculation - while ignoring his own pre-assassination written statement saying that Kostikov was not a Department 13 official - is strong evidence of cover-up.

Jack Whitten was appointed as chief of the CIA’s investigation into the JFK assassination

On November 23, Helms appointed Jack Whitten as the chief of the CIA’s investigation into the JFK assassination. The period of Whitten’s leadership role has been described as the “GPFLOOR phase” that focused on the cable traffic around the world and the focus on Oswald’s activities in Mexico City.[82] Rocca describes Whitten and J. C. King (C/WHD) as the two Washingtonians in charge; Win Scott in Mexico was responsible, and Phillips was also “knowledgeable”. [83]

Whitten believed that one of the reasons he was given the case was that Angleton was so close to the FBI. There was “initially the possibility that **the FBI was in some way derelict or involved** or something like that...Helms wanted someone to conduct the investigation who was not in bed with the FBI, and I was not and Angleton was.”

Given that Angleton’s source Golitsyn had made such a wild charge that contradicted the FBI’s belief about Kostikov being harmless, that may have been a factor as well. Jack Whitten spoke for much of the Agency when he said that Angleton’s view of the world was **bizarre and over-suspicious.** Helms may have been decided to keep Angleton under wraps, at least initially. Helms had to have known about the molehunt and how badly Angleton was compromised in that affair. I see no proof that the FBI figured out prior to the assassination that the twin 10/10/63 memos were part of a molehunt. However, the FBI did know that there was a big problem with the Mexico City tapes not containing Oswald’s voice. What was Helms going to do about the FBI? I think his successful game plan was to convince Hoover to hold back on exposing the tapes. Both Hoover and Helms wanted to weather this disaster. When supervisors Sullivan and D.J. Brennan were discussing the CIA’s plans to open new domestic contact offices in the US a couple months later, Hoover reminded them, “OK, but I hope you are not being taken in. I can’t forget CIA withholding the French espionage activities in USA, nor the false story re Oswald’s trip to Mexico City, only to mention two of their instances of double dealing.”[84] I believe Hoover’s frustration was about the tapes.

Whitten believed that another reason he was chosen as chief investigator in the JFK case was because Mexico was part of his bailiwick as the chief of the Central American desk, and that Helms knew him as a **successful investigator of big cases and a polygraph operator.** I think the biggest factor was that Bustos had written the 10/10 letters as Whitten’s subordinate, and Whitten had signed off on the letters without realizing that they were part of a molehunt. If Whitten remained in that state of mind throughout the investigation, that secret would be kept safe.

Instead of being informed about Cubela, Whitten is offered Ramon Cortes as a Castro-did-it suspect

On Whitten's first day as chief of the JFK investigation, Angleton's people immediately sent him off on a wild goose chase. No one ever stepped forward and told Whitten anything about the Castro assassination plots, or anything about how closely the Cuba division was working with Rolando Cubela in the days before November 22.

Instead, the files reveal a very different story, encapsulated in a handwritten note to Whitten from Ray Rocca during the late night hours of November 23. Rocca intoned that "here is the assembled file", and added that these documents were too sensitive to be shared with the FBI.[85] The key documents cited by Rocca expound the theme of Oswald's Soviet connection, and the importance of following Kostikov everywhere.

"Priority" was given to the possibility that Duran might have been exchanging information for sexual favors – this lead never went anywhere, but an unfounded rumor that Oswald and Duran had sexual relations has persisted in CIA circles ever since 11/22/63.[86] The purpose of this rumor has been to make Duran look untrustworthy.

The attachments to Rocca's note point right to links between Castro's mistress and aide Celia Sanchez with Dallas import-export agent Ramon Cortes discussed in Chapter 3. Both Sanchez and Cortes were close to Maria Witoski, also known as AMKIRK-1. Witoski was the estranged wife of Rene Vallejo, Castro's closest aide who had been negotiating the possible rapprochement between Castro and JFK for the last several months.

Rocca provided a backgrounder of Celia Sanchez, stating she was the **head of intelligence** in late 1958 before Batista was overthrown, and how she was presently the political officer for the Communist Party as well as Fidel's secretary and mistress. He then turned to three pages on the **Saavedra family**, and how Cuban interior minister Raul Saavedra was married to Nenita Sanchez, a close relative of Celia Sanchez.

The final page recited five of the greatest hits from the file of the double agent Ramon Cortes, much of which was discussed in Chapter 3. All five hits point to Cortes' close relations with Cuba, while ignoring his covert relations with the American government. The last two hits point to Cortes' relationship with Witoski/AMKIRK-1; as discussed earlier, she was close friends with Celia Sanchez.

During 1962, June Cobb, **a major source of information on the FPCC**, was accepted by the CIA as a contract agent. Rocca's last memos focus on how Witoski wrote June Cobb and accepted her invitation to come to Mexico, while saying how much she'd like to see Cortes again.[87]

By early December, CI-SIG chief Birch O'Neal confirmed that a French diplomat outside of the US was saying JFK was killed due to a joint plot by the Chinese government and Castro, with Cortes and Saavedra in the middle of it all. O'Neal also admits that the tips from the French diplomat "have proven to be not too reliable". It is third-hand information from "a source" to the French diplomat "Unstar", and then to WAVE staffer **Dudley Jentons** aka **J. Deering Danielson**.[88]

On the 10th, Cortes was questioned by the FBI. He admitted that he was friends with Witoski and her boss, Castro's disloyal secretary Juan Orta. (Orta was the man who received from a courier sent by **Sam Giancana and the CIA** the poisoned pills to kill Castro shortly before the Bay of Pigs.) Cortes denied ever meeting Castro's mistress Celia Sanchez, but remembered Witoski telling him about her friendship with her.[89] Cortes' story was that he had "**beat the Cuban government out of \$80,000**," and that he was now seeking protection from Dimas Figueredo, his former shoe factory partner and operative in Mexico City's Gyrose Debriefing Unit. After months of reports on Cortes that wasted precious time, the case simply faded away. Cortes received criminal immunity in return for his continued cooperation about the Cubans.[90] The CIA agreed not to provide the sources in the Cortes investigation to the FBI.[91] Besides leading Whitten and the FBI on a wild goose chase, the Cortes story is probably included in the "French espionage activities" that had Hoover so mad at the CIA's double-dealing.

November 24: The cover-up goes into high gear after Oswald is killed

The CIA's Cuba division said it had no duty to conduct an investigation

The next day, November 24, Angleton learned from Win Scott that **Cubela had met with Kostikov** at the Soviet consulate back in late 1962.[92] Angleton said that FitzGerald would only provide Cubela's 201 biographical file. FitzGerald relied on **his division's autonomy** and refused to provide the Cubela operational file to Angleton's staff or to the Warren Commission. The story is that FitzGerald did not want to be subjected to an Angleton molehunt.[93]

With all the interest that both the FBI and the CIA had in Cubela over the years, Angleton's claim that he did not know about Cubela's background is not credible.[94] Equally incredible is Helms' and FitzGerald's testimony that they did not "ask" Cubela to assassinate Castro.[95] FitzGerald knew that Cubela was insecure, and that he had a problem.

From the moment of the assassination, FitzGerald was concerned that the assassin came from the ranks of the anti-Castro Cubans. FitzGerald was close to JFK, and wept when **Oswald was killed**, saying, "Now

we'll never know.”[96] FitzGerald died in 1967. His executive officer testified that the Headquarters Cuban desk was not asked to conduct **any investigation** into the Kennedy assassination.

Shackley did not feel he had any duty to investigate the assassination. "I was just told to watch the island." said Ted Shackley. "The mainland was the FBI's territory." [97] Similarly, no one from Shackley's JMWAVE station in Miami conducted any serious investigation on the assassination. Individuals who allegedly gave orders to do some investigating were JMWAVE C/FI Warren Frank, Tony Sforza, and the former LIENVOY chief Charles Anderson III. Anderson was told by Sforza that he had received specific instructions from Shackley about how the AMOT service was to go about aiding in the investigation. Anderson said that the CIA had limitations on its "right to conduct investigations of persons residing in the USA, whether they were alien residents or US citizens." [98] I am unaware of any documents created as a result of these probes.

Another officer said that when he spoke to his agents in meetings in Miami, Tampa, Nassau and Mexico City about the murder of JFK, his briefing was strictly oral and contained no written questions. [99] JMWAVE said little on the subject other than that the Cuban exiles were in grief despite their policy differences with JFK. [100]

When Angleton was asked about it many years later, he explained that the WAVE materials were under Western Hemisphere chief J. C. King, that the Headquarters materials were under FitzGerald, and that CI did not have access to their information "as far as it related to the Kennedy assassination or to the leads on the Cubans."

The FBI's Nationalities Intelligence conducted no investigation

Hoover had his own derelictions to hide. There was no good reason to Hoover to abruptly pull Nationalities Intelligence off the case after their avid work on the FPCC and Oswald. Hoover did not want the record to reflect the depth of the anti-Castro exiles' anger at JFK. Nor did Hoover want to know what Nationalities Intelligence chief Ray Wannall knew about the FPCC and Oswald before November 22. The FBI men in Dallas certainly did not want Hoover or the public to know that Oswald had worked at the Jaggars photographic firm and had assisted the Army Mapping Service, an agency that was analyzing maps of Cuba obtained by U-2 flights during the height of the Cuban missile crisis. [101] Ann Egerter claimed months later that she had **no way of knowing** whether Oswald had ever worked for the Jaggars firm.

In the first days after 11/22, Ray Wannall, repeatedly provided the FBI with essential background on Oswald, including but not limited to letters that Oswald had written to the FPCC in New York City and turned over to the FBI by agent T-3245-S*, who was almost certainly FPCC staffer Victor Vicente. Vicente was the same man that Anita Potocki and the joint CIA-FBI team had inserted into Cuba in the AMSANTA operation during the summer of 1963. Wannall and his Nationalities Intelligence division were cut out of the assassination investigation. [102]

A flow chart details those in charge of the espionage aspects of Oswald's case involved the espionage chief Bill Branigan of the Domestic Intelligence Division and his men: Burt Turner, Lambert L. Anderson, Marvin Gheesling, and Charles Brennan. The department not included on this **flow chart** is Ray Wannall's Nationalities Intelligence Division, and its Cuban section. [103] This is no accident.

The FBI's approach to the Oswald file was to label it as a "dual-captioned" matter prior to the assassination. Oswald's defection and his ongoing contacts with the Soviets had been the terrain of Bill Branigan's Espionage Section since 1959, while the Cuban side of the Oswald file was handled by Ray Wannall and Nationalities Intelligence. [104]

Ray Wannall testified to the Church Committee that Nationalities Intelligence was within the **Counter-intelligence Branch** and handled matters relating to countries other than the Soviet Union, Soviet Bloc, and Communist China. [105]

Ray Wannall's deposition is absolutely devastating. Just about the first question is: "**Do you know Vince Nasca?**" Wannall had known Nasca well, and since 1951. [106]

Wannall then stated **who were the FBI's top experts on Cuba** during 1963: "Anti-Castro would be Vince Nasca, and pro-Castro I guess would be Ray Mullens, not certain. Coordinated by Richard Cotter, unit chief, most outgoing flowed thru him, not ingoing. As section chief, I had pretty good knowledge of this material." [107]

Nasca received copies of Oswald's exploits right after his defection to the Soviet Union – he signed for these documents **with his initials VHN**. Nasca and Wannall were kept in the loop on discussions about **assassinating Castro** even after JFK's death. Nasca, who was the FBI's absolute expert on the Cuban exiles, told the Church Committee during the 70s that **he was given no investigative tasks regarding the JFK assassination**. If they kept a heavy hitter like Nasca away from the investigation, it's a sure thing that Hoover had zero concern that Castro was involved in killing Kennedy.

But that's not all. Wannall admitted that his entire Nationalities Intelligence division was kept out of the JFK investigation.

"(T)he investigation of the assassination was not in the Division and I wasn't privy to any of the discussions."

"Were you at any time tasked with any requirements in that investigation or any people under you

tasked?"

"I can't recall that we were, because even the phases of it that spilled over into our Division were handled in another section."

"Which section was that?"

"That was the Espionage Section."

"Was that Branigan's section?"

"Yes".[108]

Richard Cotter, who was Wannall's #1 man between 1962 to 1965, described Branigan's section as "the Soviet section". Cotter is very clear that "if the Bureau was involved in exploring a Cuban involvement in the assassination, it almost certainly would have been run out of our section, yes." He agreed that Nasca, Wannall and himself was the go-to guys on Cuba. He agreed with Wannall that there were never even any discussions about whether any Cubans were involved in the JFK assassination. Cotter admitted that the obviousness of such a possibility "looks like two and two today, but apparently it didn't look like two and two then".

Unlike Wannall, who looks like a straight shooter until you review his interview, Cotter comes across as a truth teller. Cotter told with some pride the aforementioned story about a COINTELPRO action that successfully turned FPCC leaders Richard Gibson and Berta Green against each other, and said that he got mail about Oswald visiting both the Soviet and Cuban consulates before the assassination. The Cuban angle was the reason the Oswald case came to his desk.

Going back to Cotter's boss, Wannall admits over and over again that he was cut out of the investigation of JFK's murder and did nothing, although his section housed the experts on the subject. Wannall finally speculates that maybe his section questioned informants, only to be confronted with a memo saying such a practice was "Not desirable. Would serve to promote rumors." signed by Cotter.

Finally, in utter frustration, the interrogator Paul Wallach – the most thorough of all the attorneys in this case - let Wannall have it:

"What I'm getting at very frankly, Mr. Wannall, is that we have an investigation where a heck of a lot of Bureau evidence, your agents did thousands of man-hours of work tracing down every possible piece of physical evidence, every possible ramification in certain areas, whereas in the Cuban area it seems very frankly that almost nothing was done, and what I'm trying to get a grasp on, what the Senators are concerned about, is why?"

Since Wannall had no answer, he went off into an anecdote.

Wallach, undaunted, went at it again: "it appears to me as a layman that we have this huge counterintelligence machinery that was never called into play in the Cuban area..." Again, Wannall did not deny it.

Wallach ended by confronting Wannall with a story about Johnny Roselli's lawyer, Edward P. Morgan. Morgan recounted how Castro was ready to retaliate about the assassination attempts on his life, that the FBI was notified in an "eyes only" memo that Morgan knew where Castro's purported JFK assassins were living in New Jersey, and that the FBI did no follow-up. Wannall had nothing to say.

Wannall's boss William Sullivan made it clear that Hoover should not have brushed Morgan's revelation aside.[109] It seems plain that Hoover did not want to know who killed JFK, whether the assassins came from the left or the right.

The FBI's Soviet experts didn't want to know about the Cuban evidence

A veteran agent, Kenneth Raupach, revealed that the FBI's Domestic Intelligence Division kept the evidence regarding the "so-called Cuban faction" strictly to themselves. The FBI's Soviet experts Gheesling, Turner, Brennan, and Lambert L. Anderson kept close control of any information involving Cuba. Turner was the one who held the assignment card for Oswald prior to the assassination.

The focus for these men was "Oswald and security". Turner was considered the most brilliant by everyone, but he was not top dog. Turner answered to supervisors Branigan, Lenihan, John Stokes, Leonard Linton, and Gheesling.

Lenihan's responsibility was New Orleans and Oswald generally. This came directly from Hoover, and included Oswald's FPCC contacts in New York. Stokes was Mexico City. Gheesling was Dallas. Lenihan is very careful to say any Cuban leads would be for "Cuban section of our division", without saying who that is. It was Lambert Anderson.

Lambert L. Anderson was an intriguing character, as he was with Nationalities Intelligence, had the FPCC file, and he was "the new guy" at the Cuban desk. He answered to Branigan and Robert Lenihan, who were the case supervisors of the Domestic Intelligence Division.[110] He only served with the Cuban section for a short period of time, for a few months in 1963. FBI supervisor Richard Cotter said Anderson was "fairly new...I wouldn't consider him an expert on Cuba, but he did have this case." [111]

Hoover's reaction to Oswald's death was to focus on him as the lone assassin

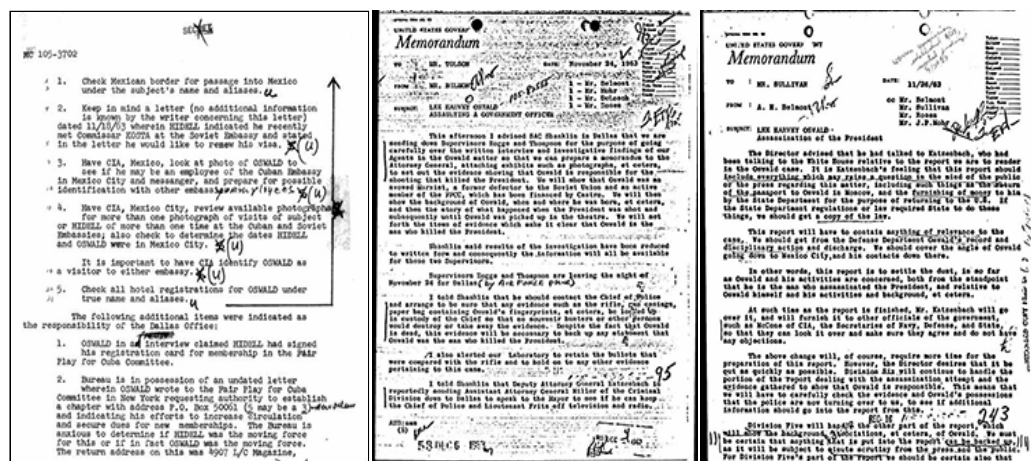
Right after Oswald was murdered on November 24, Hoover told White House aide Walter Jenkins in a phone call “the thing I am concerned about, and so is Mr. Katzenbach, is having something issued so we can convince the public that Oswald is the real assassin.”[112]

At 4 pm that afternoon, Al Belmont called Shanklin to say that he was sending two of his investigators, Richard Rogge and Fletcher Thompson, down to Dallas to essentially wrap the case up. This memo is written with absolute authority, by a man who had been the head of counterintelligence for the FBI over the years and was clearly more in command than Hoover himself. This is hours after the shocking murder of Oswald that made most people in America sit up and wonder how many people were involved in the JFK assassination. Belmont calmly remarked, “We will set forth the items of evidence which make it clear that Oswald is the man who killed the President.”[113]

On the next day, November 25, assistant attorney general Nicholas Katzenbach wrote a devastating memo to LBJ aide Bill Moyers stating that “the public must be satisfied that Oswald was the assassin, that he did not have confederates who are still at large; and that evidence was such that he would have been convicted at trial.”[114] Curiously, Katzenbach said shortly before he died that “I’d almost bet on the (anti-Castro) Cubans” as being in on the assassination – probably because he was no longer worried about triggering a war with the Soviets.[115]

Also on November 25, Lyndon Johnson let columnist Joe Alsop know that he thought that Texas officials should resolve the case with the aid of the FBI, which would avoid any suggestions of “carpet-baggers”. Alsop pushed for non-Texan jurists to aid a national scope to the effort, but LBJ was wary of Bobby Kennedy’s Justice Department people “lobbying them against the President”.[116] LBJ, like most politicians, wanted an investigation that he could control.

On November 26, Belmont emphasized that it was important for the FBI to get out its report on the assassination as fast as possible. The emphasis was to ensure the public that they got the right man, and to get out their insight on Oswald’s background. Again, there was no concern about the shocking manner of Oswald’s death. “This report is to settle the dust...” I believe Belmont wanted everyone to go back to sleep, now that JFK was buried. Belmont emerges during this time as a key decision-maker, maybe even more than Hoover himself.



Nov 23: Alan Belmont, the FBI's #3 man, had a big to-do list on the Oswald case

Nov 24: As the country reeled in shock after Oswald's shooting, Belmont calmly wrote "we will set forth the items of evidence which make it clear that Oswald is the man who killed the President."

Nov 26: Belmont explained that an FBI report would be promptly completed in the next week "to settle the dust..."

David Phillips and other provocateurs convinced Johnson that a blue-ribbon commission was necessary to avoid the threat of war

Other forces still wanted to whip the nation into the mood for war. Months later, when David Slawson met with Win Scott in Mexico City, Slawson made a point of citing the provocations of three men during the first two weeks after the assassination: Nicaraguan double agent **Gilberto Alvarado**, pre-Castro's Cuba military intelligence chief **Salvador Diaz Verson**, and credit agency inspector **Oscar Gutierrez Valencia**. [117] Because of space limitations, I will only briefly discuss the Alvarado provocations, and will write a separate article about them in the future that is in greater depth. (Also see **Rex Bradford's articles** on the subject at the Mary Ferrell Foundation website). I believe that these provocations were done in coordination with intelligence operatives aimed at sabotaging the investigation, and that much of it is the work of covert action chief David Phillips. HSCA counsel Dan Hardaway was convinced that Phillips was in charge of the disinformation passed on during the cover-up phase.[118] I believe that Phillips had to improvise the provocations on the spot, which is why, for example, the Alvarado story did not succeed in putting the US on a war footing against Castro. It played a big role, however, in forcing LBJ to form the Warren Commission.

On November 26, CIA officer John Whitten sent a cable saying that he and Mexico City CIA station director Win Scott had uncovered evidence that **Castro had paid Oswald to assassinate Kennedy**. This was the information that came from the Nicaraguan agent Gilbert Alvarado, who also appears to have been working for US intelligence as he pointed the finger at the Cuban government as the cause of the assassination. Scott had told the Mexican president the previous day that **he suspected Cuban involvement**.

On November 27, a conversation between CI/SIG chief Birch O'Neal and FBI liaison Sam Papich reveals that further analysis of Department 13 led them to believe that Kostikov is probably not a modern-day Antichrist. O'Neal said that he will call "Pete." [119] This phone call was transcribed, and O'Neal wrote his own memo summarizing the call. [120] Pete Bagley, chief of counterintelligence for the Soviet Russia station, modified his claim of four days earlier. Bagley now admitted that although Kostikov was KGB, the claim that he was with Department 13 was based solely on Kostikov's involvement with TUMBLEWEED. [121]

Over the days from the 25th to the 29th, the phony Alvarado and Kostikov evidence forced President Lyndon Johnson to change his mind about Texans leading the assassination investigation. Johnson knew that Alvarado's information was explosive and could send the US into a war with Cuba, which could drag in the USSR. The Kostikov evidence, shaky as it was, could also mean war with the Soviet Union. Reversing course, Johnson announced the formation of a blue-ribbon panel now known as the "Warren Commission" on November 29. With no advance notice to Johnson's friend Senator Dick Russell, LBJ announced that Russell would be one of the commissioners. Always the dealmaker, LBJ reassured Russell that "all you'll do is evaluate the Hoover report he has already made." [122]

For weeks after the assassination, the agencies were buried with phony evidence tying Oswald to a Soviet assassination team and Red Cuban plots. Lyndon Johnson and Robert Kennedy probably knew little about the tapes, but acquiesced to the cover-up rather than run the risk of a war on Cuba which might include the USSR. This story explains why LBJ was so insistent that Chief Justice Earl Warren chair the investigating commission and prevent the possibility of "40 million dead Americans", and why the Warren Commission was denied access to the investigators, witnesses and documents needed to solve the case. To win over Warren, LBJ said that "I just pulled out what Hoover told me about a little incident in Mexico City."



LBJ told his mentor Richard Russell that a reluctant Earl Warren was finally convinced to head the Commission when "I just pulled out what Hoover told me about a little incident in Mexico City..."

Immediately after this panel of chieftains was chosen, the Alvarado story was revealed to be a hoax. As seen above, it would take longer for the Kostikov story to be completely discredited. However, now the story of the assassination would be carefully massaged by men who knew how to work with evidence.

After Hoover released CD 1, Whitten was stunned when he reviewed it

After the FBI had the opportunity to review the Dallas crime evidence for 72 hours, they sent it back to Dallas. **After the Dallas police created a belated inventory on 11/26/63**, the evidence was provided to the FBI for a second time. This time, the evidence went to **Wally Heitman**, the Spanish-speaking Dallas FBI agent. Other writers have said that this sifting exercise was done to enable the FBI to review troublesome evidence such as **Oswald's wallets**, as well as suppress problematic evidence such as Oswald's Minox camera which was better known as a spy camera. In my mind, that's right. Any other conclusion would require someone coming up with a full inventory for November 22. On November 26, Belmont gave the go-ahead to Dallas chief Shanklin to send this material to Washington, DC, **acting as though they were seeing all of it for the first time**.

In the days ahead, Hoover was furious at Curry, refusing to work with the Dallas police for years afterwards. I think it was either because of Curry's admission that the evidence was originally sent to Washington on the night of the assassination, or Curry's continual refusal to agree that the assassination was caused by Oswald acting alone.

In any case, Hoover followed Belmont's advice – he bore down and produced a mammoth report on December 1 that claimed to address all the major issues of the assassination. As the report was based on the assumption that Oswald was the assassin and acted alone, the conclusion was predictable. This document is now known as Commission Document 1, or CD 1, and became the foundation for the Warren Report. Hoover promptly **leaked it to the press** to ensure everyone heard the FBI's conclusion that Oswald acted alone and unaided.

When Whitten got a look at CD 1 on or about December 6, he discovered "details of Oswald's political activity in the United States; **the pro-Cuban activity**; ...and so on."

Whitten said that the **possible involvement of the Miami station** did not emerge until he read CD 1 and learned more about Oswald's pro-Castro activities in the US. The "**basic source materials**" can be seen in the carefully drafted packages put together during Whitten's short tenure by supervisors Manning Clements, Warren de Brueys, and Robert Gemberling. These were men that knew how to put together reports that

eliminated most of the evidence that the Bureau didn't want to hear about. Whitten emphasized that "I did not know anything about the CIA's assassination plans against Castro. If I had, my investigation would have been entirely different. **We would have had the Miami station kick off the full investigation.**" Whitten also felt that the Cubela story was an "absolutely vital factor in analyzing the facts around the Kennedy assassination." Unfortunately, most people did not know about the CIA's plans to assassinate Castro until about 1975, despite the best efforts of journalists like Jack Anderson and a handful of others.

At the same time, Whitten was apparently willing to go along with a plan to keep any information about the Mexico City tapes out of the general discussion, as shown below. After getting a look at CD 1 on December 6, Whitten wrote a memo to CIA Director McCone and other higher-ups stating, "There was absolutely no mention of the CIA in the report."^[123] Wittingly or unwittingly, Whitten's action let anyone who knew the truth know that the Oswald imposter story – which is probably what the Mexico City station was referring to years later as "**the Identity Case**" – was not currently in consideration by the FBI and that it was probably safe to omit it from the investigation.^[124]

Meanwhile, Whitten couldn't understand why the FPCC revelations in the report had been held back from him for two weeks, especially since Oswald's FPCC ties were all over the newspapers. Whitten mentioned that "Oswald's correspondence with American communists and with the Fair Play for Cuba committee is recorded in **original letters.**" The only thing that seemed to surprise him was Marina's story that Oswald shot at General Edwin Walker. Marina was in a tough spot. It was reported that she said she would cooperate with the FBI if they could give her "**some concrete assurances**" that she could stay in the U.S.

On that same day, someone at the CIA completed his own preliminary biographical study of Oswald.^[125] The study has nothing about the incident with General Walker, but several references to Oswald's FPCC activities in 1963.^[126] Whitten's report was not yet completed.

Helms reassures Whitten that he can hold on to the investigation

Whitten wrote a memo to Helms on 12/11/63 stating what his plans were for the investigation. Helms initialed his responses to each paragraph, including agreement to give Whitten leave from his present job as WH/3, which Whitten described to Helms as "a branch with 45 people in headquarters and well over 100 in seven Central American countries".^[127]

Whitten never made any waves about the tapes or the difficulty the witnesses had in identifying Oswald in Mexico City, but he did flag the concern that CD 1 might reveal the phone tap operations in Mexico "because the Soviets would see that the FBI had advance information on the reason for Oswald's visit to the Soviet Embassy".^[128]

What Whitten meant in this passage illustrates the importance of being able to interview key witnesses while they are still alive. What did the FBI know about why Oswald was going to visit the Soviet Embassy? It sure looks like FBI supervisors knew that Oswald was wittingly or unwittingly part of an intelligence operation – such as the Tilton-Anderson anti-FPCC operation. It's clear why Whitten cared if the Soviets would see that the FBI knew in advance that Oswald wanted a visa – because it might reveal the Mexico City wiretap operations.

As Whitten was mulling over the next stage for the investigation, the new Warren Commission members and counsel were not impressed by the FBI's work in the preparation of CD 1. CD 1 simply placed all the blame on Oswald, and displayed little investigative zeal other than placing a lot of raw reports between two covers. Sullivan told the Church Committee that Hoover then leaked the contents of CD 1 to the press in order to "**deliberately pre-empt the Warren Commission's findings**". On December 16, Chief Justice Earl Warren and chief counsel J. Lee Rankin discussed the problem and decided that they would need "some investigative staff" of their own when they reach a "tender spot" because they had no reports from the CIA or the State Department and "the (FBI) report has so many holes in it...it just doesn't seem like they're looking for things that this Commission has to look for."^[129]

Whitten proceeded to expand an earlier 11/24 memo, entitled "We Discover Lee Oswald in Mexico City".^[130] Right about the same time, Whitten's supervisor J.C. King wrote him a memo about the investigation to date, saying that matters have focused on Mexico City because of the Station's superb job. He adds that "your analyses were major factors in the quick clarification of the case, blanking out the really ominous spectre of foreign backing."^[131] On about December 17, Whitten circulated this "Lee Oswald" memo and **asks for corrections** from Birch O'Neal and other CIA counterintelligence officers. Whitten's memo ignored the role of the twin 10/10/63 cables, but it did suggest that the tapes survived the assassination.

Angleton makes his move right before Christmas

Whitten claimed that he had no idea about Oswald's FPCC escapades and the rest until just hours before a major meeting with Helms about Whitten's report in December. Whitten wrote that this initial draft would change when he obtained new information from the FBI, and sent it to McCone, Helms, Angleton, O'Neal and Murphy.^[132] A note on a still-partially redacted routing slip indicates that SR/CI was to play a role in editing this initial draft of his report on Lee Oswald.^[133]

By December 20, Whitten had expanded his first draft into a second draft. The new draft says "our Mexico City station was given full background information on Oswald in a cable".^[134] It seems to me that Whitten had bought the faulty description of Oswald, even though it had his name as "Lee Henry Oswald" and no photograph. I don't think Whitten was hiding any guilty knowledge.

At the 12/24 meeting, Whitten said that “Angleton started to criticize my report terribly - without pointing out any inaccuracies, it was so full of wrong things, we could not possibly send it to the Bureau, and I just sat there and did not say a word. This was a typical Angleton performance. I had invited him to comment on the report and he had withheld all of his comments until he got to the meeting whereupon Helms turned the operation, the investigation, over to Angleton’s staff.”[135] Helms turned the case over at Angleton’s request, based on its **counterintelligence ramifications**. Whitten said that he went along and “suggested that it be turned over because of the Soviet angle that had now been discovered, (because of) the disclosure about his biographic information about his stay in Soviet Russia, which was obviously very important.”[136] Whitten felt that “Helms wanted someone to conduct the investigation who **was in bed with the FBI**, and I was not and Angleton was.”

After the meeting, Whitten circulated a memo asking for feedback because of its “inaccuracies and policy errors”. Whitten describes what he has done as a “working paper for those who prepare the final report”.[137] A note on the memo states: “On January 8 or 9, I discussed Whitten’s draft with him, told him Mr. Rocca was to write the report I was and he would be called upon for verification of statements in it no doubt and I did not have time to edit or comment on the treatment of various aspects. He said he would be in contact with Mr. Rocca, and I later learned he was.” [138]

Ray Rocca, Angleton’s Chief of Research and Analysis (CIRA) became **the liaison between the CIA and the Warren Commission**. Rocca’s version places the date of the shift from Whitten to himself on 1/12/64.[139] Rocca, however, gave a pass to the CIA’s Miami station during the Warren Commission’s investigation. As Angleton testified, Rocca was “the point of contact except on matters pertaining to WAVE...If WAVE has thousands of operations going on, I’m not going to use my liaison people doing their business when they could have direct contact (sic) with the Bureau.”[140]

In attempting to justify Angleton’s takeover of the investigation, Angleton’s successor George Kalaris inadvertently made a startling admission. Kalaris mused that CI Staff was the most logical candidate to lead the investigation, as they were the CI liaison with the FBI and the Secret Service, as well as a source of information related to the protection apparatus for senior US officials.[141] The implications of this revelation will be discussed further in the final chapter.

Years later, Whitten said that “I didn’t know about the assassination plans of the CIA against Castro. This was not disclosed to me. Had I known that, my investigation would have been entirely different.” **Whitten said that he would have started the investigation in Miami**. When asked about why Bill Harvey asked his wife to burn all of his papers, Whitten’s response was that “**He was too young to have killed McKinley and Lincoln**. It could have been anything...I think Harvey was a man who did great damage to the Agency. I told the Senate Committee – I went out of my way to tell them in my emphasis that assassinations and things like that are something really abhorrent to all the rank and file of Agency officers. It is unthinkable.”



Whitten on Bill Harvey: "He was too young to have killed McKinley and Lincoln."

The deepest reason Jack Whitten was taken off the Oswald case

I believe that the deepest reason Whitten was taken off the case can be found in a Whitten memo, DIR 89366 - this is a priority memo to Mexico City dated 12/16/63, seeking an immediate response. Whitten asked “For our analysis of this case, can MEXI shed light on who Aparicio is, whether he has that number (author’s note: The phone number 14-12-99, **quoted by Duran in a passing reference to Aparicio** at the beginning of the 9/28 call), and what this might have to do with our case...**please have monitors make every effort to identify voices of various Soviets to whom Oswald spoke on the telephone** or who dealt with his case with Sylvia Duran”. Whitten took pains to write that his request was being made pursuant to “direction of Helms”. Whitten labeled it as a priority memo. We saw in Chapter 3 Aparicio’s fascinating history as **the case officer** for double agent AMKNOB-1.

I believe that Raul Aparicio was not only the Cuban embassy’s cultural attache and main press contact, but he was also a double agent working on behalf of the United States. The reference to Aparicio in the September 28 call was not only a signal to the Mexico City station that LIENVOY was compromised. It was also a signal that the operation with Aparicio was compromised.

It looks like Aparicio may have had some kind of relationship with Spanish-speaking CIA agent **Daniel Flores**. His stepmother was **born in Mexico**. Flores was approved to work on a special project by a CIA **sigint (signals intelligence) officer**. A sigint matter would indicate that Flores was working with Staff D. When HSCA counsel Ed Lopez went to Mexico City in 1978, he conducted an interview with “**Daniel Flores aka Luis Aparicio**”. Many baseball fans will remember the famous Chicago White Sox shortstop Luis Aparicio during the 1960s. Lopez asked Duran during her interview if she saw “**Luis Aparicio**” at a twist party in Mexico City. Was “Luis Aparicio” a momentary lapse by Lopez, did “Luis” have a relationship with Raul Aparicio, or did the CIA have a real live CIA officer inside the Cuban embassy? I have the feeling that this won’t take too much longer to figure out.

Whitten's December 16 request may have been the deepest reason that Whitten was taken off the JFK case as lead investigator. It may explain why Angleton invented a fight at Whitten on December 24, and Helms asked for Whitten to step down the same day.

The problems raised by Whitten's December 16 memo are legion. Most importantly, by asking the monitors to compare voices of people that spoke with Oswald or Duran during his visit, Whitten is assuming at this late date that the tapes were still in existence, just as he did many years later when questioned by the HSCA.

Another problem was his query about Raul Aparicio. If Whitten's questions had been fully answered, it would have focused attention on the 9/28 memo, that Aparicio's line 14-12-99 was tapped, and that Aparicio was at the Cuban Consulate during the Oswald visit. Scott did not want any additional scrutiny about this 9/28 call.

Scott also wanted to avoid Whitten's other questions - **Can MEXI shed light on who Aparicio is?** Is 14-12-99 his phone number? Is it relevant to our case? Scott knew who Aparicio was, and that David Phillips knew the details. This memo, **received on the 16th**, went from Scott to White to Goodpasture to Phillips to back to Scott. Scott scribbled a note on the memo, saying, **"That's Raul Aparicio**, Cuban embassy official, get Dave to give details...he was on lienvoy 9 dec...close to ambassador..."

After four days without a response to his priority memo, Whitten must have sensed that Scott was disturbed. Whitten thought he knew what the problem was. Whitten wrote a follow-up memo to Scott, providing him with the assurance that "our present plan in passing info to Warren Commission is to **eliminate mention to telephone taps** in order protect your continuing ops."

Unwittingly, Whitten then put his foot in it. "Exact detailed info from REDACTED (two names) on just what Silvia Duran and other officials said about Oswald's visits and his dealings would be valuable and usable corroborative evidence. Request you **requestion them carefully on these points**, attempting get as much authentic data as possible, without mixing in what they knew from newspapers. Pls cable summaries and pouch detailed statements."

It's obvious Whitten wanted Scott to quiz the CIA's informants at the embassy and "requestion them carefully". A review of the file shows that is precisely what needed to happen. But it never did. By the 24th, Angleton and Helms took the case away from Whitten, and never followed up on this memo.

Only on December 27, after Whitten had been deposed as the chief of the JFK investigation, did Scott come up with any kind of response. It was another lie. "141299 is home number of Raul Aparicio Nogales, cultural attache of embassy. **Doubt any connection with GPFLOOR (the Oswald investigation) as Aparicio was on sick leave during significant period...**no further info because tapes have been erased." [142] Goodpasture suppressed any mention of this detailed request in her chronology.

Scott had told a whopping lie to Whitten. Whether or not Aparicio was on sick leave (which I doubt due to lack of evidence, although we have indications he was a diabetic), the CIA's own log shows that Aparicio was at the Cuban Embassy at **9:25 am on Sept 30**. That date was certainly within the significant period of the Oswald visit. September 30 is included within the "significant period" surrounding the Sept 28 call where Aparicio's name is mentioned!

Once Angleton had control of the investigation, he decided to **"wait out the commission"**, while he chased every Soviet angle in sight. Angleton had Rocca write the aforementioned key memo linking the September 28 phone call with the "assassin" Kostikov. Meanwhile, Helms prevented the Warren Commission from seeing the actual October 10 documents and others – only provides paraphrased documents. See **David Wise's article from back in 1968**, that shows how frustrating this situation was.

When staffer David Slawson got persistent about wanting to go deeper into the Mexico City matter, Scott and White actually played the tapes for Slawson and his colleague William Coleman on April 9, while swearing them to secrecy.[143] Now there was no more risk of the story of the tapes being blown. The Warren Report was hurried out the door by late September, ostensibly to avoid influencing the 1964 presidential election. The findings relied heavily on the FBI's initial product pushed out the door in early December – Oswald was the assassin and acted alone.

In the final chapter, we will review who might have been in on the assassination itself, and I will offer some thoughts on how to approach resolution and justice in the JFK case. At this point in the story, did the government have any concern that the impersonation might have been done by the Soviets or the Cubans? Apparently not on the part of the CIA. A CIA memo states that "following a thorough review and study of all available material, the Agency was **unable to prove** that Oswald had been acting under direction of the KGB". The same finding was made regarding Cuba. We will take a look at the domestic front.

Read the Conclusion: Only Justice Will Stop a Curse

NOTES

¹ *Oswald generally ate his lunch in the first floor lunchroom called the domino room where the African American employees would gather; instead of in the all-white, main lunchroom on the second floor that had all of the soft drink machines. It has been suggested that Oswald may have left the first floor lunchroom "to*

go up to the second floor to get a coke.”: Credit for this item and the following description of the interior of the Depository goes to Lamar Waldron, who posed this possibility in *Legacy of Secrecy* (2008), pp. 120-121. Ian Griggs has convinced me that Oswald did not actually buy the coke until after his chance meeting with Baker and Truly. See [Dealey Plaza Echo](#), November 2001.

Oswald standing in the predominantly black voter registration line: James Kirkwood, *American Grotesque*, p. 215.

2 “Slender white male about 30, five feet ten, 165”: Warren Commission Hearings, [Testimony of Herbert Sawyer](#), Volume 6, p. 321.

3 J. Edgar Hoover exhausted all leads before concluding that the description came from an “unidentified citizen”...: [Memo from Richard Rogge](#) on behalf of J. Edgar Hoover to J. Lee Rankin, Warren Commission, 11/12/64, FBI 105-82555 Oswald HQ File, Section 224, p. 72.

The HSCA took a similar approach and did not rely on this witness in any way. Anthony Summers, *Conspiracy* (New York: Paragon, 1989) p. 79.

Howard Brennan may have seen a rifleman in the window, but the evidence that he did not provide the original “five feet ten, 165” identification is formidable. The specificity of the “5 feet ten, 165” tip cannot be squared with the impossibility of providing a height-and-weight ID of a sixth floor sniper located at a window and seen from near-waist height. Fred Cook, “[The Truth is Too Terrible](#)”, Third Decade, Volume 1, Issue 6, p. 3.

The efforts to tie Brennan’s report to the tip happened at a lower level than Hoover, and were unsuccessful. Inspector Herbert Sawyer was the man who testified to interviewing “the unknown white man”, and then radioed in his interview of the unknown white man at 12:43 and several others during that time period. Sawyer could not identify Brennan, and said nothing about Sorrels of the Secret Service being there. Sawyer knew Sorrels, and saw him that afternoon in a [different setting](#). Sawyer said that he sent the unknown white man to the Sheriff’s office with a police escort. Warren Commission Hearings, [Testimony of Herbert Sawyer](#), 4/8/63, Volume 6, pp. 322-323.

Sawyer also verified to the Warren Commission an entry in the radio log stating that only a minute or two after calling in the 12:43 description, he told the dispatcher “it’s unknown whether he is still in the building or [not known if he was there in the first place](#).” Thus, if anyone had told Sawyer that they saw the main shooting from the window, Sawyer would certainly not have said that it was “not known if he was there in the first place”. Also see [this useful chronological model](#) that describes the scene.

Brennan never identified Sawyer in any way. Brennan testified that a policeman “had him taken to” Secret Service agent Forrest Sorrels, where he provided his information, and that Sorrels then had him taken across the street to the sheriff’s office. Warren Commission Hearings, [Testimony of Howard Brennan](#), Volume 3, p. 145.

Immediately after the shooting at 12:30, Sorrels drove to Parkland Hospital and saw the President and Connally removed from the car and brought into the hospital on stretchers. Sorrels then went back to the book depository. It took Sorrels about [20-25 minutes](#) to get back to the book depository. Then Sorrels went to the back of the Book Depository building and [questioned a man](#). Then Sorrels went inside the book depository without showing any identification. [He found the building manager Roy Truly, and spoke with him](#). Sorrels then left the building, and then someone “pointed” him to speak to Brennan. It is highly unlikely Sorrels could have done all this by 12:43 pm.

Warren Commission Hearings, [Testimony of Forrest Sorrels](#), 5/8/64, Volume 7, pp. 347-348.

All Brennan told Sorrels was that the man wore a light jacket and had a slender build. Brennan said nothing about the man’s height or weight. Sorrels said nothing about Sawyer or any Dallas policeman being present during this questioning. There is no testimony that Sorrels radioed in his interview with Brennan or anyone else during this time period. Warren Commission Hearings, [Testimony of Forrest Sorrels](#), 5/8/64, Volume 7, p. 349.

When Brennan subsequently gave his statement at the sheriff’s office, he provided no height estimate while providing a weight estimate of 165-175. [Statement of Howard Brennan](#) to Dallas Sheriff’s Department, Volume 19, p. 470, Decker Exhibit 5323.

Oswald weighed about [131 pounds](#) at the time of his arrest. Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 17, p. 285, Exhibit 630.

Brennan could not identify Oswald at a line-up later that day. Warren Commission Hearings, [Testimony of Forrest Sorrels](#), Volume 7, 5/8/64, pp. 354-355.

Two FBI agents, Gaston C. Thompson and Robert C. Lish, took Brennan’s statement on 11/22, and tout him as the one who gave the description. They claim that Brennan told them the shooter was “[5 foot 10, 165 pounds](#)”.

At the Thompson/Lish interview, Brennan said he had been to the lineup, and that he had picked Oswald out of the lineup as “closely resembled”, but said he could not “[positively identify](#)” Oswald as the shooter.

FBI Special Agent in Charge Gordon Shanklin touted Brennan as a witness, saying that in the 11/30/63 report by Robert Gemberling, a “review of interviews” reveals that Brennan provided a description of “5 foot ten, 165”.

Brennan told a newspaper weeks later that he could have identified Oswald, but didn’t because he was scared that he or his family would not be safe. He also believed that the assassination was “a communist activity”.

More than a year later, FBI agent Richard Burnett claimed that “Sawyer recalls that the unknown white man asked to speak to a Secret Service agent...Secret Service agent Forest Sorrels listened as the man provided his identification of the rifleman at the window to Sawyer.” This statement remains uncorroborated, and flies in the face of everyone else’s testimony. [Robert P. Gemberling investigation](#), 1/15/65, FBI 105-82555, Oswald HQ File, Section 224, re insert by SA Richard Burnett, p. 39.

4 Sawyer was asked if he personally received the “5’10”/165” tip, and he said that he did. When Sawyer was asked to describe the tipster, he said, “I don’t remember what he was wearing. I remember that he was a white man and that he wasn’t young and he wasn’t old. He was there. That is the only two things that I can remember about him.”: [Testimony of Herbert Sawyer](#), supra. Also see: [Memo from SA Vincent E. Drain](#) to FBI HQ, 1/9/64, [FBI Oswald Headquarters File \(105-82555\)/Section 64](#). Sawyer said he sent the man with an “escort” to the sheriff’s office to give further detail. Sawyer never saw the man again, and the escort was never identified.

5 Sawyer stated on the radio at 12:44 that the 5’10/165 pound man was “carrying what looked to be a 30-30, or some type of Winchester rifle”: [AG Texas Radio Log Channel 2](#), Warren Commission Document 291, p. 7.

Sawyer also verified to the Warren Commission an entry in the radio log stating that only a minute or two after calling in the 12:44 description, he told the dispatcher “it’s unknown whether he is still in the building or not known if he was there in the first place.” Thus, if anyone had told Sawyer that they saw the main shooting from the window, Sawyer would not say it was “not known if he was there in the first place”. Id., p. 332. [Radio Log](#), supra, p. 8. See [this useful chronology](#) set up as a graphic model.

6 At 2:07 pm (1:07 pm CST), Shanklin told Hoover that “he had just received word the President was shot with a Winchester rifle”: [Memo from J. Edgar Hoover to Messrs. Tolson, et al.](#), 11/22/63, <http://digitalcollections.baylor.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/po-arm/id/1120/rec/8> (third page of this link)

7 Fifteen minutes after the assassination, Oswald was swept into this case by someone with access to the FBI’s information that Oswald at one time was described as “five feet ten, 165”: [Report of SA John Fain](#), 5/12/60, Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 17, p. 706, Warren Commission Exhibit 821.

8 J. Edgar Hoover exhausted all leads before concluding that the description came from an “unidentified citizen”: [J. Edgar Hoover \(memo written by Richard D. Rogge\)](#) to Warren Commission counsel J. Lee Rankin, 11/12/64, FBI 105-82555 Oswald HQ File, Section 221, p. 72.

9 Years later, Jackson made the improbable claim that he “realized that, as you said, that we were draining the Oak Cliff area of available police officers, so if there was an emergency, such as an armed robbery or a major accident, to come up, we wouldn’t have anybody there...”: Interview by CBS newsman Eddie Barker with Murray Jackson, 1967, recounted at Joseph McBride’s *Into the Nightmare* (2013), page 423.

10 “... An officer told her that Tippit and another officer had been assigned by the police to hunt down Oswald in Oak Cliff. The other officer was involved in an accident and never made it to the scene, but “J.D. made it”: Id., at pp. 421-427.

11 Tippit’s story is backed by none other than Johnny Roselli’s associate John Martino – both of these men admitted their involvement in JFK’s murder. Martino said that Oswald “was to meet his contact at the Texas Theater” in his Oak Cliff neighborhood: Anthony and Robbyn Summers, “The Ghosts of November”, *Vanity Fair*, December 1994.

12 Butch Burroughs, a Texas Theater concessions employee, states that he sold Oswald popcorn right around 1:10 pm...: Interviews by Larry Harris, in his article “The Other Murder”, *Dateline Dallas*, 11/22/63. Interviews with Burroughs are recounted in both books cited here - Jim Marrs, *Crossfire* (1990), p. 353; Jim Douglass, *JFK and the Unspeakable* (2008) p. 293.

Jack Davis remembers seeing Oswald at 1:15, as he squeezed by him during the opening credits to the movie. On the Jack Davis encounter, journalist Jim Marrs interviewed Davis during the fall of 1988. See Marrs, *Crossfire*, p. 353. For Myers’ observations re Warren Burroughs and Jack Davis, see his book *With Malice* (1998), p. 617.

13 According to author Lamar Waldron, Oswald was armed with half a box top saying “Cox’s, Fort Worth”. If Waldron is correct, Oswald was apparently trying to meet someone who had the other box top half: Lamar Waldron and Thom Hartmann, *Ultimate Sacrifice*, p. 734.

14 Tippit made an unsuccessful attempt to call the dispatcher at 1:08...: [Testimony of Domingo Benavides](#), Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 6, p. 446-448. For the testimony on “reaching for his gun”, see CBS

News Inquiry, "The Warren Report, Part 3" (1967). On the fifteen-minute walk and the shooting time as "1:09", see McBride, *Into the Nightmare*, pp. 244-251.

15 ...Given that the HSCA relied solely on the shells to make its case that Oswald shot Tippit, Leavelle's admissions that the shells were not marked at the scene help nullify that homicide case against Oswald: Id., pp. 256-257. Dale Myers, an expert on the Tippit killing who believes Oswald was the shooter, was told the same thing by Leavelle. Myers, *With Malice* (1998) pp. 263-265.

16 The two sets of identification for Oswald and Hidell being found in one wallet was particularly damaging to Oswald, as it would be learned by 11/23/63 that the rifle that was left at the scene was purchased by mail order with a unused, never-deposited postal money order used by "A. Hidell": See Warren Commission Exhibit 788, Volume 17, page 677.

This unused, never-deposited money order was very strange, because there was only a stamp stating "pay to the order of the First National Bank of Chicago". An official at that bank, Robert K. Wilmouth, explained that all postal money orders delivered to their bank would receive an endorsement and date stamp by the First National Bank of Chicago, the Federal Reserve Bank, and the Federal Postal Money Order Center. Not surprisingly, that banker was never called by the Warren Commission.

Postal inspector Harry Holmes not only had access to postal money orders, but he was the only man in the postal system who knew the number of the money order on 11/23/63, and the only person who claimed to have located the money order "stub" which showed the number of the money order...which then disappeared. Why did he provide the number at 3:30 pm that day, and then wait four hours before telling postal inspectors that "this never-deposited, never-cashed money order could be found at the Federal Records Center in Washington, D.C.?" For a good analysis on the problem with the money order, and more, see John Armstrong, *Harvey and Lee* (2003), pp. 449-480.

17 When Sergeant Kenneth H. Croy arrived as one of the first officers on the scene, an unknown citizen handed him a wallet. Croy handed the wallet to Sergeant Calvin Owens: Jones Harris interview with Kenneth Croy, 11/02/02. Dale Myers, the author of *With Malice*, doesn't agree that the two wallets are identical, and makes his argument at the last section of this post. From the photos offered by Myers at pp. 298-299 of his book, I can't see the distinctions that he claims are present. Even if Myers is right that the two wallets are not identical, he does not address the central issue: Who originally found the wallet? Myers does nothing to disprove Croy's contention that an unknown citizen handed it to him.

18 Dallas FBI agent Jim Hosty even revealed the cover-up in his book – however, his contention was that it was a benign cover-up by "President Johnson, the Warren Commission, the FBI, the CIA"...: James Hosty, *Assignment: Oswald* (1996) pp. 247-249.

19 It looks like Director McCone may have come to the two-shooter conclusion as early as that Sunday morning: In section 8 of its final report, the ARRB noted that it had found a listed meeting between Johnson, Bundy and McCone on the subject of a "Message concerning President Kennedy's Assassination" for 11/24/63, but relevant McCone documents were either missing or destroyed. Also see Larry Hancock, *Someone Would Have Talked* (2010 edition), p. 222.

20 Shortly after the presidential limousine pulled into Parkland Hospital, a bucket of water was used to wash blood and other debris off the vehicle. This went against every single aspect of professional training, which focuses on protecting the integrity of the crime scene: Pamela McElwain-Brown, "An Examination of the Secret Service Limousine in the White House Garage", *Kennedy Assassination Chronicles*, Winter 1999.

21 When Jones asked O'Neal what was in the file, O'Neal responded that "there is nothing in CIA file regarding Oswald other than material furnished to CIA by the FBI and the Department of State": Commission Document 49 - FBI Graham Report of 02 Dec 1963 re: Oswald/Russia, p. 22. Courtland Jones was an FBI counterintelligence man in the DC office.

22 O'Neal's line became that "I recognized that it was our responsibility to give the fullest cooperation to the FBI and to protect the Agency with regard to any aspects of our operations...": HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (staff notes)/NARA Record Number: 180-10142-10056.

23 Curry testified that on "Friday night we agreed to let the FBI have all the evidence and they said they would bring it to their laboratory and they would have an agent stand by and when they were finished with it to return it to us": Testimony of Chief Jesse Curry, Warren Commission Hearings Volume 4, page 195. On the hulls and the live round, I have educated myself with the aid of the excellent account provided by Barry Krutch in *Impossible, The Case Against Lee Harvey Oswald*, Volume 1, pp. 221-233, and Noel Twyman, *Bloody Treason*, with particular emphasis on the photo of the two shells and one live round at p. 233 of Krutch's book and p. 111 of Twyman's. NARA No. 124-10063-10042.

24 I can't find an inventory for the "four or five hundred" other evidence items that the FBI evidence technicians received during the initial twenty-four hours – breaking the legal chain of custody for all these items: Two evidence technicians report receiving hundreds of evidence items during the first twenty-four hours. One is James Cadigan, at the Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 7, p. 435.

The other is Robert Frazier, in a 1/6/04 interview with John Hunt, recounted in Hunt's article "Frazier Speaks" (2005)

25 *Someone drew lines through the original transcript of Cadigan's deposition and wrote "delete":* The original 4/30/64 Cadigan transcript is in the National Archives. The **modified Cadigan deposition** is located at Warren Commission Hearings, Volume 7, p. 434.

Jim Marrs' article "What a Difference a Day (or Two) Makes", The Journal of History (Fall 2007) recounts the contents of **the original Cadigan transcript**.

26 *The public was informed by the media that Tuesday the 26th marked the beginning of the transfer of evidence to Washington:* James Ewell, **Dallas Morning News**, November 27, 1963, at 89-43A, Volume02c.tif, page 1 of 50.

27 *In Mexico City, during that fateful afternoon, chief Win Scott wrote a memo saying that he would "forward soonest copies of only visitor to Soviet Embassy 28 Oct who could be identical with Oswald":* Win Scott to Director, MEXI-7019, 11/22/63, **ARRB 1995 Releases/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10107**.

Another version of this memo has a marginal note stating that the "Oct. 28" date mentioned at the bottom should really be "Oct. 1." Goodpasture's cover story was that the Mystery Man had visited the Soviet consulate on October 1. This begs the question about why September 28th is referenced, even though it is in an indirect way. The note says to look at **MEXI-7023**, which references both Sept 28th and Oct 1st.

28 *A CIA analysis states that "the Agency and its field stations, particularly Mexico City and Miami, were not unmindful of the possibility that Oswald did not act alone":* CIA analysis, undated, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10422-10024**.

29 *In the moments after the assassination, Mexico City chief of station Win Scott asked Ann Goodpasture for the station's information on Oswald, as she understood the tape and phone set-up better than anyone:* "Background on Mexico Station Support Assets", from Anne Goodpasture to John Leader, IG Staff, 2/10/77, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 3/NARA Record Number: 104-10050-10005**.

30 *Goodpasture finally admitted in 1995 that she gave Scott a duplicate tape of the Oct 1 conversation, the last of the Oswald phone calls:* **Deposition of Anne Goodpasture**, 1995 deposition, p. 147. She denied this tape existed at her 1978 deposition.

Goodpasture states that she obtained the tape from tape technician Arnold Arehart, who had a special rack set aside for all the tapes from the Cuban consulate. This is the man who ran the LIENVOY intercept center for the Americans. His real name is Charles E. Flick, based on two sources. One source is author Gus Russo, *Brothers in Arms*, p. 274. Also, Arehart's real name can be found at item 73 of this black notebook used to identify officers using pseudonyms: **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 18/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.17.08:10:45:620630**.

The black notebook identifies pseudonyms in this subject card file: **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 18/NARA Record Number: 104-10079-10049**.

31 *Back on October 8, Goodpasture had provided the incorrect background information. As related in the previous chapter, she had claimed that the Mystery Man photos were taken on October 1, but it was actually taken on October 2:* Cable, MEXI to DIR, October 9, 1963, **HSCA CIA Segregated Collection, JFK/CIA RIF# 104-10052-10062**.

32 *Given the Mystery Man description of Oswald that Goodpasture provided to Whitten's office back in October, it was time to get the bad news out there:* Letter from Win Scott to J. C. King, 11/22/63, **ARRB 1995 Releases/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10310**.

33 *Mexico City admitted seeing Oswald on TV the night of 11/22 and "obvious photos sent to Dallas were not iden with Lee Oswald held Dallas":* Memo from Scott to Director, CIA, 11/23/63, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10400-10298**.

34 *Eldon Rudd left with Scott's package at 10:00 pm CST, with the naval attache flying the plane:* "Review of Agency Holdings Regarding Unidentified Individual I", p. 28: **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 60/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.22.15:28:48:280340**.

35 *Whitten sent DIR 84821 at 1 am that night saying to "send staffer with all photos Oswald to HQs on next available flight. Call Mr. Whitten at 652-6827 upon arrival.":* **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10422-10253**.

36 *No need send staffer with photos. We have asked Navy for photos again, but Mexi can see Oswald's picture sooner on the press wire:* "PWO" (Charlotte Bustos) then sent DIR 84822, the very next cable. **Oswald 201 File (201-289248)/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10317**.

37 *Heitman's memo mentions the photos, but no transcript:* **Memorandum of SA Wallace R. Heitman to SAC, Dallas, 11/22/63**.

Heitman, who passed away in 2013, appears to be a master of deception:

1. As seen shortly, everyone agrees that his office received at least a transcript and the Mystery Man photos from FBI agent Eldon Rudd the night of the assassination, but Heitman only identified the photos in his report. Why did he fail to identify the transcript?

2. Heitman interviewed Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro, who hosted meetings of Alpha-66 at Salazar's home at 3126 Harlandale, and Heitman managed to cause great confusion by misspelling the address as "Hollendale". This issue was addressed by researcher Paul Hoch, and the CIA wrote its own memorandum on the subject trying to sort it out.

3. It has been suggested that Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro (hereinafter "Rodriguez") impersonated Oswald. Heitman's description of Rodriguez at his 5/20/64 interview was "5 foot 11, 158 pounds, dark-complected".

However, when Rodriguez entered the US in November 1960 at age 32, INS described his height at 5 foot 9 (the same as Oswald) and his weight at 145 pounds (similar to Oswald's 130-150 pound weight range). FBI rap sheet for Manuel Orcarberro Rodriguez, 3/9/64, Commission Document 853.

In the report on a sighting of Rodriguez of 11/17/63, he is described as "light complexion". (To be fair, the witness also estimated that he was 6 feet tall and 170 pounds, but the emphasis of his observations was that the other two men were dark-complected while Rodriguez was light-complected).

4. Heitman and another agent dressed in doctor's gowns outside the surgery room hoping to get a dying declaration from Lee Harvey Oswald. Not illegal, but this deception was kept secret for many years for no good reason.

5. Heitman was the one who changed the Dallas police description of the Minox camera into a "light meter" (see item 375), which contradicted the specific finding of Guy Rose of the Dallas police that it was a camera and not a light meter. When it became a major issue, the Oswalds' host Michael Paine came forward and said the Minox was his camera. By definition, a #27259 camera is a Minox II, as that model goes up to #31500. John Armstrong, *Harvey and Lee*, p. 910. Nonetheless, Paine's camera was mistakenly logged in as a Minox III. Paine's camera was returned to him. A real Minox III is sitting in the Archives today, and that is Oswald's Minox. It is currently jammed and thus the serial number remains unknown. A professional should be brought to the Archives and to obtain the serial number and anything more that can be learned. Also see Carol Hewett's Minox articles, the best on the subject that I know of: "The Paines' Participation in the Minox Camera Charade", Part 1, <http://www.ctka.net/pr1196-minox.html>; both Part 1 and Part 2 are contained in *The Assassinations*, pp. 238-249.

6. Jim Hosty described Heitman as the "puppet" of Bill Branigan, "the section chief of all Russian espionage cases". Hosty, *Assignment: Oswald*, p. 103.

7. Heitman put together the deceptive FBI inventory list on 11/26/63, which ignored the fact that most of the items had already been shipped to the FBI and Washington and back again without a chain of custody sheet of any kind. We don't really know everything that went. The Dallas police then belatedly created an inventory sheet on 11/26/63, then provided this evidence to Heitman.

For the second shipping of the exhibits to FBI HQ on 11/26/63, Heitman listed photographs of the arrest wallet and its contents (item B-1) – but not the actual wallet and its contents -, the Marine photo (item 114) and a red billfold (item 382). Only "the Marine photo" - not the brown billfold - is on Heitman's original 11/26/63 FBI inventory sheet, even though the brown billfold was listed on the 11/26/63 Dallas inventory sheet. The brown billfold is listed on the FBI's later-created inventory sheet. These items were not listed as found in either of the searches done on 11/22/63 at Oswald's rooming house or at the two searches of his wife's residence at the Paine home on 11/22/63 (Stovall Exhibit A) or 11/23/63 (Stovall Exhibit B). None of these wallets can be found in the photographs taken at Dallas Police Headquarters. When and where were these wallets found? (Dallas homicide chief Fritz had custody of the arrest wallet as of 11/24)

The brown billfold was allegedly found at Ruth Paine's home on 11/23/63, according to the Dallas inventory, Rose, Moore, Stovall, Adamcik turned it in. Again, it's not in the Stovall Exhibit B affidavit for the 11/23/63 search.

The red billfold was allegedly "voluntarily given Dallas PD by Ruth Paine and Mrs. Oswald" on 11/22/63 at the Paine residence. Again, it's not in the Stovall Exhibit A for the 11/22/63 search.

Two months later, FBI agent Wally Heitman reported two months after the assassination that one wallet containing \$170 was supposedly found by Marina Oswald on 11/25/63 after an unknown Secret Service agent gave it back to her. Did this wallet ever make it into the inventory?

8. Many of the items on the list were also photographed in a manner that made it impossible to discern what they were. See Jim Marrs' article "What a Difference a Day (or Two) Makes", *The Journal of History* (Fall 2007).

38 Odum told Hosty that Heitman handed Rudd a transcript as well as photographic material: Jim Hosty, *Assignment Oswald*, p. 36.

39 The legat Clark Anderson wrote a memo affirming that Rudd was also given "transcripts": Memo from legat Clark Anderson to Director, p. 3, 4/6/64. NARA Record Number: 104-10413-10138.

40 The Dallas FBI chief Gordon Shanklin said that Mexico City legal attaché Clark Anderson gave Rudd a transcript to bring. People have wondered if Anderson also gave Rudd a tape, or if a tape was played for

the FBI agents in Dallas: Memorandum to File by Dallas SAC Gordon Shanklin, 11/23/63, [Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10168](#).

Here is [another version](#) of this FBI memo – when you put the two of them together, you can read the entire document.

41 *Include tapes previous reviewed Dallas if they were returned to you:* Church Committee Staff Memo of 3/5/76; NARA #157-10014-10168. Here are two copies of Turner's 11/25/63 memo to the Mexican legat: [ADMIN FOLDER-H11: HSCA ADMINISTRATIVE FOLDER, OUTGOING FIELD VOL I](#), p. 378 (01/27/64) RIF#: [124-10371-10186](#).

FBI Oswald Mexico City File (105-3702)/NARA Record Number: [124-10230-10434](#). NARA Record Number: [124-10369-10018](#).

42 *Dallas FBI chief Shanklin mused in his report that Hoover's right-hand man Alan Belmont had told him that "we have on file practically all the information on Oswald down there in Mexico City except the fact that CIA had secured some information that this individual very probably called from the Cuban Embassy to the Russian Embassy":* Memorandum to File, FBI Dallas SAC Gordon Shanklin, 11/23/63. [Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10168](#).

Here is [another version](#) of this FBI memo – when you put the two of them together, you can read the entire document.

From Shanklin to File, 11/22/63, it says:

"Assistant to the Director BELMONT advised that we have in our file practically all the information from Mexico City regarding OSWALD's visit or trip to Mexico except the fact that CIA had secured some information that this individual very probably called from the Cuban Embassy to the Russian Embassy. They later photographed him going in the Russian Embassy, and ANDERSON has arranged for a transcript of the call, as well as pictures, and SA ELDON RUDD is flying up with a Naval Attache on a DC-3 scheduled to arrive Dallas about 1:00 AM, and we should make arrangements to meet him and secure this information. He thought RUDD would probably be coming in at Love Field."

For another approach to this evidence, see this [1999 JFK Lancer presentation by John Newman](#).

43 *The following officers swore under penalty of perjury that the tapes did not exist by the time of the assassination:* David Phillips (twice), Ann Goodpasture, Robert Shaw, and Deputy Chief of Station Alan P. White. [Lopez Report](#), Endnotes, p. 42, endnote 614.

44 *Goodpasture said that it was her understanding that Rudd was given a tape to take to Texas and that Scott had a copy "squirreled away in his safe":* [Anne Goodpasture deposition](#), 12/15/95 deposition, p. 147.

45 *Warren Commission staffers David Slawson and William Coleman admitted in a 2003 interview that White was the one who actually played the Oswald tape for them in Mexico City during April 1964:* This admission was made in interviews conducted by the authors Gus Russo and Stephen Moulton, recounted in *Brothers in Arms* (New York, Bloomsbury, 2008), p. 312.

46 *"I don't know when the voice comparison was made...they made a copy at the tap center...there would have been two copies of the conversation; one the master tape, the other one with a segment of a single conversation on it...I'm sure they would have sent it to Washington. What happened from there, I don't know."*: [Goodpasture deposition](#), pp. 143-144, 12/15/95.

47 *Under penalty of perjury, the following officers testified that a tape of an alleged phone call of Oswald in Mexico City was no longer in existence by the time of the assassination:*

[David Phillips deposition](#), 11/27/76, p. 63: Phillips says in 1976 that he's not certain if the tape was destroyed at the time of the assassination, but then says that "My understanding is that it went with the other tapes back to the outside unit and was reused."

[David Phillips deposition](#), 4/25/78, p. 17. "Not to my knowledge." At p. 23. "My firm recollection that a tape did not exist after the assassination."

[Ann Goodpasture, deposition](#), 4/13/78, p. 94 (at National Archives)

[Robert Shaw, deposition](#), 5/16/78, p. 29. "As far as having the tape with Oswald's voice on it, I seriously doubt it."

[Alan White, deposition](#), 5/8/78, p. 20. (at National Archives)

On the other hand, see the [deposition of John Whitten](#). Whitten testified that he thought a tape was in existence. 5/16/78, pp. 76-77: "I think so...I had the impression that after the assassination they did a lot of transcribing... both the staff of our envoy and our Soviet transcriber. I may be wrong..."

Although not deposed to my knowledge, Bert Turner asked Mexico City to send to him "tapes previously reviewed Dallas if they were returned to you".

48 At 9:15 am, Shanklin told Belmont that Oswald was impersonated on the September 28 call: Memo from Gordon Shanklin to FBI supervisor Alan Belmont, 11/23/63, NARA No. 157-10006-10262. Referenced by John Armstrong, *Harvey and Lee*, p. 915. This is a **summary**; this is the complete document:

<http://digitalcollections.baylor.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/po-arm/id/786/rec/1>, pp. 38-39.

49 In the old days, Oswald's return to the US after his defection would have been the highest priority for the counterintelligence community. However, when Al Belmont left the bureau, its CI (internal security) operations fell apart: Paul Wallach, Memorandum for the Record, 10/28/75, p. 2, **Church Committee Boxed Files**/ NARA Record Number: **157-10014-10120**.

50 HSCA Final Report, p. 250.

51 Peter Dale Scott suggests that "this language is a lawyer's subterfuge: what was received and listened to was precisely not a recording of Oswald's voice.": Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics III*, "Overview: The CIA, Drug Traffic, and Oswald in Mexico", December 2000.

52 "Station unable compare voice as first tape erased prior receipt of second call."...Tips from Shanklin in 1963 and Goodpasture herself in 1995 establish that at least portions of both the September 28 tape and the October 1 tape were in existence at the time of the assassination: Memo from R. B. Riggs (Ann Goodpasture), Mexico City station to CIAHQ, MEXI-7023 (DIR 84920) 11/23/63.

The above memo has the Zulu time on it, also known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). The memo says "231659Z", or the 23rd of the month, at 1659 Zulu. As the Zulu or GMT time is 1659, that means that Goodpasture wrote her memo at 11:59 am EST, which is five hours earlier.

53 Goodpasture put out a big story. She said that "Douglas J. Feinglass (note: Boris Tarasoff's pseudonym) who did transcriptions says Oswald is identical to the person para one speaking broken Russian who called from Cuban embassy September 28 to Soviet embassy": Memo from Mexico City station to CIA HQ, 11/23/63, NARA Record Number: **104-10414-10330**.

54 Even five years later, when Goodpasture wrote a history of the JFK case, she referred to Tarasoff merely as "Transcriber" and said nothing about Oswald's supposed "terrible Russian": Ann Goodpasture, Mexico City Chronology (written between 1967-1969), p. 7 of 133, NARA Record Number: **104-10086-10001**.

Even during the 1990s, Goodpasture pretended that Tarasoff found out about the match between the Sept 28 and Oct 1 calls after the Oct 10 cable from HQ, saying "that's what I think" in her 1995 deposition.

Goodpasture had to stretch the time out as long as possible, to make it look like the tapes were routinely destroyed two weeks after their creation. Goodpasture had to admit that Tarasoff matched up the two calls by mid-October. She had to stay in line with the documentary record, because Barbara Manell at the Soviet desk in Mexico City wrote a memo to the FBI on October 16th saying that Oswald talked with Kostikov of the Soviet embassy on Sept 28 as well as the contact with the embassy on Oct. 1.

Goodpasture was never confronted with Tarasoff's testimony that he **matched** the voice of Oswald on the October 1 call immediately after it was made with the voice of Oswald on the September 28 call. See Boris Tarasoff deposition, 4/12/78, p. 32.

The discussion about when Goodpasture learned about the match is right near the end of her 12/95 deposition.

55 The Secret Service's letter was hand-delivered on the morning of the 24th, indicating that the Secret Service and LBJ got the correct story while everyone else got the cover story: Hoover memo to Chief James Rowley, Secret Service, 11/23/63, written by his aide "JLH". A note says the memo was delivered "for Rowley at 10:15 am 11/24/63".

Hoover memo to LBJ, 11/23/63, written by his aide Fletcher Thompson: Russ Holmes Work File/NARA No. **104-10419-10022**. A handwritten note says "delivered 11-23-63". In 1976, the FBI wrote a memo saying that the comment about the tapes being in existence was an error.

56 After Scott saw the photos of Oswald on TV the night of the assassination, he wrote HQ saying that he suggested to Gustavo Ortiz (LITEMPO-2) that Duran be arrested and held incommunicado until she gives all details on Oswald...: Memo from Win Scott to HQ, 11/23/63, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: **104-10422-10090**.

Gustavo Ordaz is LITEMPO-2: See "LITEMPO: The CIA's Eyes on Tlatelolco", Jefferson Morley, National Security Archive.

Ordaz, who became president of Mexico from 1964-70 and was a presidential candidate at the time of the assassination, was **securely** within the US sphere of influence.

57 The Mexicans told Scott that they would pretend that the decision to arrest Duran came from "Mexican initiative" rather than from Scott: See Scott's notes on routing sheet of 11/23/63, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: **104-10400-10298**.

58 *The official record of Duran's interview is missing. We have a third-hand version, summarized and translated into English:* FBI legat Clark Anderson's summary report on Mexico City, 6/22/64, pp. 35-41, **Oswald 201 File, Box 17, Vol 3/NARA Record Number: 1993.06.25.18:17:23:900330.**

59 *The first report from Easby states that "Echevierra told COS Duran was completely cooperative."...* In fact, Duran was abused. R. L. Easby to Director, CIA, MEXI-7046, 11/23/63, **ARRB 1995 Releases/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10274.**

60 *From a conversation she had with Ed Lopez, we know that she said that her interrogators mistreated her:* Peter Dale Scott interviewed Ed Lopez, who told him that "off the record, Ms. Duran said that she was tortured badly, and that indeed in recalling this she had broken down and wept. She had however declined to say anything about the torture on the record because, as a citizen and resident of Mexico, she feared reprisal." Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics II*, (Mary Ferrell Foundation, 3d. ed. 2003) p. 38.

61 *Duran was interrogated by Fernando Barrios, a man we will see again in a similar interrogation within the same week:* Sylvia Duran's Previous Statement Regarding Oswald's Visit to the de Consul, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (staff notes)/NARA Record Number: 180-10142-10131.**

Also see Lopez Report, p. 254, and HSCA Report, Volume 3, p. 86.

62 *Significantly, she was asked if she had intimate relations with Oswald. The initial report of her interrogation alludes to this, stating that Duran gave Oswald "on a piece of paper, her name Silvia Duran with the office telephone number but that Oswald was not given her address since he had no reason to have it."* **Commission Document 426** – Helms letter of 2/21/64 re results of the Duran interrogation, page 4, paragraph 11.

63 *Historian Gerald McKnight states that "the line of questioning originated with COS Win Scott. The CIA was trying to force Duran to confess to entrapping Oswald, luring him with sexual favors into a Cuban conspiracy to kill JFK."* Gerald McKnight, *Breach of Trust* (2005), p. 78.

64 *Angleton got a call from Golitsyn "immediately" after the assassination, telling him that "the modus operandi with any defector from anybody's army to the Soviet Union required that he go through processing by the 13th Department of the KGB."* Deposition of James Angleton, 6/19/75, p. 66, **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10005.**

Also see Church Committee counsel Paul Wallach recounting a subsequent 10/3/75 discussion with Angleton, Memorandum for the Record, 10/28/75, **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10120.**

65 *Bagley insisted there was strong proof that Kostikov was a member of the KGB's 13th Department in charge of assassinations:* 11/23/63 memo from C/SR/CI Tennent "Pete" Bagley to Richard Helms, Contact of Lee Oswald with a member of Soviet KGB Assassination Department, **Oswald 201 File (201-289248)/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10057.**

Also see the follow-up memo, late 11/23/63, from SR/CI Tennent "Pete" Bagley to Richard Helms, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10433-10005.**

66 *The CIA's belief that Kostikov was Dept. 13 was based solely on a "clandestine contact" that the CIA was trying to hide as recently as 1999:* Blind memo prepared by C/CI/SIG Birch D. O'Neal and Tennent Bagley to FBI liaison Sam Papich, page 5, (11/27/63) **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10440-10057.**

67 *Golitsyn was the source of this information, passed on to Jim Angleton and then on to Bagley:* Official routing slip by C/CI/SIG Birch D. O'Neal, 11/27/63, **NARA Record Number: 104-10440-10057.**

68 *The FBI's response to Golitsyn's claim was that neither agency could be certain that Kostikov was part of the 13th Department:* Memo from J. Edgar Hoover to CIA Director John McCone, 9/1/64, **ADMIN FOLDER-X6: HSCA ADMINISTRATIVE FOLDER, CIA REPORTS LHO**, p. 51, RIF#: 124-10369-10063.

On 11/27/63, the FBI supervisors conceded only that it was "possible" that Kostikov was with the 13th Department. See Memo from D. J. Brennan to William Sullivan, 11/27/63, **Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10419-10024.**

69 *Bagley was the chief counterspy for the Soviet Russia division, and had been stationed in Switzerland (eventually to become station chief) during the time that Oswald was due to attend Albert Schweitzer College:* Joseph R. Daughen and John J. Farmer, "A Bitter Feud Paralyzes the CIA", *Philadelphia Bulletin*, 9/23/79, **Reel 45, Folder B - LEE HARVEY OSWALD**, p. 2. **NARA Record Number: 1994.08.24.15:39:22:500028.**

70 *The aforementioned October 16 Mexico City memo said that "Lee Henry Oswald" had talked with Kostikov on September 28...* Memo from Mexico City station chief Win Scott to Ambassador Thomas Mann, 10/16/63, **NARA Record Number: 104-10088-10321. .../showDoc.html?absPageId=1205881**

This memo was written by Barbara Manell... Deposition of Barbara Manell, p. 95, **HSCA Security Classified Testimony/NARA Record Number: 180-10110-10022.**

71 Manell could have toned it down by mentioning that Oswald and Kostikov were talking about a visa...: *Deposition of Barbara Manell*, 4/28/78, pp. 98-101.

72 Golitsyn played a role in sparking the conversation about Department 13, as he called Angleton on the day of the assassination and told him that "the modus operandi with any defector from anybody's army to the Soviet Union required that he go through processing by the 13th Department of the KGB: *Angleton deposition*, 6/19/75, p. 66. Angleton later admitted that "now, when the Soviet Department turned over to the US all the documents that led to the interest regarding Oswald's stay in the Soviet Union, there was nothing there indicating processing by Department 13." *Id.*

73 The FBI did not want to let Golitsyn see their intelligence, saying that "unlike the CIA and the British", it was against their policy to provide such material to defectors: Memo from A. Rosen to Alan Belmont, p. 2, 1/28/64, NARA Record Number: [124-10369-10003](#).

74 By December 20, Win Scott wrote his superior that the CIA wasn't even sure whether Kostikov was KGB or GRU (Soviet military intelligence), which meant that Scott was uncertain whether Kostikov was part of KGB's Department 13: Memo from Win Scott to Western Hemisphere chief J. C. King, 12/20/63, *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection*, Box 12/NARA Record Number: [104-10068-10183](#).

75 In any case, FBI counterintelligence head Bill Branigan told Division 5 chief William Sullivan that there was "no indication that Lee Harvey Oswald was ever recruited or trained by Department 13": Bill Branigan to William Sullivan, 1/14/64, p. 2, Russ Holmes Work File, [104-10419-10022](#).

76 A report on Soviet use of assassination and kidnapping focused on attacks on a White Russian official in 1954, *Radio Free Europe* in 1959, and what was known as "the Stashinsky murders" of the 1950s: "Soviet Use of Assassination and Kidnapping", 2/17/64, *Russ Holmes Work File*/NARA Record Number: [104-10423-10278](#).

77 The last case cited in the article is 1961, with the last page of the study concluding that "the assassination of an Allied official would be highly unlikely and probably unprofitable": *Id.*, and see this interesting 6/11/75 letter from by a German citizen to the CIA, *Russ Holmes Work File*/NARA Record Number: [104-10423-10278](#).

78 Hoover went to great lengths to point out that the FBI had provided all this information to the CIA before the assassination, and the CIA's response had been to write a memo in June 1963 saying there was no proof to support the claim that Kostikov was part of Department 13: Memo from J. Edgar Hoover to CIA Director John McCone, 9/1/64, *ADMIN FOLDER-X6: HSCA ADMINISTRATIVE FOLDER, CIA REPORTS LHO*, p. 51, RIF#: [124-10369-10063](#).

79 By 1976, Angleton testified to the Church Committee that there was never any confirmation of the Department 13 story: *Deposition of James Angleton*, 2/6/76, p. 60, *Church Committee Boxed Files*/NARA Record Number: [157-10014-10003](#).

80 CIA counterintelligence chief David Blee admitted in 1982 that the CIA was never able to prove that Kostikov was part of Department 13, and that the last known assassination attempt conducted by that agency was in 1959: Memo by CI chief David Blee to REDACTED, 5/21/82, NARA Record Number: [104-10012-10022](#).

81 Gittinger said that "our tests showed Golitsyn was clinically paranoid. I know I wouldn't trust him any further than I could throw a bomber...": Tom Mangold, *Cold Warrior*, p. 86-87. Mangold's interview with Dr. John Gittinger, 11/23/88.

82 The period of Whitten's leadership role has been described as the "GPFLOOR phase" that focused on the cable traffic around the world and the focus on Oswald's activities in Mexico City: *Deposition of Ray Rocca*, 7/17/78, p. 9. The term "RYBAT GPFLOOR" to refer to the assassination was not used until Whitten requested it on 12/5/63: *HSCA Segregated CIA Collection*, Box 17/NARA Record Number: [104-10077-10273](#).

83 The GPFLOOR phase of the investigation lasted from immediately after the assassination until mid-January. During this period, Whitten and his boss J. C. King (C/WHd) were the two Washingtonians in charge: Meeting of Rocca with members of the Senate Select Committee staff, 11/13/75, p. 2, *DDP (Deputy Director for Plans) Files*/NARA Record Number: [104-10310-10121](#).

84 I can't forget CIA withholding the French espionage activities in USA, nor the false story re Oswald's trip to Mexico City, only to mention two of their instances of double dealing: Memo from D. J. Brennan to William Sullivan, re CIA Operations in the US, 1/15/64 (see endnote 16)

85 Rocca intoned that "here is the assembled file", and added that these documents were too sensitive to be shared with the FBI: Handwritten note from Ray Rocca to John (Jack) Whitten, 11/24/63, 1 am. *Oswald 201 File (201-289248)*/NARA Record Number: [104-10015-10013](#).

This three-page note to Whitten begins by saying "here is the assembled file" - if you take a look at the documents Rocca is referring to, the two that hold Rocca's greatest interest in illustrate his built-in bias in this case.

He mentions MEXI 7046 which is about Duran being completely cooperative, that LHO showed her his passport showing a long time in the USSR (which means he brought both passports), that Mann is "delighted" with her arrest.

He mentions DIR 84837, on the importance of tailing Kostikov everywhere. This memo went out after Bagley wrote SX-25550 - the memo with Bagley saying that Kostikov is an agent from Dept. 13.

Then, where action needs to be taken or is pending, Rocca mentions...

MEXI 7027 which is simply a request for HQ to provide the latest on Oswald's movements pre-11/22.

MONT 8398 from Montivideo, as Rocca pretty much admits, is junk and a waste of time (chasing another stray comment by a Cuban).

MEXI 7030 - found a couple cars outside Cuban embassy, turned out no big deal.

MEXI 7039 - As discussed below, Duran was seen in a couple of cars with Texas plates back in Jan. 63. Office of Security ran the plates. Duran was questioned about this story, which never went anywhere.

MEXI 7043 - On 11/23, car with California plates parked outside Soviet embassy - again, Duran was quizzed on this, which never went anywhere.

As an aside, why didn't Rocca ever consider that Oswald was reading Ian Fleming's James Bond stories like *The Spy Who Loved Me* and *Live or Let Die* right alongside George Orwell's *1984*? That would have probably given him more insight into Oswald's mind than anything else.

86 "Priority" was given to the possibility that Duran might have been exchanging information for sexual favors - this lead never went anywhere, but an unfounded rumor that Oswald and Duran had sexual relations has persisted in CIA circles ever since 11/22/63: Memo from Robert Shaw (Lawrence F. Barker) to CIA HQ, 11/23/63, MEXI-7039, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 7: Duque - Golitsyn)/NARA Record Number: 104-10169-10458.

After the Office of Security ran the plates, the names of Carol Soles, Richard Aranda and Harry Lee Saffe were found. This story about these three men never gained any traction, but set the stage for a continued whispering campaign aimed at Duran.

Cable from HQ to Mexico City, 11/24/63, ARRB 1995 Releases/NARA Record Number: 104-10015-10278.

87 The attachments to Rocca's note point right to the link between Cortes and Castro's lover and aide Celia Sanchez: Both of them were close to Maria Witoski, also known as AMKIRK-1:

By 1962, Cobb has been accepted by the CIA as a contract agent: Request for PRQ II for Cobb, by Clyde Shryock, 8/29/62, p. 3. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (microfilm - reel 11: June Cobb)/NARA Record Number: 104-10266-10024.

The last page that we have of Rocca's writings are six reports about Cortes. He attached the first report as a backgrounder on Cortes, and then cites the remaining five reports:

1. CSCI-3/765,420 - Background on how Cortez first came to Cuba in 58 with the Shepard company, concessionaire of the Capri Casino - Cortez was supposedly a lawyer interested in a casino. The deal never happened. He kept coming every month. Friends with the rebel army. Friend of Che Guevara. Made trips to US and Canada to buy pieces of tanks and other materials as if they were for Mexico. Part of project: AMCONCERT (Note: AMCONCERT-1 worked closely with Tony Sforza in 1962 with the aforementioned plan to recruit Rolando Cubela, known as AMLASH, who told everybody that he wanted to assassinate Castro).

2. MEXI-8884/IN 27356 - 12 Sept 61 - Mexican Customs had seized their parts being shipped to Cuba. LIFEAT picked up Cortes telling colleague Lorenzo Sanders - don't be intimidated - tell them you didn't know where it was going. They also discussed possible purchase of merchandise in Oklahoma (note: Cobb was from an Oklahoma family.) LIFEAT also picked up another conversation with former manager Antonio Montera, saying his resignation was being backdated to 10/30/60. (Note: It became illegal to ship goods between the countries in early Jan. 1961)

3. DIR 37044/OUT 93205 - 23 Jan 62 - Four months later, HQ made a "request priority reply re status of shipment".

4. CS 3/503,249 - 6 Mar 62 - the Cubans were complaining about the parts quality, and Cortes threatened to hurt them economically if they continued to complain. Cortes and his colleague Ignacio Hernandez at the Capri were friends with high-ranking Cuban officials.

5. MEXI 1565/IN 37782 - 1 Aug 62 - Amkirk-1 writes Cobb accepting her invitation to come to Mexico, even just for a week - asks about whereabouts of Cortes and "Henry", and then repeats at end "please" try locate Cortes or "Henry". Henry was almost certainly Harry Hermsdorf, Cobb's case officer.

6. DIR 27386/OUT 61626 - 2 Aug 62 – Request to get AMKIRK-1 to come out to Mexico, with a promise to pay a lot of the expenses.

88 By early December, CI-SIG chief Birch O'Neal confirmed that a French diplomat outside of the US was saying JFK was killed due to a joint plot by the Chinese government and Castro, with Cortes and Saavedra in the middle of it all. O'Neal also admits that the tips from the French diplomat "have proven to be not too reliable: Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 12/9/63, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10400-10216.

Oswald 201 File (201-289248)/NARA Record Number: 104-10018-10004.

89 Cortes denied ever meeting Castro's mistress Celia Sanchez, but remembered Witoski telling him about her friendship with her: Interview by SA H.T. Burk with Ramon Cortes, 12/10/63, Commission Document 188.

../showDoc.html?docId=145506&relPageId=226

90 Cortes received criminal immunity in return for his continued cooperation about the Cubans: Memo from Director, FBI to Legat, Mexico, FBI - HSCA Subject File: Church Committee/NARA Record Number: 124-10289-10056.

91 The CIA agrees not to provide the sources in the Cortes investigation to the FBI: Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 12/12/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 17/NARA Record Number: 104-10076-10385.

92 The next day, November 24, Angleton learned from Win Scott that Cubela had met with Kostikov at the Soviet consulate back in late 1962: Memo from Win Scott to Director, 11/24/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10055-10054. See George Michael Evica, *A Certain Arrogance*, p. 45. Also see Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics and the Death of JFK*, p. 324, note 26. This memo was prepared by Mexico City in response to a Headquarters request to provide "all known contacts of certain Soviet personnel".

93 Angleton claimed that FitzGerald would only provide Cubela's 201 file, and refused to provide the Cubela operational file to his staff or to the Warren Commission: Edward Jay Epstein, *Legend*, p. 254.

Evan Thomas, *The Very Best Men*, at pp. 306-309, backs up the story that FitzGerald refused to provide the Cubela information, and he says that the SAS information was compartmentalized and even Angleton could not get at it even after sending out a routine trace on Cubela.

Thomas says that SAS' exemption from queries created a situation. "Technically, (FitzGerald) did not have to answer. Still, under the circumstances, it would seem proper to cooperate in the CIA's own investigation of the president's murder.

"But FitzGerald was wary of the CIA's chief of CI, James Jesus Angleton. The legendary mole hunter was growing increasingly drunken and conspiratorial in the 1960s..."What would he have made of Cubela and his link to Kostikov? FitzGerald thought Angleton was mentally unstable. If Angleton was allowed into the SAS vault, Castro was safe; all action against him would stop. Angleton never did catch any moles, for all his machinations.

"There is not a goddamned thing Angleton or his henchmen could have come up with," insisted Halpern in 1993. "Des thought, what the hell is Jim going to tell me?"

94 With all the interest that both the FBI and the CIA had in Cubela over the years, Angleton's claim that he did not know about Cubela's background is not credible: See George Michael Evica, *A Certain Arrogance*, p. 46; see *The CIA Inspector General's report on Plots to Assassinate Fidel Castro* (1967).

95 Equally incredible is Helms' and FitzGerald's testimony that they did not "ask" Cubela to assassinate Castro: *Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders*, p. 87.

96 From the moment of the assassination, FitzGerald was concerned that the assassin came from the ranks of the anti-Castro Cubans. FitzGerald was close to JFK, and wept when Oswald was killed, saying, "Now we'll never know.": Evan Thomas, *The Very Best Men*, p. 305-308.

97 Shackley did not feel he had any duty to investigate the assassination. "I was just told to watch the island." said Ted Shackley. "The mainland was the FBI's territory.": Thomas, *The Very Best Men*, at pp. 307-308.

98 Similarly, no one from Shackley's JMWAVE station in Miami conducted any serious investigation on the assassination: Memo by DC/SAS/FI Charles Anderson III, Memorandum for the Record, 3/22/77. (Note: Anderson can be identified by his phone number.) Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10423-10226.

Anderson set up the LIFEAT phone system for the Mexico City station, and also played a role in the set-up of LIENVOY.

99 Another officer said that when he spoke to his agents in meetings in Miami, Tampa, Nassau and Mexico City about the murder of JFK, his briefing was strictly oral and contained no written questions: Memo from CAS/PAG/COB to Inspector General, 5/16/77, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 36/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.21.11:15:45:400530.

Note that Charles W. Anderson was C/CAS/PAG/COB in 1978 - he was **SAS/SA/SO** in 1963.

*100 JMWAVE said little on the subject other than that the Cuban exiles were in grief despite their policy differences with JFK: Memo from JMWAVE to Director, 11/24/63, WAVE 8102, **HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 17/NARA Record Number: 1993.08.04.16:15:46:120028.***

*101 The FBI men in Dallas certainly did not want Hoover or the public to know that Oswald had worked at the Jaggars photographic firm and had assisted the Army Mapping Service, an agency that was analyzing maps of Cuba obtained by U-2 flights during the height of the Cuban missile crisis: **Jaggars employee Jack Bowen remembers** being "present in the office of Ray Hawkins, foreman of the Photo Department, when Oswald was explaining Russian symbols on maps the firm was preparing for the United States Army."*

Bill Kelly cites at his **JFKCountercoup** website Edward Epstein's *Legend*:

"Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall also had a contract with the Army Map Service to set the typescript for its maps. Although the maps themselves were not on the premises, this was nevertheless highly classified work. For one thing, the maps were made from secret aerial photographs presumably taken from spy satellites, U2 planes and other forms of clandestine reconnaissance. For another, the lists of names of cities and areas in the Soviet Union, China and Cuba which were being set, themselves provide clues to the targets of these reconnaissance missions."

"Like all other employees of the typesetting department, Oswald had complete access to the worktables on which the secret lists of place-names for the Army Map Service were kept. In theory, these were supposed to be 'restricted areas' in which only employees with a security clearance from the FBI were allowed to be present. In fact, however, little effort was made to enforce these restrictions. There were no guards or security measures which prevented employees from entering the areas in which the classified work was done....It was even possible, according to Calverly, for employees to use the cameras in the plant to reproduce the list of names."

Of all people, Ann Egerter came to the FBI's aid, saying on 1/31/64 that **she couldn't figure out if Oswald had ever been employed by Jaggars**, when it was in the newspaper that he had done photo work for Jaggars during the first days after the assassination. Shanklin and his bosses verified his last day of employment by 12/6/63.

*102 Wannall was cut out of the investigation after the initial days: It is telling that one month before the assassination, Victor Vicente gave the New York FBI a copy of Oswald's letter to VT Lee talking about plans for membership cards and collecting dues that conflicted with VT Lee's advice given in April that was also in FBI custody. Wannall to Sullivan letter, 11/23/63, **FBI - HSCA Subject Files, E - F/FBI - HSCA Subject File: FPCC/NARA Record Number: 124-90120-10102.***

*103 A flow chart details those in charge of the espionage aspects of Oswald's case involved the espionage chief **Bill Branigan of the Domestic Intelligence Division and his men: Burt Turner, Lambert L. Anderson, Marvin Gheesling, and Charles Brennan.** The department not included on this **flow chart** of FBI investigative structure is Ray Wannall's Nationalities Intelligence Division, and its Cuban section: **Testimony of James Malley, HSCA Report, Volume 3, p. 478.***

*104 It was a dual-captioned case. The defection aspects and his contact with the Soviet Embassy was the terrain of the Espionage Section; the Cuban aspects of the case fell within the jurisdiction of Nationalities Intelligence: **Deposition of Richard Cotter, 5/5/76, pp. 25-26.***

*105 Ray Wannall testified that Nationalities Intelligence was within the **Counterintelligence Branch** and handled matters relating to countries other than the Soviet Union, Soviet Bloc, and Communist China: Deposition of W. Raymond Wannall, 5/11/76, p. 3, **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10010.***

*106 Just about the first question is: "**Do you know Vince Nasca?**" Wannall knows Nasca well, since 1951: Testimony of FBI Nationalities Intelligence chief W. Ray Wannall, 5/11/76, p. 6. **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10010.***

*107 Wannall admits **who the FBI's experts were on all aspects of Cuba during Sept-Oct 1963. Anti-Castro would be Vince Nasca, and pro-Castro I guess would be Ray Mullens, not certain. Coordinated by Richard Cotter, unit chief: Id., p. 33***

*108 Next, Wannall admits his section had **nothing** to do with the JFK investigation: Testimony of FBI Nationalities Intelligence chief W. Ray Wannall, 5/11/76, pp. 36-37. **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10010.***

*109 Wannall's boss Sullivan did not think that Hoover should have brushed Morgan's revelation aside: Interview of William Sullivan, 4/21/76, p. 23, **Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10061.***

*110 Lambert Anderson answered to Branigan and Robert Lenihan, who were the case supervisors of the Domestic Intelligence Division: It should be noted that the foot soldiers for the FBI on the "**JFK murder**" were Richard Rogge and Fletcher Thompson, who handled the **physical evidence**, from the General Investigative Division.*

111 FBI supervisor Richard Cotter said Anderson was “fairly new...I wouldn’t consider him an expert on Cuba, but he did have this case.”: Testimony of Richard Cotter, p. 29, 5/7/76, [Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10052](#).

112 Right after Oswald was murdered on November 24, Hoover told White House aide Walter Jenkins in a phone call “the thing I am concerned about, and so is Mr. Katzenbach, is having something issued so we can convince the public that Oswald is the real assassin”: [Telephone call between Director J. Edgar Hoover and White House aide Walter Jenkins](#), 11/24/63, as documented in the Church Committee Reports, Book V, p. 33.

113 Belmont calmly remarked, “We will set forth the items of evidence which make it clear that Oswald is the man who killed the President.”: [Memo from Alan Belmont to Clyde Tolson](#), 11/24/63, FBI 105-82555 HQ File, Section 3. This is a jaw-dropping document. Also see Donald Gibson, “The First 72 Hours”, Probe, Nov.-Dec. 1999, [pp. 21-23](#). (also see, in particular, pages 29-31 on this link). Gibson is one of the best thinkers I have come across in the JFK case.

114 On the next day, November 25, Katzenbach wrote a devastating memo to Bill Moyers...: [Memorandum from Deputy Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach](#) to White House aide Bill Moyers, 11/25/63, FBI 62-109060 HQ file, serial 1399.

When Katzenbach got a chance to explain that memo to the HSCA fifteen years later, his first sentence was: “Because, very simply, if that was the conclusion the FBI was going to come to, then the public had to be satisfied that that was the correct conclusion.” [Testimony of Nicholas Katzenbach, HSCA Appendix Volumes/Volume 3](#), p. 652.

115 Curiously, Katzenbach now says that “I’d almost be on the (anti-Castro) Cubans” as being in on the assassination: David Talbot, *Brothers*, p. 290. Also see [JFK Assassination Quotes by Government Officials](#).

116 On November 25, Lyndon Johnson let columnist Joe Alsop know that he thought that Texas officials should resolve the case with the aid of the FBI: [Telephone Conversation, LBJ-Joe Alsop](#), 25 Nov 1963, 10:40AM, p. 3.

117 Months later, when David Slawson met with Win Scott in Mexico City, he made a point of citing the provocations of three men during the first two weeks after the assassination: Gilberto Alvarado, Salvador Diaz Verson, and Oscar Gutierrez Valencia: “Memo: Trip to Mexico City.” David Slawson, 4/22/64, p. 10, [Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10422-10291](#).

Alvarado, Diaz Verson, and Gutierrez merit a longer discussion. The other three foreign yarns were about “Martino-Roja”, “Victor Cohen”, and “a Stanford University student”. The first two were clearly wild goose chases seemingly designed to waste time. I still haven’t figured out which Stanford University student Slawson was thinking about.

I believe that “Martino-Roja” is a reference to John Martino spreading his story about “Operation Red Cross”, a June 1963 joint Miami station/Life Magazine/private individual adventure to supposedly rescue Soviet officers who could “prove” that missiles still remained in Cuba. After the assassination, Martino also spread numerous false stories right after the assassination about [Oswald in Miami](#) and engaging in “[Red](#)” [pro-Castro activities](#). Martino admitted near the end of his life that he made these stories up and that he was involved in the killing of JFK. See the final chapter.

The Victor Cohen story was a great way to waste time. This involved a [phony letter](#) falsely claiming that Cohen, a Jewish Mexican businessman, was a [close friend of Fidel Castro](#). Investigation revealed that while Victor Cohen was apolitical, he was involved in guns trafficking. [His father Isaac Cohen was a prominent Communist activist in Mexico City](#).

When Clark Anderson dedicated five pages in his 200-page Mexico City June 1964 report to exonerate Victor Cohen, he identified Isaac Cohen as his father but carefully eliminated any reference to Isaac Cohen’s Communist background.

118 HSCA counsel Dan Hardaway was convinced that Phillips was in charge of the disinformation passed on during the cover-up phase: Gaeton Fonzi, *The Last Investigation*, p. 293.

119 On November 27, a conversation between CI/SIG chief Birch O’Neal and FBI liaison Sam Papich on 11/27 reveals that further analysis of Department 13 led them to believe that Kostikov is probably not a modern-day Antichrist: Tom Mangold, *Cold Warrior*, p. 170. Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics II*, p. 42. Phone conversation between Sam Papich, FBI and Birch O’Neal, CI-SIG, 11/27/63, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 60/NARA Record Number: 1993.07.27.15:07:49:750520](#).

120 Not only was this phone call transcribed, but O’Neal wrote his own memo summarizing the call: Memorandum by Birch O’Neal re Lee Harvey Oswald, 11/27/63, [Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10404-10278](#).

121 Bagley now admitted that although Kostikov was KGB, the claim that he was with Department 13 was based solely on Kostikov’s involvement with [TUMBLEWEED](#): [CI/SIG blind memo from O’Neal to Papich](#), 11/27/63.

122 *Over the next three days, the phony Alvarado evidence forced President Lyndon Johnson to change his mind about Texans leading the assassination investigation: Telephone conversation between President Lyndon B. Johnson and Senator Richard Russell, 11/29/63, pp. 2-3.*

123 *After getting a look at CD 1 on December 6, Whitten wrote a memo to CIA Director McCone and other higher-ups stating, "There was absolutely no mention of the CIA in the report." "Screening the FBI Report on the Oswald Case", memo from John Whitten to DDP Richard Helms, 12/6/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 18, NARA Record Number: 1993.07.17.10:59:11:030460. Also see Gerald McKnight, *Breach of Trust*, p. 84.*

124 *Wittingly or unwittingly, Whitten's action let anyone who knew the truth know that the Oswald imposter story – which is probably what the Mexico City station was referring to years later as "the Identity Case" – was not currently in consideration by the FBI and that it was probably safe to omit it from the investigation: IDENTITY was a code used by the CIA when they didn't know someone's name or the information was sensitive. One 201 file was literally named 201-IDENTITY.*

As early as 11/27/63, the CIA was running traces on "Harvey Lee Oswald", without success. This memo stems from DIR 85133. Although I can't find the memo on MFF, there is a reference to part of it, which states that "stations should carefully examine material obtained from a specified and sensitive reliable source, 'because of the obvious significance of any scrap of information which bears on (the) assassination issue.' The Desk Officer in charge of the CIA investigation was unaware that such a message had been sent out and was at the time unaware of the sensitive and reliable source involved."

The Church Committee said that "The precise text of this cable paraphrased to protect sensitive intelligence sources and methods". Was it simply protecting discussion about wiretap operations, or was there also a reference to Harvey Lee Oswald in the original cable? It was written by R.T. Walsh, WE/SPO.

125 *On that same day, the CIA completed its own preliminary biographical study of Oswald: Preliminary Biographical Study of Lee Harvey Oswald, 12/6/63, Oswald 201 File, Vol 5, Part 1.*

126 *The study has several references to Oswald's FPCC activities in 1963: Id., p. 9.*

127 *Whitten wrote a memo to Helms on 12/11/63 stating what his plans were for the investigation. Helms initialed his responses to each paragraph, including agreement to give Whitten leave from his present job as WH/3: Memorandum from John Whitten to Richard Helms, 12/11/63, Russ Holmes Work File/NARA Record Number: 104-10423-10242.*

128 *Whitten did flag the concern that CD 1 might reveal the phone tap operations in Mexico "because the Soviets would see that the FBI had advance information on the reason for Oswald's visit to the Soviet Embassy": Id.*

129 *Chief Justice Earl Warren and chief counsel J. Lee Rankin discussed the problem and decided that they would need "some investigative staff" of their own...: Warren Commission Executive Session, December 16, 1963, pp. 43-44.*

130 *Whitten proceeds to write a memo entitled "We Discover Lee Oswald in Mexico City": A note on the routing sheet indicates that it was circulated on or about the 17th. Memo by John Whitten, 12/13/63, ARRB 1995 Releases/NARA Record Number: 104-10004-10199.*

131 *Right about the same time, J.C. King writes a memo about the investigation to date, saying that matters have focused on Mexico City because of the superb job of the Station: Memo from J. C. King to Win Scott, 12/11/63, NARA Record Number: 104-10422-10370.*

This document identifies Oliver G. Galbond as the pseudo for J. C. King: "Cuba Desk Crypts", written by Chris Hopkins, LA/COG/CI, 2/16/78, p. 2, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 9/NARA Record Number: 104-10061-10115.

132 *Whitten wrote that his "first draft" would change when he obtained new information from the FBI, and sent it to McCone, Helms, Angleton, O'Neal and Murphy: Whitten's note on routing sheet, 12/20/63, Oswald 201 File (201-289248)/NARA Record Number: 104-10004-10211.*

133 *A note on a still-partially redacted routing sheet indicates that SR/CI was to help edit Whitten's initial draft of his report on Lee Oswald: Routing and Record Slip, 12/13/63. Here's a non-redacted version of the 12/13/63 routing sheet: NARA Record Number: 104-10019-10023.*

134 *By December 20, Whitten had expanded his first draft into a second draft. The new draft says "our Mexico City station was given full background information on Oswald in a cable": John Whitten, "Lee Oswald's Visit to Mexico City", 12/20/63, p. 1. Oswald 201 File (201-289248)/NARA Record Number: 104-10019-10021. (62 page version)*

Sections:

CIA Work on Lee Oswald and the Assassination of President Kennedy 3-8 (longer than second version); Lee Oswald's visit to Mexico City 9-19; Information from Europe 20-24; Reliable but very sensitive source in Finland gives accurate info re LHO 20; Thoughts on M. Reggab, V.T. Lee and Richard Gibson 21-24; The Fabricators 25-33; Alvarado "tantalizing and perplexing"? 25-26; Australian crank 28-29; Eugene

Dinkin 29-30; Jack Ruby stories 31-33; CIA Work on Lee Oswald and the Assassination of President Kennedy 34-37; Lee Oswald's Visit to Mexico City 38-48; Information from Europe 49-62.

135 *At the 12/24 meeting, Whitten said that "Angleton started to criticize my report terribly - without pointing out any inaccuracies, it was so full of wrong things, we could not possibly send it to the Bureau...: Deposition of John Whitten, 5/16/78, pp. 115-116.*

136 *At some point in the meeting, Whitten said that he "suggested that it be turned over because of the Soviet angle that had now been discovered, the disclosure about his biographic information about his stay in Soviet Russia, which was obviously very important."*: John Whitten deposition, 5/16/78, p. 136.

137 *After the meeting, Whitten circulated a memo asking for feedback. At this point, Whitten comments that others will be preparing the final report: John Whitten memo to Angleton, Bagley and O'Neal, 12/24/63, Oswald 201 File, Vol 17, p. 56.*

138 *On January 8 or 9, I discussed Whitten's draft with him, told him Mr. Rocca was to write the report...: John Whitten memo to Angleton, Bagley and O'Neal, 12/24/63, Oswald 201 File, Vol 10B/NARA Record Number: 1993.06.14.15:29:02:150000.*

A less redacted version of this memo can be seen at NARA Record Number: 104-10019-10020.

139 *Rocca's version places the date of the shift from Whitten to himself on 1/12/64: Draft version of Charles Burk's report, p. 6. HSCA Segregated CIA Collection (staff notes)/NARA Record Number: 180-10147-10180.*

Also see Deposition of Ray Rocca, 7/17/64 deposition, p. 15.

140 *As Angleton testified, Rocca was "the point of contact except on matters pertaining to WAVE...: Deposition of James Angleton, 2/6/76, pp. 29-30, Church Committee Boxed Files/NARA Record Number: 157-10014-10003.*

141 *Kalaris mused that CI Staff was the most logical candidate to lead the investigation, as they were the CI liaison with the FBI and the Secret Service, as well as a source of information related to the protection apparatus for senior US officials: Memo from CI chief George T. Kalaris to SA/DDO, 3/9/76, Miscellaneous CIA Series/NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10055.*

142 *Only on December 27, after Whitten had been deposed as the chief of the JFK investigation, did Scott come up with any kind of response. It was another lie: Memo from Mexico Chief of Station Win Scott to C/WH/3 John Whitten, 12/27/63, HSCA Segregated CIA Collection, Box 32/NARA Record Number: 104-10098-10440.*

143 *When staffer David Slawson got persistent about wanting to go deeper into the Mexico City matter, Scott and White actually played the tapes for Slawson and his colleague William Coleman on April 9, while swearing them to secrecy: See Philip Shenon, A Cruel and Shocking Act (2013), pp. 294-296.*



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State Secret

Wiretapping in Mexico City, Double Agents, and the Framing of Lee Oswald

by Bill Simpson

Conclusion: Only Justice Will Stop a Curse

When someone in Mexico City entered the place where counter-intelligence analyzed wiretapping, they entered the Holy of Holies

I wrote this book to figure out why Oswald was impersonated, not to try to solve the assassination. I learned a few things on the way that I didn't expect. After studying the NSA for many years, I finally read Richard Arlich's book about its British counterpart, *GCHQ*. Arlich's humbling meditation on the importance of signals intelligence. It made me think about the NSA's history from its inception after World War II, to the drama in Mexico City in 1963, to Obama's [January 2014 speech](#) announcing a new presidential directive for signals intelligence...Arlich explains the background in the following three paragraphs.

...The astonishing achievement of signals intelligence allowed Allied prime ministers and presidents to see into the minds of their Axis enemies...However, shortly after VJ-Day, something rather odd happens. In the words of Christopher Andrew, the world's leading intelligence historian, we are confronted with the sudden disappearance of signals intelligence from the historical landscape. This is an extraordinary omission which, according to Andrew, has 'seriously distorted the study of the Cold War'. Intelligence services were at the forefront of the Cold War, yet most accounts of international relations after 1945 stubbornly refuse to recognize the existence of code-breakers who actually constituted the largest part of this apparatus.

...Signals intelligence also matters to political leaders because it allows them to hear the authentic voices of their enemies. Although Winston Churchill was the most famous recipient of such material, his predecessor, Neville Chamberlain, was also offered some remarkable insights into the mind of Adolf Hitler. In 1939, shortly after the Munich appeasement, Chamberlain was given an intelligence report which showed that Hitler habitually referred to him in private as '*der alter Arschloch*', or 'the old arsehole'. Understandably, this revelation 'had a profound effect on Chamberlain'.

...With the onset of the Cold War, 'sigint' as it had become known, seemed equally important for a dangerous new era of nuclear confrontation. Atomic weapons and equivalent breakthroughs in biological and chemical warfare, together with ballistic rockets such as the V2, against which there was no defence, were the new currency of conflict. World leaders were required to comprehend strange new threats and the accompanying possibility of surprise attack – which Lord Tedder, the British Chief of Air Staff, called a potential 'nuclear Pearl Harbor'. The precarious world of early warning, deterrence and 'targeting' had arrived. Military chiefs demanded better intelligence, and concluded that global sigint coverage was indispensable to the Western allies.

Sigint is crucial if you hope to protect the physical security of your leaders

In order to avoid horrors such as a loss of [presidential protection](#) or a [first strike nuclear attack](#), each side felt that they had to have better sigint than anyone else. Sigint is crucial if you hope to protect the physical security of your leaders with organizations such as the Secret Service. Any serious discussion of sigint has always been pretty much off-limits for the media, because it's a matter of national security.

The work of the National Security Agency falls squarely into the off-limits [world of sigint](#), and specifically into the [sigint subset known as communications intelligence \(comint\)](#). Wiretapping is fine as a local affair when discussing crime and graft, but it is not a topic of general conversation in national policy circles. In 1963, what would it have been if the world saw the extent of our government/civilian comint against Mexico? They would have learned about US monitoring of the phones and teletypes used by foreign businesses, governments, and individuals. Is it any wonder that the JFK assassination has been such a taboo subject among policymakers?

The principal author of the Warren Report, Alfred Goldberg, said that when Warren said that some secrets would only be revealed "not in your lifetime", Warren was making a "precise" reference to the NSA. [1]

The need for better sigint and the need to conceal sigint explains why the story of Lee Oswald keeps leading back to Mexico City. Any discussion of Mexico City inevitably leads back to discussions about the wiretapping and the efforts to learn more about it. As Edward Snowden knew all too well, a serious discussion about wiretapping and other sigint activities is something that is not permitted in any culture –

it's an unveiling of the Holy of Holies. A 2012 memo on sigint refers to the halcyon pre-Snowden era as "the golden age". Mexico City was the perfect place to plant evidence, right in the midst of the wiretaps and the photosurveillance of the Soviets and Cubans. This would ensure that any serious investigation of the JFK killing would never happen.

It took a constellation of forces to kill the President

Besides a no-holds-barred analysis of the impersonation of Oswald and how it is tied in to the black world of sigint, my other goal in this book has been to uncover the world of counter-intelligence during the early sixties and how it compromised the investigation in the JFK case. My goal has never been to solve the assassination – the best insights are usually attained when you are looking for something else.

My original intention was to thoroughly analyze the cover-up, but I have decided to cover just a few of the central issues. I wanted to avoid losing the focus on how Oswald was framed. Even if you believe that Oswald was guilty – and I don't – guilty men can also be framed. That's what happened to O. J. Simpson, if you remember how the glove, sock and blood evidence contradicted the prosecution's version of the facts in the criminal case. That's why the jury acquitted him on that round.

As several participants have admitted their roles in killing Kennedy – including the prominent David Morales – these admissions should be examined. The following is based on well-vetted documents and interviews, but my conclusions may be right, or a little wrong, or a lot wrong. Further investigation will enable us to tighten the analysis.

Who were the planners?

It's just about a sure thing that someone inside the CIA in Miami learned about the Tilton-Anderson anti-FPCC operation monitoring Oswald by late September 1963. Anderson had a good-sized FBI headquarters file on Oswald. Tilton was active with maritime operations in the Miami area and may have shared his knowledge with someone. Will Potocki knew that the Hosty memo revealed Oswald's FPCC membership and Communist Party newspaper subscription before the man calling himself Oswald arrived in Mexico City. Bill Harvey was the man who started the whole operation to probe Azcue. If Potocki knew about the Hosty memo, Harvey knew.

Harvey and a few men ran the assassinations for the CIA. David Morales, Tony Sforza and Rip Robertson were Miami officers that specialized in operations and assassinations projects against Castro. Johnny Roselli was a ZR/RIFLE officer and no stranger on how to take somebody out. Commander Hal Feeney was part of the hunt to kill the Castro brothers in 1962. These six men had both the skills and the motivation to kill the President. Most of these men had a military background and were intimately familiar with special operations. Their training alone mandates their inclusion as among the most likely suspects for the planning of the assassination. Here's a letter from Harvey to Angleton, expressing his pleasure at how many newspapers in Italy were willing to go along with the Warren Report.

The planners could count on a certain degree of support from within the ranks, despite the extreme nature of a presidential assassination. As Cuba operations executive officer Sam Halpern told Washington Post reporter Jefferson Morley, "the deceptiveness of Kennedy's policy virtually justified extraconstitutional correction". After hearing that McGeorge Bundy had reported in a May 1963 meeting that "we can give an impression of busy-ness in Cuba and we can make life difficult for Castro", Halpern was incredibly angry just thinking about it. In short, many of the troops in Miami were angry at JFK.

"I'll tell you one thing, I didn't know that word 'busy-ness'. It was never mentioned by Des (FitzGerald) when he came back from that meeting, and it's a good thing he didn't, because you might have had a *Seven Days in May* at that point...If that word 'busy-ness' had gotten out to the military forces as well as to all of our troops and everybody else in the U.S. government that was knocking their balls off trying to do this nonsense (of pinprick raids of the autonomous groups), there might have been a revolt of some kind. I might have led it." [2]

I think things heated up when Sforza wrote up his report for the Cuba desk chiefs in early September 1963. The chiefs sized up Azcue for recruitment, while taking a hard look at the irreverent and sexy Silvia Duran. A man calling himself Oswald was being monitored by Tilton and Anderson. Oswald did his best to rattle Azcue at the Cuban consulate, and Kostikov at the Soviet consulate.

Somebody got in the middle of the operation, and faked the voices of both Oswald and Duran in the tapes of 9/28 and 10/1. Anne Goodpasture knew that it was imperative to find out if the integrity of the LIENVOY operation had been compromised. Phillips knew of the importance of this event to Cuban operations, and left for Langley and Miami to get together with his higher-ups.

The decision was made to have Egerter conduct a molehunt, just as a long-time CI officer like Morales could have predicted. Morales was Shackley's number two man – it stands to reason that if Phillips confided in Shackley, Shackley would have confided in Morales. Whether Shackley tipped him off or not, I think Morales would have assumed that Angleton and Mexico City would launch a molehunt.

I don't think that Phillips and the Mexico City station officers ever had a very clear sense of what had happened with Oswald during his visits to the Soviet consulate. On November 22, they weren't sure who Oswald had seen on September 27th or the 28th, other than Duran at the Cuban consulate on the 27th. Even

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE: 24JUN64

FILE:

SECRET

REFUSED	PROCESSED	FILED	232257Z	0730
TO: MEXI	FROM: DIA 30547			

RYBAT REDCOAT LIEVAL-1 OFFLOOR

REF MEXI 9946

PLS CHECK LICALA AND LIEVOT RECORDS TRY DETERMINE IF YATSKOV WAS IN MEXICO CITY DURING PERIOD OSWALD THERE AND IF YATSKOV IN SOV EMBASSY SATURDAY 28 SEPT, DAY WHICH OSWALD CLAIMED HAD VISITED EMBASSY AND TALKED TO CONSUL (MEXI 7025, 23 NOV). ALSO CABLE YOUR VIEWS POSSIBILITY OSWALD COULD HAVE MET YATSKOV RATHER THAN OR IN ADDITION TO KOSTIKOV.

END...

Even by June 1964, the Mexico City station wasn't sure if Oswald had ever seen Kostikov.

in June 1964, they weren't sure if Oswald had met with **Yatskov or Kostikov** on September 27th, and discussed how "**Oswald claimed**" he had visited the **Cuban embassy on the 28th**. Let me be clear, however, that the surviving Mexico City officers and monitors represent a treasure trove of information that should be immediately subpoenaed. Anne Goodpasture is still alive and well into her nineties, and she might be willing to give up a few more secrets with a grant of immunity.

One thing the Mexico City officers would tell us is that Kostikov was not a big deal to anyone before JFK was killed. Before November 22, no one came forward with any proof that he was an assassin or sabotage artist. Again, Angleton thought that Kostikov had nothing to do with the supposed assassination bureau at Department 13. That story was made up by Golitsyn, and it only sprang into play in the hours after the assassination.

In his recent book *Spy Wars*, Pete Bagley makes it clear that he still claims that Kostikov was a member of Department 13, responsible for sabotage and assassination.[3] He does not address the Kostikov evidence presented here. It's hard to imagine, but maybe this evidence will change his mind?

It is hard to tell if Oswald ever went to Mexico City or not. It is hard to tell if Oswald ever visited the Cuban consulate or not. The evidence that I feel I can rely on is that Oswald didn't call from the Cuban consulate on the 28th. I am also certain Tilton and Anderson were running an anti-FPCC operation, an operation that was not designed to assassinate the President, but was used as protective cover by the group that impersonated Oswald. Did it make the FPCC look bad? Yes. Right during the time that Scott was probing and trying to recruit Azcue? Yes.

The important thing is that Morales had all the needed connections to get wind of this anti-FPCC operation. **Morales** and his cohort Sforza ran the AMOTs, JMWAVE's own intelligence organization, kept in the shadows as JMDUSK. Bring in a few people from Johnny Roselli's organized crime pals to assist with the gunplay – after all, Morales, Johnny Roselli, and the disgraced Bill Harvey had spent many months scheming on how to kill Castro – and there is the "**dark quadrant**" where intelligence networks, the underworld of mobsters and Cuban exiles, and corporate interests come together. Was Bill Harvey himself part of this group? That's a subject that deserves further study. What's important is to watch the movements of Harvey's people.

There is a long and confusing paper trail about a Mexican operation with Morales, Sforza, and Phillips trying to help get double agent AMLEO-3's wife out of Cuba during the last few days leading up to November 22, one that should be untangled sooner rather than later.[4] During that operation, Phillips did a frantic tap-dance on paper about whether he would be in Mexico City or Dallas on the 22nd. As his nephew Shawn has told us, Phillips was in Dallas that day.[5] Phillips was one of the great cover-up artists of all time. I'm unconvinced that Phillips was privy to the assassination plans, mainly because his cover-up operations were so poorly done. For example, Alvarado's cover story was based on Oswald being in Mexico City on September 18, which took almost no time at all for the FBI to disprove. Nonetheless, it would have been advantageous for Morales or Sforza to convince **Phillips to be in Dallas on November 22**, which may have happened, as indicated at the end of the lengthy endnote 4 in this chapter. There was a long paper trail displaying Phillips' movements after Oswald was impersonated in Mexico City. Phillips was highly motivated to make sure that the questions about Oswald were hushed up, and he had the skills to do it.

Men like Morales and Sforza were experienced in special operations. Their buddy Rip Robertson was an adventurer that defied authority and did what he pleased off the books. Commander Hal Feeney knew how to work within the confines of authority, and then did as he pleased. Feeney is a possible assassination planner – I'm always reminded that the planners needed someone in the Navy to smooth the way for the controlled autopsy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. Roselli knew where to find more men with the ability and the motivation to conduct a hit job. Morales, in particular, had motive, means and opportunity.

Shackley described Morales as his Chief of Operations in 1963.[6] Bradley Ayers, who was stationed at JMWAVE, said that Morales "ran all the station's activities with a heavy hand and was famous for his temper. We soon learned that no one, save Ted Shackley, argued with Dave."[7] Larry Hancock has heard that even Shackley was scared of Morales and did not try to micromanage him. Sforza worked under Morales at JMWAVE in 1963, and saw Morales as his brother.[8] In late 1961, Morales was seconded to **ZRRIFLE**, Harvey's program of political assassinations. During this period, Morales worked closely with William Harvey, Johnny Roselli, John Martino, Rip Robertson, Hal Feeney, and many others.[9]

Morales had all the skills to get the job done. In the years after the assassination, Morales recruited **Félix Rodríguez** to train and head the team that captured **Che Guevara**. Guevara was attempting to persuade Bolivian tin miners to join his revolutionary army. When Guevara was captured, it was Rodriguez who interrogated him before his execution was ordered in October, 1967. John Tilton was the **station chief in La Paz** and aided Morales in Guevara's capture. **CIA agent Tom Clines** agreed that Morales helped **Felix Rodriguez** capture Che Guevara:

"We all admired the hell out of the guy. He drank like crazy, but he was bright as hell. He could fool people into thinking he was stupid by acting stupid, but he knew about cultural things all over the world. People were afraid of him. He was big and aggressive, and he had this mystique. Stories about him permeated the Agency. If the Agency needed someone action-oriented, he was at the top of the list. If the U.S. government as a matter of policy needed someone or something neutralized, Dave would do it, including things that were repugnant to a lot of people." [10]

Researcher John Simkin adds:

In 1966 **Ted Shackley** was placed in charge of **CIA** secret war in **Laos**. He recruited Morales to take charge at Pakse, a black operations base focused on political paramilitary action within Laos. Pakse was used to launch military operations against the Ho Chi Minh Trail. In 1969 Morales moved to **Vietnam** where he officially worked as a Community Development Officer for the **International Development Agency**. [11]

Morales, Shackley and **Tilton** were leaders in the PHOENIX program in Vietnam, an operation that killed about 30,000 Vietnamese civilians while trying to find out the loyalties of villagers to the Viet Cong. [12]

Morales, Sforza, and Phillips were in the thick of the Chile coup in 1973. During this period, former AMWORLD chief Harry Hecksher was the chief of station in Chile. [13] Phillips and Sforza were part of the group involved in the assassination of Chilean General Rene Schneider in 1970 in a failed effort to instigate a coup when the socialist Salvador Allende was elected. [14] When journalist Seymour Hersh got wind of Sforza's role in Chile, the word was that Shackley said, "Don't worry about Sforza – he is loyal – anyway, he can be trusted, even if we have to dump him. Of course, he will not be able to do the good that Phillips has done." [15]

Phillips knew how to conduct an assassination, although I put him in the cover-up role because I don't think he would have been comfortable leaving a paper trail showing his visits to Langley and Miami in the days prior to the molehunt of October 1963. As recounted in Chapter 3, Phillips and Antonio Veciana almost killed Castro with a bazooka in 1961. He got better at it over the years. **Phillips played a role in the assassination of General Rene Schneider in Chile in 1970** in a failed effort to prevent President Salvador Allende from taking power. During the early seventies, Phillips created a grisly "Quartered Man" legend based on a torso found at the national soccer stadium that he skillfully turned into a metaphor of leftist plans to decapitate the Chilean military. Two years of developing this theme in the mass media helped create the conditions for the coup in 1973. [16]

There are various stories about Morales' role. One version is that Morales was in the presidential palace at the time of Allende's death. Another version is that Morales boasted to a close friend that he helped kill President Allende in the midst of the coup. While the CIA claims that Allende committed suicide, many members of Allende's family and colleagues still believe that he may have been murdered and had an autopsy done in early 2011. [17] Morales and his buddies, in every sense of the word, were monsters.

Morales is also one of the few men who made provocative admissions of involvement in the Kennedy assassination before several credible and articulate witnesses. HSCA investigator Gaeton Fonzi wrote the initial account of Morales' admission, a stunning slip by Morales during a drunken tirade about JFK's cowardice during the Bay of Pigs. During that night, Morales told his lawyer Bob Walton, Walton's wife, and his best friend Ruben Carbajal about his "killing in Vietnam and Laos, about being involved in the capture of Che Guevara in Bolivia, of hits in Paraguay and Uruguay and Venezuela". Morales called JFK "that no good son of a bitch motherfucker"...

"He started yelling about what a wimp Kennedy was and talking about how he had worked on the Bay of Pigs and how he had to watch all the men he had recruited and trained get wiped out because of Kennedy. Walton says Morales' tirade about Kennedy, fueled by righteous anger and high-proof booze, went on for minutes while he stomped around the room. Suddenly he stopped, sat back on the bed and remained silent for a moment. Then, as if saying it only to himself, he added, "Well, we took care of that son of a bitch, didn't we?"

I looked at Morales' (best friend) Ruben Carbajal, who had remained silent while Walton (Morales' attorney) was telling me this. Carbajal looked at me and nodded his head. Yes, he was there, it was true. But, in all the long hours we had spent together and all the candid revelations he had provided, it was a remembrance he couldn't bring himself to tell me about his friend Didi (Morales)." [18]

That was the end of the party. The group broke apart and went to bed.

In evaluating Morales' confession, HSCA investigator Gaeton Fonzi gave his opinion after many years of first-hand interviews and research.

"What I find credible were the people who told me that's what he said. And these were the people who had no connection to the work that Morales was involved with. Who were very close friends of Morales. And who had very legitimate backgrounds. One was a Harvard law school graduate. So on that basis, yeah. I find that what was told to me about what Morales said credible." [19]

Wayne Smith, a 25-year man at the State Department, knew Morales during the Bay of Pigs era:

I knew Morales quite well, he worked at the CIA station in Havana when I was third secretary of the political section. And I got to know him fairly well, and saw him again a number of times, he came to

Buenos Aires when I was political counselor down there and we had dinner at a friend's house one evening..."[20]

Smith has affirmed Morales' hatred of JFK. [21] Smith has also said that "if (Morales) were in the mob he'd be called a hit man." [22]

Morales' father left the family when Morales was only four and known as "Didi". The Carbajal family ran a popular Phoenix restaurant, and treated Morales as family. Didi and Ruben played high school football together, and traveled together constantly throughout their boyhood. Author David Talbot recently conducted yet another revealing interview with Carbajal: "Carbajal does know who killed JFK – it was the CIA, he said, without naming any individuals. Morales and his close colleague Tony Sforza both told him the agency was behind the Dallas plot...if the son of a bitch caused the deaths of all these people (at the Bay of Pigs), he deserved to die." [23]

Harvey and Roselli claimed knowledge about how "Castro killed JFK"

Another person who admitted knowledge about the JFK assassination was the mobster Johnny Roselli. He was the kind of guy who spelled his own last name "Rosselli" even though his birth name was "Roselli". [24] Roselli only admitted it to his lawyer and friend Tom Warden, who then passed it on to his former law partner William Hundley, the man who used to run the Justice Department's Organized Crime Section. [25]

Shortly before Roselli died, Washington Post columnist Jack Anderson wrote: "(Roselli) hinted to associates that he knew who had arranged President Kennedy's murder. It was the same conspirators, he suggested, whom he had recruited earlier to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castro...Snipers were dispatched to a Havana rooftop. They were caught... According to Roselli, Castro enlisted the same underworld elements who had caught plotting against him (to go to Dallas)." [26]

Think about it. Harvey and Roselli know who was recruited to kill Fidel and who might have been captured. Why didn't they tell anyone who it was? I am convinced that they made up this entire story. Opening his mouth like this – even though I think Roselli altered a couple important details - is probably what got Roselli killed a few months later during July 1976. Bill Harvey had unexpectedly died the previous month.

After these two men died, Jack Anderson admitted that both of them were the main sources for his stories about how Castro killed JFK to retaliate for the ZRRIFLE assassination plots. Harvey and Roselli told Anderson that the CIA withheld the supposed Castro-killed-JFK revelation for two reasons: The Agency didn't want to reveal the ZRRIFLE program, and "had a legitimate concern" that the American people might be enflamed to take "rash action", such as an attack on Cuba.

This is highly significant, because Harvey hated the media. David Martin, the author of *Wilderness of Mirrors*, said that Harvey hung up on him whenever he tried to talk with him. Others had similar experiences. Here is Harvey acting as the source to the famous liberal Jack Anderson about the most sensitive program he had ever worked on. Harvey and Roselli played Anderson like a violin. Did they use their role in ZRRIFLE to divert attention away from their role in JFK's assassination?

By 1978, David Morales had died without warning. [27] Tony Sforza was dead by 1984. Hal Feeney, who was more successful in avoiding public scrutiny, recently died in 2012. Feeney's pal, the Rev. Jack Modesett (see Chapter 3), officiated at his funeral. Rev. Modesett left the Navy in 1964 and joined the ministry, apparently putting his faith in a higher power than assassinations. [28]

Peter Dale Scott suggests that the rooftop event referred to above was probably a 3/13/63 bazooka attack in Havana organized by Morales and Roselli, where Samuel Moreno was arrested. Scott then offers a pithy analysis of Roselli's story:

"Whether or not one believes Castro's intelligence networks to have been involved, one can entertain the hypothesis that a shooter team, in effect licensed by the CIA to kill Castro, might then have come back from Cuba and killed the President...the mere appearance that a CIA team had been "turned around", while other killers took care of the actual job, would have been enough to coerce the CIA and its friends into the ranks of those claiming to be true believers in a lone assassin." [29] (emphasis added)



Serving as sources to columnist Jack Anderson in the Washington Post, Harvey and Roselli played the famous journalist like a violin. Did they use their role in ZRRIFLE to divert attention away from their role in JFK's assassination?

For years, there had been a need to insulate all of the Castro assassination stories from the Warren Commission and the mass media. **Information on Cubela** had been kept within Bill Harvey's **Staff D**. Cubela was given **poison and a delivery device to kill Castro designed by Staff D** in the moments just before the JFK assassination. That was a story that was not going to be allowed to run in the New York Times during the 1960s - especially when you consider that **Castro was discussing rapprochement with the journalist Jean Daniel** during those same moments of November 22.

The motive to kill JFK

The motive to kill JFK is pretty clear. Many exiles, CIA and Pentagon officials were furious at Kennedy's refusal to rescue the Cuban exile forces at the Bay of Pigs. When JFK issued a no-invasion pledge after the missile crisis, the anti-Castro forces were livid. When JFK ordered the exiles to halt launching attacks from the United States, relations went from bad to worse. When JFK began to parley with Castro for a durable peace, many of these people just wanted to kill him. The Cuban exiles were always looking for a way to trigger a provocation that would result in an invasion of Cuba. I think most CIA officials and others who knew American politics would consider an invasion to be a long shot, but some would be willing to make the effort. JFK's killers wanted future Presidents to know who was boss and to stay out of their turf. All signs are that the message was heard loud and clear. **LBJ's chief of staff Marvin Watson** said in 1967 that Johnson believed that **"the CIA was involved"** in the JFK assassination.

Bobby Kennedy's Justice Department had made life hell for the mob and their friends. Jimmy Hoffa, pals with Chicago's Sam Giancana, was in perpetual hot water. New Orleans boss Carlos Marcello had been shipped to Guatemala without notice. Miami boss Santos Trafficante was losing his investments in Cuba.

For Roselli and his buddy Sam Giancana, their problems with JFK were very personal. All three of these men shared a sexual relationship with Judith Campbell. The strong feelings that come up in such a situation should be taken into account.

Roselli and Giancana were also part of the CIA operations to kill Castro. What better act of extortion was there than to turn around the CIA-Mafia plans to kill Castro and to kill Kennedy instead? The CIA would be shamed into silence. Similarly, the Kennedy family would not want JFK's memory tarnished with the tawdry story of Judith Campbell made public.

Shortly before his death in 1975, Roselli associate John Martino admitted to former Miami Newsday reporter John Cummings that he had disseminated phony stories tying Oswald to the assassination of JFK. Martino said that two of the gunmen were Cuban exiles. Cummings told this story to journalist Anthony Summers, adding that: "He told me he'd been part of the assassination of Kennedy. He wasn't in Dallas pulling a trigger, but he was involved. He implied that his role was delivering money, facilitating things.... He asked me not to write it while he was alive." [30]

Martino's business partner, Fred Claasen was interviewed by Earl Golz of the Dallas Morning News. His story was that Martino told him that he was a courier delivering money for the group.

"The anti-Castro people put Oswald together. Oswald didn't know who he was working for - he was just ignorant of who was really putting him together. Oswald was to meet his contact at the Texas Theatre. They were to meet Oswald in the theatre, and get him out of the country, then eliminate him. Oswald made a mistake... There was no way we could get to him. They had Ruby kill him." [31]

Martino's wife Florence Martino told Anthony Summers that her husband said to her on the morning of the 22nd of November, 1963: "Flo, they're going to kill him (Kennedy). They're going to kill him when he gets to Texas." [32]

Clark Simmons and Richard Cain: Possible assassination participants that merit close scrutiny

Morales had a **close relationship** with Clark W. Simmons, who served as **C/WH/4/CI** (chief of Western Hemisphere counterintelligence, Cuba) in 1961 and **Chief, WH/SAS/IOS** (investigations and operational support for the Cuban division SAS) in 1965. Simmons was intimately familiar with the duties of the various AMOT teams in Miami.[33] During September 1963, SAS/IOS was in the thick of the **AMTRUNK operation** as well as trying to get Azcue's colleague (**AMLEO-3's wife**) out of Cuba. I think it is crucial to learn much more about Simmons, and specifically everything we can about SAS/IOS. If you are conducting an assassination, operational support is exactly what you need. Simmons had the know-how to get it done.

SAS/IOS **knew a lot** about Richard Cain, **the crooked cop in Chicago who worked with Sam Giancana and Johnny Roselli**. The CIA's Office of Security chief was so nervous about Cain in 1967 that he lied and said that the Agency had never **"employed or utilized"** him, while the Chicago field office referred to Cain in 1961 as **"our private eye"**. During 1962, Cain also claimed to work for **"Gyrose"** (Bill Harvey's **Task Force W**), although Whitten's branch reported that Cain's claim **could not be substantiated**. In October 1963, the Office of Security disapproved any use of Cain as a source as it **repeated** the finding of "no substantiation". I conclude that Cain was an inside source for Harvey himself. Cain's skills with wiretaps, as well as his myriad connections with the Chicago criminal underground, were just what Harvey and Roselli needed. In the words of Peter Dale Scott, "a CIA component willing to collaborate with Giancana's men in assassination would certainly have no problem in recruiting Giancana's electronic expert for a wiretap operation." [34]

Cain had reason to be mad at Mexico City station chief Win Scott. Cain had been deported from Mexico in June of 1962, based on a tip to interior minister Gustavo Diaz that Cain was **investigating Mexican citizens**. This tip came to Diaz after Cain visited Scott at the Mexico City station, looking for work and telling him how he was training Mexico government agents in **investigative techniques**. Just one of Cain's classes alone included 23 students; approved by the federal police, he described the participants as "representing every law enforcement agency in Mexico, from the equivalent of the FBI on down to the local police." [35]

Diaz's tip led to the discovery that Cain was **impersonating a treasury agent** – probably a DFS officer - while he was working at the treasury department and conducting these **trainings**. Cain **spoke Spanish**, had a **Mexican wife**, and enjoyed **living in Mexico** much of the time. He had wiretapped the Czech embassy in Mexico City.[36] The odds are good that Cain trained one or more of the very DFS and Mexican army officers that worked inside the intercept center in Mexico City. A connection with any of the officers at the intercept center would have been an ideal way for someone like Harvey or Morales to introduce false information about Oswald within the insecure LIENVOY wiretap system. Cain's **efforts to wiretap the County Building** on behalf of the sheriff's office was a staple in the local Chicago news. Stanley Figolak (pseudonym **Horace Goelet**) of the Special Affairs Staff specifically sought out Cain for a meeting about a month before the Oswald visit to Mexico. Days later, **Staff D took a long look at Cain**. So did **John Tilton**.

During the midst of his reports on the Chicago FPCC in the fall of 1963, Cain was closely in touch with **Juan Salvat**, the DRE's military coordinator who was busy shopping for heavy weaponry. Although the Miami-based DRE is best known as being sponsored by the **psychological warfare chief George Johannides**, Salvat reported that his group was secretly being sponsored by "the Pentagon, which is in competition with CIA". Figolak told Cain to **get away** from the DRE.

Allegedly an **ex-Army Intelligence officer**, we know Cain helped out the **CIA** during the early sixties as an **informant**. Cain had gone to Cuba to assassinate Castro in late 1960, and barely escaped with his life.[37] **Tilton learned about Cain's work** just days before **starting his own anti-FPCC program**. Both **Simmons** and **Cain** had a history of investigating the FPCC. What we don't know yet is whether Cain worked with Simmons or Tilton.

We do know that Simmons worked with CIA security official Joseph Langan in the outrageous attempt to cover up the American origin of the planes that conducted the surprise attack on Castro's planes right before the Bay of Pigs.[38] Ambassador Adlai Stevenson publicly claimed that this surprise attack was the work of **internal Cuban defectors**, and was furious to find out that he had been lied to by his own people.

We also know that Simmons and Harvey's people had access to highly sensitive information in 1962 – the deficiencies of the Secret Service. **Simmons** joined Richard Helms, Ghosn Zogby (**Bill Harvey's** predecessor at the **Cuba desk**), and Victor Wallen (**Harvey's CI chief**) for a scathing review of the Secret Service by one of its prominent agents, Ernest Ignacio Aragon.[39] Aragon had a lot of inside knowledge, which can be seen in his reports as an emissary on Cuban affairs for Bobby Kennedy.[40] As mentioned in the previous chapter, Angleton's CI staff also had access to much of this material.

After the assassination, Aragon wrote one of the first memos about "the violently anti-Kennedy" Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro. [41] Rodriguez was **five foot nine, 145 pounds**, and identified as "Oswald" during one of his visits to Sulfur, Oklahoma. [42] Rodriguez deserved then and deserves now much closer scrutiny as a possible Oswald double.

Given Simmons' attempt to hide the American origin of the planes at the Bay of Pigs - which, if true, was an act of treason - how could Simmons be trusted with the practices of the Secret Service? The internal procedures of the Secret Service are among the crown jewels of the United States. If you can't protect your leaders, you can't protect anything. These procedures are just as important as the nuclear bomb codes. These procedures, like the codes, are vulnerable to the masters of sigint.

Complicity of the Secret Service

The first signs of Secret Service complicity in the JFK assassination can be seen in Chicago three weeks before 11/22/63. Like Oswald, there was an ex-serviceman in Chicago who had odd political beliefs and a history of **work on the U-2** in Japan. This ex-serviceman, Thomas Arthur Vallee, had rifles and **hundreds of rounds of ammunition** in his home. **He landed a job in the downtown area overseeing a major transportation artery**, just weeks before JFK was scheduled to travel to an address at Soldier Field.

Just before JFK was to arrive in Chicago, the Secret Service got a tip that a four-man right-wing sniper team was planning to kill the President on a **slow stretch of the road** as he was riding on his motorcade into the Chicago Loop. William Greer had been assigned to be JFK's limousine **driver**; Greer would receive the same assignment three weeks later in Dallas. One of the agents who heard the news was the first African American Secret Service agent to serve at the White House Detail – Abraham Bolden. Bolden would pay dearly for his knowledge. [43]

The Secret Service also received a second tip that the ex-serviceman Vallee had threatened to kill Kennedy. **Vallee was picked up** by two Chicago police officers after hours of surveillance, under the pretense of an improper turn signal, just two hours before Kennedy's arrival at O'Hare Airport. The four-man sniper team was never captured, but JFK's people had got the word and his trip was cancelled.[44] Richard Cain was outrageous enough to position himself as "**deeply involved**" in the JFK assassination investigation in the days following November 22. Was Cain involved in the Chicago attempt?

JFK had a speaking engagement in Tampa on November 18, just four days before his Dallas trip. The authorities were alerted about an **Tampa FPCC member** named Gilberto Policarpo Lopez, a **Cuban national** with an American wife. The story is that **Jim Angleton** always believed that Policarpo may have been involved in the Kennedy assassination. Policarpo was reportedly in Dallas on November 22, was **in Mexico by the 23rd**, and within a week had **returned to Cuba**. Whether Jim Angleton ever figured it out - or knew all too much about it - FPCC member Policarpo was almost certainly being set up as a possible fallguy if JFK was killed in Florida.

JFK had a speaking engagement in Miami on the same date as Tampa – days after the assassination, the **authorities were alerted by Anita Potocki about Santiago Garriga** (AMKNOB-1), who had just started a **Miami FPCC chapter** the previous month. Harvey's people may have been trying to set up Garriga as an alternate patsy.

In the days after the events in Dallas, the Chicago field office of the Secret Service received some tips about Homer Echevarria, a Cuban exile who had **threatened Kennedy on the day before the assassination**. Despite an investigation, no action was taken by the field office against Echevarria. This did not go unnoticed by Abraham Bolden, the first African American Secret Service officer to serve at the White House. Bolden had earned that honor by being personally singled out by JFK. He had become friends with the President and his family, and he was very loyal.

After learning that someone **flashing Secret Service credentials** at the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza immediately after the shooting to **officer Joe Marshall Smith** had been allowed to proceed on his way unchallenged, although **no agents** were on the scene, Bolden concluded that the White House detail's protection of the President "was a complete sham. The detail was an unhealthy conglomeration of cocky senior agents, **few of whom showed much respect for Kennedy**, and inexperienced probationary agents and trainees who may or may not have fully understood the gravity of their assignment...I suspected the responsible parties set up the agents on the president's protection detail by exploiting their reputed weaknesses for women and booze. Somehow, I theorized, they had managed to get the identification of one of those agents...

I firmly believed that the officer who confronted the unknown suspect behind the picket fence immediately after the assassination was indeed shown an authentic Secret Service commission book, the book that had been lost by, or taken from, an alcohol-impaired agent the night before. Further, I was convinced that the Secret Service leadership acted to conceal or at least obfuscate this facts by providing **new commission books** for all the agents in the Service. The Service has, of course, publicly denied this. Finally, it seems an inescapable conclusion that high officials in the U.S. government...have concealed or altered supporting evidence (about the assassination)." [45]

On May 17, 1964, while in Washington DC, Bolden attempted to report to counsel J. Lee Rankin of the Warren Commission his knowledge about the Secret Service's drinking on duty on the night before the events in Dallas, as well as the Chicago and Tampa attempts. The next day, Bolden was arrested on a phony bribery charge and wound up in prison until 1969. [46]

In the days after the assassination, the Secret Service and the Dallas police took possession of **a set of metal file cabinets of "Cuban sympathizers"** from the home where the Oswald family was staying. Those file cabinets have never been seen again. In 1995, the ARRB asked the Secret Service to provide the presidential protection survey reports for some of JFK's trips during the fall of 1963, as well as the FPCC file and reports of threats to JFK in Dallas. The response of the Secret Service was to **destroy all of these records**.

When everything is put together, the conduct of Secret Service agents Roy Kellerman and William Greer is very troubling

Given this background, I am very troubled by the conduct of Secret Service agents Roy Kellerman and William Greer, who rode in the front seat of the presidential limousine on November 22. I don't like accusing anyone without strong and telling evidence, and this is an instance where no one item of evidence will tell the story. Given that **four million pages** were released in the late nineties, and Palamara's **eighty Secret Service interviews** have been conducted only since the eighties, the role of the Secret Service has to be reviewed as if it was the first time.

When Palamara reported that **the tall buildings were not checked in Dallas** - which violated the **Secret Service guideline that mandated inspection whenever the motorcade route was one that had been used in the past**, as was the case here - the hairs went up on the back of my neck. U. E. Baughman, the former chief of the Secret Service referred to this as **a rigid rule**.

After reviewing the various roles they have played, I believe that Greer and Kellerman deserve close scrutiny. Although I am not an expert on this aspect of the case, Vince Palamara has studied the Secret Service for many years. Although Palamara describes himself as a **great admirer** of the Secret Service, he considers Greer to be a prime suspect. For the reasons set forth below, I am concerned about several Secret Service officers, including Greer and Kellerman.

The way to stop an assassination attempt is to immediately protect the body of the President, like Agent Rufus Youngblood **who hurled his body** on top of Vice President Lyndon Johnson. Many assassination cases involve a breakdown in security, and this case is no exception.

Just look at the Zapruder film. Greer was JFK's driver. Greer was trained to accelerate and swerve if the President was in danger, but he did just the opposite. The consensus of 59 witnesses indicates that Greer slowed down the limousine after the first shot was fired, and that Greer accelerated after he looked back twice at the President and the last shots were fired.

The best witness of all was Jackie Kennedy. She said that Greer had not acted during the crucial moment, that he might just as well have been Miss Shaw" (the children's nanny), and if Greer had hit the gas "Jack might still be alive." Greer's son indicated that his father was one of those people who had no respect for John F. Kennedy. Greer was a servant for JFK's rival Henry Cabot Lodge for many years, and was a Northern Irish Protestant in an era where the Protestant-Catholic hatred was palpable. When Greer's son was asked "what did your father think of JFK?", the son was silent. When the question was repeated, Greer responded: "Well, we're Methodists ... and JFK was Catholic."

Roy Kellerman was the assistant special agent in charge of security, the Secret Service's #3 man for the White House Detail and the agency's official in charge of the entire Texas journey. Although the Warren Report stated that Kellerman sent a tentative schedule for the trip on November 8, Kellerman claimed that he was not even informed of the assignment until November 17. On the 22nd, Kellerman was in the front seat, while William Greer drove the limousine.

The Secret Service informed the Warren Commission that there were "two general principles in emergencies involving the President. All agents are so instructed." The first principle was to shield JFK with his body at the first sign of danger. Kellerman barely moved a muscle during the seven seconds of shooting. The second principle was to "remove the President as quickly as possible from known or impending danger." Only after the fatal head shot seven seconds later did Greer hit the accelerator. Why?

Kellerman admitted that Connally's position between him and the President did not present a serious obstacle. Greer was reduced to telling Jackie Kennedy how sorry he was that he never swerved the car. Granted, even trained agents can freeze in a confusing situation such as this ambush. It is also well-documented that a number of Secret Service agents had been drinking in the early morning hours before the assassination. But there are more problems.

Gerald Blaine, the author of the popular book *The Kennedy Detail*, bases much of his story on the claim by Kellerman's advance man Winston Lawson that JFK asked the Secret Service agents to not ride along on the rear of the limousine so that he could more easily engage with the public. Researcher Vince Palamara has collected statements from more than twenty Secret Service agents saying that Kennedy never said anything of the kind.

When Kellerman heard the first shot, he claimed that he told Greer to accelerate and that Greer immediately did so before a "flurry of shots" were fired. A complete lie. After the first shot, Kellerman froze and never even tried to shield the President with his body for the next seven seconds. The kill shots then took JFK's life. Greer looked back at JFK twice and slowed down the limousine before the kill shots. Only after those shots did Greer step on the accelerator.

Again, the failure of these two agents is not enough to indict them. However, Kellerman and Greer have consistently muddled the waters. The men told some people that the shooter was a lone gunman, while telling others that there was "more to the assassination than what was officially pronounced". Kellerman insisted to the Warren Commission that there were more than three shots, and then abruptly changed direction in the middle of his testimony and said there were only three shots. The two men baffled anyone who tried to analyze their actions on that fateful day.

Kellerman also led the charge to prevent the Dallas coroner Earl Rose from conducting any kind of autopsy of the President. Kellerman's play was fully backed by White House medical officer George Burkley, who did his best to control the autopsy later on. When Rose protested that moving the President would break the chain of evidence in the hour after the assassination, Kellerman drew his gun on Rose. At a minimum, a battery of photographs could have been easily taken. Kellerman and his Secret Service colleagues took not only the President's body, but the second-most important evidentiary item - the limousine, filled with loose and unphotographed bullet fragments and organic matter that was not properly protected.

Although Kellerman was with JFK's body for many hours after the assassination, he denied seeing any wounds that emanated from the front or ever believing that the shots came from the front. Patrolman Hurchel Jacks saw an entrance wound over the President's right ear or near the temple as he was removed from the limousine. Dr. Robert McClelland, a trauma surgeon at Parkland, has said publicly for many years, "I think he was shot from the front...I think that the rifle bullet hit him in the side of the head and blew out the back of his head." [47] Parkland neurosurgeon Robert Grossman and trauma surgeon Charles Crenshaw also concluded that at least one head shot came from the front. In the moment announcing JFK's death, press secretary Malcolm Kilduff said that it was his understanding that the cause of death was a bullet entering the right temple, and that he was relying on White House medical officer Dr. George Burkley. These conclusions are backed up by the twenty-one officers who reported shots emanating from the front of the motorcade.

Kellerman went so far as to tell FBI agents Sibert and O'Neill on 11/22/63 that JFK had said "take me to a hospital" immediately after he had been shot in the neck. Kellerman denied saying such a thing, changing the quote to "My God, I am hit" five days later. No one else heard JFK say anything after the first shot. An FBI supervisor told Alan Belmont that Kellerman "had decided to paint the most favorable picture possible, under the circumstances, for the Secret Service."

Strange conduct at the autopsy

Kellerman and Greer **parked themselves** right in the middle of the autopsy room, where the **pathologists** on the scene were intimidated into conducting what has been called a controlled autopsy. Who was leaning on the pathologists James Humes, Thornton Boswell, and Pierre Finck? Kellerman himself? Other Secret Service agents? The FBI? Or the doctors' superiors? And was it planned before the assassination, rather than an after-the-fact reaction?

I would say Kellerman was doing some leaning, and that he had some help from White House doctor **Burkley**. Although we don't agree on Kellerman, I am indebted to my friend Larry Hancock for his observations about the autopsy - and especially his observation that Burkley was answering to Lyndon Johnson, and not the Kennedy family. Kellerman offered his **admittedly-uninformed** opinions about the **location of the bullet in the back** to wounds specialist Dr. Pierre Finck, who had two good eyes, many years of expertise, and didn't need Kellerman's help. Kellerman inaccurately referred to it as a wound to the **"shoulder"**. Kellerman admitted in 1977 that **Secret Service agent Richard Johnsen** had told him at Parkland that he had received a **near-pristine "magic bullet"**, purportedly **found on a stretcher at Parkland Hospital**. This is a far different story than Kellerman told the Warren Commission. Kellerman said in 1964 that he didn't know about the bullet until **Chief Rowley called him at 9 pm during the autopsy**. Why did Kellerman lie in 1964? I think it was because Kellerman did not want to give the impression that he was interfering with the autopsy in any way. But Kellerman did interfere. Kellerman **"suggested"** to Finck - and **Dr. Humes** thereafter assumed - that the stretcher bullet would account for the back wound. This was the only bullet that matched the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle found on the sixth floor. The magic bullet **looked most like** the bullets that had been shot through **cotton wadding**.

Since the wallet has been positively identified as planted evidence by agent Barrett, isn't it logical to assume that there is a lot more?

In other words, this bullet looks like a plant, fired through the thrown-down Mannlicher-Carcano before the events at Dealey Plaza, designed to bring down Oswald. Perpetrators plant evidence in order to get away with their operation. When you come across planted evidence, you are coming across some of the most important evidence imaginable.

When FBI agent Barrett went public last November and accused Paul Bentley of lying about finding the wallet in Oswald's pocket, that was an enormous break in the JFK case. If a Dallas police officer would plant evidence on an accused assassin less than two hours after the President was killed and less than an hour after a police officer has been killed, it is fair to assume that other evidence has been planted as well. Why would someone stop with planting just one piece of evidence?

Barrett condoned Bentley's lie in his official report by saying that **too many officers handled the crucial piece of evidence** at the shooting scene, which had identification for both Oswald and the supposed FPCC head "Alex Hidell". Incredibly, the reporter refers to the wallet as "the first hard evidence placing Oswald there on that day". Actually, it's strong proof of the planting of evidence. Why would Oswald shoot the cop dead, complete with a coup de grace to the head, and then leave on the ground the wallet that he had given the cop just seconds earlier? Anyone with any sense of self-preservation would not do that. Oswald may or may not have had a wallet on him when he was arrested, but no other wallet had the **"Alex Hidell"** Selective Service card identification in it that the Dallas police confronted him with during interrogation.

The history of the magic bullet indicates a plan to frame Oswald

Now that we've reviewed the history of Oswald's wallet, let's look at the history of the magic bullet. This amazing story has been carefully pieced together by analysts such as Sylvia Meagher in the sixties and John Hunt in the last few years. **Johnsen's initials** are nowhere on the magic bullet, despite regulations mandating Secret Service agents to initial forensic evidence. Johnsen handed it to his chief James Rowley at Andrews Air Force Base, who didn't initial it either. **Neither Johnsen nor Rowley could identify it** when shown it later. The positive ID was finally made by FBI agent Elmer Todd, who swore that he initialed the bullet - but **his initials are not on it** either. Todd has a written receipt from Rowley dated at 8:50 pm, which doesn't jibe with the FBI lab's claim that Todd delivered it to them by **7:30 pm**!

FBI
Date: 6/24/64
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-82555) AND SAC, DALLAS (100-10413)
FROM: SAC, WFO (100-37111)
SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD, IS A CUBAN
RE DALLAS AERTEL JUNE TWENTY LAST;
ON JUNE TWENTYFOUR INSTANT SA RICHARD E. JOHNSON, AND
JAMES ROWLEY, CHIEF, SOUTH UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE, ADVISED
SA ELMER LEE TODD, WFO, THAT THEY WERE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY
RIFLE BULLET, C ONE, BY INSPECTION. JOHNSON ADVISED TODD
THAT HE GAVE BULLET IN QUESTION TO ROWLEY WHO IN TURN GAVE
IT TO SA TODD. SA TODD IDENTIFIED BULLET BY INSPECTION THIS
DATE FROM EVIDENCE MARKED THROUGH FOR IDENT PURPOSES AT
FBI LABORATORY WFOH NICHOLS?
J. Rowley
E. Todd
JUL 1 1964
100-82555-100

Johnsen was given the bullet by Parkland hospital security director O.P. Wright, after orderly Darrell Tomlinson found it by a stretcher. Like Johnsen and Rowley, **neither Wright nor Tomlinson could identify the bullet**. In a 1967 Josiah Thompson interview, Wright was described as a professional law enforcement officer with **"an educated eye for bullet shapes"**. Wright told Thompson that the bullet looked like a 30-30 round and had a **pointed tip**, not a blunt tip like the 6.5 mm magic bullet. It looks like someone originally planted a 30-30 bullet on or near a **stretcher** before the **bullet was found some time between 1:30 and 1:45 pm**, in an effort to align the evidence with the **Dallas police dispatcher's report at 12:44 pm** that the 5 foot,165 pound shooter used a **30-30 or some type of Winchester**. (30-30 ammo has been used in Winchesters since the 19th Century.)

Neither of the Secret Service officers

who handled "the magic bullet" initialed it, nor could they later identify it.

Many years after Thompson's interview with Wright, a FBI memo was found which said that both Wright and Tomlinson thought that the bullet in evidence "appeared to be" the same one that they had seen on November 22. Thompson and his colleague Gary Aguilar

sought out the memo's author, FBI agent Bardwell Odum, and interviewed him about this **contradictory evidence** in 2002. Incredibly, Odum said that he **never had possession of the magic bullet**. Odum added that even though it was highly unlikely that he forgot such a significant event, the established procedure was to write up a report about something that important. No such memo has been found in the Archives, **despite numerous searches**. The use of Odum's identity is another astonishing piece of fabricated evidence.

If someone planted a 30-30 bullet by a stretcher minutes after the shooting, this indicates a plan that *pre-existed* the assassination. It also means that an actual switch with the magic bullet was made when someone decided that a bullet fired from the Mannlicher-Carcano was needed to tighten the chain of evidence incriminating Oswald. [48] This decision may have been made after Oswald emerged from the Texas Theatre alive. The Mannlicher-Carcano was not revealed as the murder weapon to the public until **11:45 pm on the 22nd**, allowing for plenty of time for switching the blunt tip 6.5 magic bullet in place of the pointed tip 30-30 bullet...and well after the reported time that Johnsen, Rowley, and Todd had custody of the bullet. Given that the magic bullet supposedly went through both men **seven times** with little sign of damage – and **left more metal in Connally than was missing from the bullet** – the evidence is very strong that this was a planted bullet. This is not a cover-up. This is a frame-up.

Dr. Finck said that one of the higher-ups ordered the autopsy doctors not to dissect **either the back or the throat wounds**. Nonetheless, medical technician Paul O'Connor said that all the doctors knew full well that the back wound did not exit from Kennedy's throat. They were later able to figure out that **the track of the bullet ended at the President's ribs** when the body was eviscerated.

Kellerman said the doctors never examined the throat wound, based on the order of hospital commander Admiral Calvin Galloway. Medical technician Paul O'Connor said that Galloway told them, "Leave it alone. Don't touch it. It's **just a tracheotomy**". O'Connor's account of Galloway ordering no probes of the throat wound was **corroborated** by his colleague James Jenkins. **Pathologist Pierre Finck also blamed Galloway**, claiming without corroboration that he was passing on the wishes of the Kennedy family. Dr. Thornton Boswell said that **they did know about the throat wound** even though it was obscured by the tracheotomy. In contrast, Dr. James Humes said that they had no idea that there was a throat wound until **the next morning when it was too late to dissect it**.

Dr. Robert Livingston, the scientific director for two of the National Institutes of Health, sought out Humes by telephone after he heard media reports about the throat injury. Livingston told Humes all about the throat wound during the afternoon of the 22nd, until he was cut off by "an FBI agent" at the very moment that he told Humes that **a frontal throat wound would mean that there was more than one gunman**. Livingston was a recognized expert in the field, and should have been treated with far greater respect. More importantly, Livingston's statements label Humes' claim that he didn't know about the throat injury until the 23rd as a flat-out lie. Commander Galloway stated that JFK was hit by only two bullets, **both of them from the rear**. Galloway would never address the throat evidence. Who got to Galloway?

The Kennedy family didn't realize that the autopsy records would be the center of controversy

On the head wounds, the best thinking is that there were at least two, one entering from the front and one from the back. Although the three pathologists backed each other up and denied the front head shot, the two technicians and others in Bethesda had no problem seeing these wounds. James Jenkins, one of the medical technicians at Bethesda, saw **a gray substance over the right ear** which he concluded was an entry wound caused by a bullet fragment. The other medical technician in Bethesda, Paul O'Connor, believed the bullet came in from the **front right**. The mortician Tom Robinson saw a **small hole** in the President's temple. This jibes with FBI's Alan Belmont report of a finding that a bullet was **lodged behind the right ear**. (See Chapter 6). Virtually everyone in Dallas and Bethesda saw the **right rear of the President's head blown out**, which is strong evidence of an exit wound. The **pathologists** also saw a **small entry wound** at the base of the rear skull.

In any normal case, this evidence would be central. Why did **Kellerman take possession** of the autopsy photographs, the unprocessed negatives and the X-Rays **during the night of the autopsy**? What legal authority did Kellerman have to possess these materials and then turn them over to **Robert L. Bouck**, the head of the Protective Research Service of the Secret Service? Even though White House doctor Burkley retained **titular control**, this evidence should have been held by the naval hospital or the District Attorney.

It looks like they were the scene of an internal power struggle. The Secret Service did have an investigation going, but they had little right to these records at all. Nor did the Kennedy family, but an FBI official claimed that **RFK used his powers as attorney general to sequester them** with Bouck. Was there some kind of compromise? Initially, the Kennedy family had no idea how controversial the autopsy records would become. It's understandable that the Kennedy family wanted the autopsy records away from the mass media, and that they made arrangements for these materials to be turned over to **JFK's secretary Evelyn Lincoln** in 1965. Earl Warren said he didn't want the autopsy records public because he wanted to avoid a "carnival", and that he and the Kennedy family were satisfied with the pathologists' testimony.

There's no real doubt about where the Kennedy family stood on the causes of the assassination. Both RFK and Jackie felt that the assassination was a **domestic operation**, and sent an emissary to tell the Soviets that within a week of the assassination. RFK said on the campaign trail that only when he had **the powers of the presidency** would he be able to adequately investigate his brother's death. Unfortunately, that day never came.

Elmer Moore of the White House Secret Service detail admitted to a researcher that it was a shame that Jack Kennedy had died, but that he was a "**traitor**" for giving things away to the Russians. Moore also admitted that he was the one who had badgered Dr. Malcolm Perry into changing his testimony to say that there was no entrance wound in the front of the President's neck. A 1963 news headline affirmed that "**After Visit by Agents, Doctors Say Shot was from Rear**". Four other agents expressed "**dismay**" over Kennedy's dalliances with women, which they were often forced to cover up. Kellerman, Greer, and their colleagues have earned withering scrutiny.



Both RFK and Jackie felt that the assassination was a domestic operation, and sent an emissary to tell the Soviets that within a week of the assassination.

Two Dallas police officers and a colleague should also be considered prime suspects

Two Dallas police officers and a colleague should also be considered prime suspects. The planners couldn't run this operation without friends inside the Dallas police who had access to the evidence.

One of them is Captain "Pinky" Westbrook, who was at the scene of the Tippit slaying and the Texas Theatre. I have a few problems with Westbrook. He was a **personnel officer** in charge of internal investigations. Westbrook had access to all of the police officers' internal files. Such a person has a lot of power. He would know who could be recruited to do a job, as well as who could be pressured to be quiet. Also, Westbrook generally wore no uniform. No one has ever offered a satisfactory explanation why Westbrook was out in the field at all that day, much less how he **suddenly appears** at the Tippit crime scene. More importantly, there is no explanation for his handling of Oswald's wallet. He wrote no report explaining how he received the wallet from Officer Kenneth Croy, who received it from "an unknown man".

Westbrook goes on to become the **man in charge** of the arrest scene at the Texas Theatre. As discussed in Chapter 6, a videotape shows that the wallet was in Westbrook's possession at the Tippit crime scene. Then it disappeared until it reappears in Oswald's pants pocket after his capture, where it was supposedly found again by suspect #2, polygraph chief Paul Bentley.

This funny business with the wallet is part of the set-up of the Kennedy assassination. **No explanation was ever provided** for the mysterious presence of the wallet at the Tippit crime scene for more than thirty years. My reading of the evidence is that Westbrook passed the wallet to Bentley, who then pretended to find it in Oswald's pocket. The other cops who saw the wallet at the Tippit crime scene knew it was a problem and conveniently forgot all about it. Westbrook also lost the list of theater patrons who were present at Oswald's arrest. Some of the patrons who have been found have provided some of the best evidence that Oswald was in the theater by 1:15 or so. Researcher John Armstrong reports that Westbrook took early retirement by 1966 and was working with the secret police in South Vietnam.[49] Most big city departments have a liaison officer with federal intelligence – was Westbrook that man?

Besides Westbrook and Bentley, one other suspect is affiliated with the Dallas police - Tippit's close friend Carl Mather. Mather did high-security communications work for **Collins Radio**, a major contractor for the CIA. Researcher Jones Harris conducted interviews and learned that Mather and Tippit were on the phone together during the morning of November 22. At about 2 pm, a man later identified as Oswald was spotted in a car eight blocks from the Texas Theatre. (The problem, of course, is that Oswald was already in

custody.) Fearing that the driver was about to conduct a robbery, a mechanic named T. F. White took down the license plate. When White saw Oswald on television later, he spoke to Dallas newscaster (and future mayor) Wes Wise and gave him the license plate number. When Wise ran a make on the number, it turned out that the license plate belonged to Mather.[50]

There's more. After Tippit was killed, Mather and his children went to Mrs. Tippit's home to comfort her, while Mather's wife stayed at home. It's unusual to see a man adopt the caregiver role in this moment of grief. Carl Mather knew that Marie Tippit had to be handled very carefully.[51] Fifteen years later, Mather was finally questioned by an HSCA investigator, but only after he received a grant of immunity. Mather still couldn't explain why the Oswald-like character was driving a red car, **because he didn't own one**. But the red car had Mather's license plates.

One final suspicious event revolves around Wesley Buell Frazier, **the only Oswald acquaintance who was arrested in Dallas on November 22**, and how chief polygraph examiner Paul Bentley claimed to know nothing about him. Bentley was the man at the Texas Theatre arrest scene who lied about taking Oswald's wallet from his back pocket. Frazier sometimes gave Oswald a ride to or from work, and drove him to work that morning. Frazier was the only man to claim that **Oswald had carried "curtain rods" in a bag to the Texas School Book Depository. Frazier owned a British Enfield 303, a rifle mysteriously identified by NBC as the murder weapon on November 22** before the story settled around the Mannlicher-Carcano. At about 6:45 pm, Frazier was arrested and picked up for questioning by the Dallas police. Was Frazier being set up as a possible patsy? One pristine Enfield 303 bullet on a stretcher would have done the job.

Frazier was taken into custody right after **Oswald had vehemently denied Frazier's curtain rod story during interrogation**. Oswald said the only package he carried to work was his **bag lunch**, containing **cheese, bread, fruit and apples**. An FBI report shows that Frazier was given a **polygraph** at about midnight by R.D. Lewis, the other examiner for the police department, and was then released. We do know that Frazier stated that **he did not think that the paper bag found by the police was what Oswald used to carry his curtain rods**. As **Frazier and his sister** were the only ones who ever saw Oswald carrying any kind of brown paper package, and as Frazier by far had the best look, the handmade paper bag "found" at the book depository could not be used as evidence. Several members of the Dallas police **methodically lied** about knowing about the "phantom polygraph" even though it was a matter of public record.

A voice stress analysis conducted by George O'Toole, a former chief of the CIA's Problems Analysis Branch, showed **chief polygraph examiner Paul Bentley lying about not knowing that Frazier was polygraphed**. Even if you **don't accept** voice stress analysis, it's impossible to believe that Bentley would forget such a significant incident. Why would Bentley lie about this polygraph, even when someone else actually conducted it? The man who conducted the polygraph, R. D. Lewis, claimed **he couldn't remember** it either. As stated in the FBI report, **"the Dallas Police Department (was) of the opinion the brown, heavy paper was used by Oswald to carry the rifle into the building where he was working."** The results of Frazier's polygraph killed that theory. Bentley wanted to see Oswald go down.[52] As mentioned in Chapter 6, even FBI agent Barrett has now labeled Bentley as a liar.

A review of the lead planners

Let's review the lead players in this sketch of an assassination plan with a short list of probable participants. The stories of Morales, Roselli, Martino, Simmons and Cain would explain why SAS, JMWAVE and FBI's Nationalities Intelligence were kept out of the assassination investigation. These agencies knew the Cuban side of the story. This would explain why Sforza, Charles Anderson and the AMOTs were given the only known assassination investigation tasks in Miami – they would ensure that it would go nowhere.

Helms, Angleton and Hoover were united around one central theme – cover-up to preserve their agencies and their reputations. They were extremely worried about what they might find among the shadow intelligence network that was run by Morales, with military intelligence, the AMOTs, the AMCHEERS, the AMFASTs. As we have seen throughout this book, these three men were the ones who had most of the evidence in their lap. Everyone else could only see very small parts of the proverbial elephant. These men and all other hands would be forced to participate in the cover-up to save their careers and their agencies from going under. The role of Phillips and Scott – were they conspirators, or mere cover-up artists? – is an intriguing discussion for another day. For some reason, **Phillips gave Morales' name** to author David Martin as a source when Martin was writing his biography of Angleton and Harvey, the brilliant *Wilderness of Mirrors*. **You can imagine how mad Morales was at Phillips** when he found this out.

Was Bill Harvey the mastermind behind Morales, or a lost soldier to be avenged? What I can say is the evidence on Harvey and his allies near the end drove me to think much harder about him than I had before.

I think this is what happened, or something close to it – while the Angleton-Egerton-Scott-Phillips-Goodpasture crowd was conducting molehunts around a confused adventurer like Oswald, the friends of the Morales-Roselli-Martino axis at SAS and JMWAVE used trusted sources within the AMOT shadow intelligence network to hijack Angleton's Oswald legend and commit the ultimate act of extortion.

If the CIA had tried to solve the JFK assassination, JMWAVE, SAS, the Mexico City station, Angleton's own CI division, and top officials like Dick Helms at Headquarters would have been tarred with a broad brush. Angleton's team had carefully watched Oswald for several years. Mexico City and Helms had used Oswald's file in the molehunt operation during October of 1963. JMWAVE and SAS were up to their ears in Castro assassination plots, which any reasonable person would assume might have backfired against them.

Whether or not Angleton was in on a plan to kill JFK, he was foisted with the job of having to cover up the murder of President Kennedy. It looks like Angleton himself got played as a patsy. He knew - in the most intimate ways possible - the impact of this terrible event on the world. Angleton, not Oswald, became a thoroughly unstable person. By all accounts, Angleton's increasingly erratic behavior after 1963 made it virtually impossible for the CIA to conduct a counterintelligence program against the Soviets for many years. Angleton could no longer take the offense against the Soviets. He would reject their defectors as unworthy or double agents. He hunkered into a defensive mode, and wound up **constantly accusing his own men as Soviet traitors**. As mentioned earlier, Congress was forced to pass what was informally known as the "Mole Relief Act" to compensate all the agents whose careers were destroyed by unfair charges. Angleton tore the Agency apart.

Conclusion

I want to start this wrap-up with a caveat. Reasonable people disagree about whether a group of people conducted the assassination or whether Oswald acted alone. Most people do not have the time to investigate this case in depth. I find that when people engage in a serious investigation, they are shocked by the state of the evidence. That is why I don't get mad or discouraged when casual observers don't accept my analysis of the assassination. I am confident that the facts are continuing to come out. For example, I am convinced that the impersonation of Oswald is a historical fact, but I do understand why people who are unfamiliar with the evidence refuse to draw the same conclusion.

The molehunt remains a theory. Further analysis is required to see if it holds up to scrutiny. If insiders like Morales spurred on the molehunt - or if they simply knew about it - they had great material to use for blackmailing the CIA and FBI. And even if the molehunt didn't happen - which I find very hard to believe - take it one more step. By having Lee Oswald as the sole suspect, just the possibility of being forced to expose the role of the wiretapping in Mexico City to the world was great blackmail material. How about being forced to expose the photosurveillance? Revealing to the entire world CI/SIG's key role in conducting in-house investigations of the CIA itself? How Harvey and his people at Staff D did second-story jobs around the world to crack codes and set up taps for the NSA? Remember how Warren Report author Alfred Goldberg said that Earl Warren's caution that some files would only be revealed "**not in your lifetime**" was "precisely" a reference to the work of the NSA.[53]

Any one of these things alone was a major barrier to a reasonable investigation. When all these obstacles are put together, the cover-up was the only possible result. Oswald was a great person to frame, because all of these tender spots came immediately into play.

Once the background is understood, this is not a complicated analysis. The czars of counterintelligence had created a complicated legend around Oswald. When the assassination happened, huge areas of terrain were deemed too sensitive to investigate. This terrain included the impersonation of Oswald, the September 28 and October 1 phone calls, the documented travel of David Phillips, the ensuing molehunt set forth in the October 8 memo and the twin memos of October 10, and the tale of the tapes. It also included the Castro assassination plots, the Cubela story, the FPCC, and just about anything to do with double agents or Cuba.

There is no way to justify these mighty agencies folding their arms and refusing to look at the role of the pro-Castro Cubans, much less the angry and belligerent anti-Castro underground. The top intelligence chiefs such as Ted Shackley at JMWAVE and Ray Wannall and Richard Cotter at the FBI testified at great length that they believed or were told that there was no need for them to get involved.

The JFK story has always resonated for the Agency. Interviews with CIA officers reveal the deep emotions running during those times. Many of them liked JFK, while many others hated him. The pseudonym for JFK used by the Secret Service was **Lancer** - he was the knight on a white horse. When the accusations began that the Agency had a role in JFK's death, it's no accident that the pseudonym used by the CIA to refer to itself switched to **JKLANCE**. At a minimum, the CIA chiefs knew that the JFK assassination did not receive an adequate investigation.



*When the accusations began that the Agency had a role in JFK's death, it's no accident that the pseudonym used by the CIA to refer to itself switched to **JKLANCE**.*

What will it mean when the impersonation of Oswald is accepted as a historical fact? That day is rapidly approaching. It's a reasonable corollary to the Mexico City tapes surviving the assassination, which has finally been accepted by most historians after decades of denial. If the impersonation is accepted, that leads to the conclusion that the CIA knew Oswald was impersonated before the assassination, with everything that implies.

It leads to a second conclusion: Forces in the CIA made sure that the post-assassination investigation covered up the existence of the tapes, which made a meaningful investigation impossible.

The third conclusion? Forces in the CIA covered up the impersonation because of their fear that the killing of John F. Kennedy was an inside job, done with the assistance of CIA officers who knew what action to

take to make sure that the assassins got away with it.

In my opinion, we already have enough facts to embrace these conclusions as true. We will continue to learn a lot more as we analyze the existing documents and new documents are released. The watchdog group OMB Watch issued a report in 2002 saying an ARRB employee reported that "**well over a million CIA records**" related to JFK's assassination remain outstanding. That number **doesn't include** FBI, Secret Service, Naval Intelligence and other records.

We know virtually nothing about the history of military intelligence in the United States; it should be no surprise that these agencies provided **very few documents**. While the FBI and CIA provided hundreds of thousands of documents to the ARRB, the NSA provided **less than 400**. We are only gradually learning how the NSA built the surveillance state in America since World War II, with the JFK case providing a bird's eye view into this story.

Although we should keep fighting hard for the rest of the documents, it's just as important that we read and analyze the ones we have. It's the right time to put together a counter-narrative. We need a process to break down the evidentiary facts that we can easily agree on – based on the documents themselves. Compared to acoustics, firearms, blood spatter, motion studies, and a host of other technical subjects, document analysis is a snap.

I've always liked Oliver Stone's movie *JFK*, and I'll tell you why. To defeat a myth, you need a better story. I believe in the power of the story. If you don't have a story, you're going to get beat. After many years, we finally have most of the documents. For many years, the researchers were trapped with few documents and were working in the dark. That's why it's taken so long. We have been methodically kept in the dark. It wasn't the fault of the American people. But if we continue to stay in the dark, we will have to blame ourselves.

The surviving SAS officers, Nationalities Intelligence officers, CI/SIG officers, and others described in this manuscript – and there are a surprising number of them still alive - should be permanently relieved of their oaths re the JFK case and asked many more questions. Ever since 1963, these officers have been forced to honor their oaths except on very specific circumstances when they are questioned during a congressional inquiry.

Similarly, the informants in this case should be exposed to the sunlight while they are still able to be questioned. How can we expect to get to the truth of many of these events when the informants continue to be hidden by the government? People like LITAMIL-9 and Victor Vicente can answer thousands of questions about such operations as the LIENVOY wiretaps in Mexico City and the FPCC break-ins in New York City, and they are almost certainly still alive.

Like in the nineties, it's time to return the power to subpoena statements and documents to an independent board of citizens. We can do this by passing a new version of the 1992 JFK Records Act, which the courts have refused to enforce since the Assassinations Records Review Board shuttered its doors in 1998. I ask all readers to **review and comment** on this proposal, which I will circulate. New board members, historians chosen by the executive branch, can interview the remaining witnesses before their deaths and ensure continued compliance by agencies and individuals with the 1992 legislation. This model can be used in other cold cases. This is the path to restore the world's history to the people themselves. There is no reason to hide the documents in these cases from the light of day.

With the release of the documents, the American public has now a better place to view the mechanics of this tragedy than even Angleton, Helms and Hoover had in their prime. No one ever imagined that these documents would reach the public, much less be scanned and cross-indexed on the Internet. These documents are filled with stunning revelations. Much of the reason for this book was to let others know how much new information is at our fingertips.

Illuminating the dark fields of the republic

Many people have resigned themselves to F. Scott Fitzgerald's vision of the future. Author H. Lloyd Goodell notes that *The Great Gatsby* came into fashion after World War II as a codebook to the Cold War.

And as I sat there, brooding on the old unknown world, I thought of Gatsby's wonder when he first picked out the green light at the end of Daisy's dock. He had come a long way to this blue lawn and his dream must have seemed so close that he could hardly fail to grasp it. He did not know that it was already behind him, somewhere back in that vast obscurity beyond the city, where the dark fields of the republic rolled on under the night.

Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter--tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms further.... And one fine morning----

So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past...

As a friend of Fitzgerald told him, "Living well is the best revenge." All of us have the power to change the outcome of the JFK story, and many other stories like it. One researcher has described the JFK case as "a jigsaw puzzle the size of a football field." As far back as in 1967, David Lifton and other researchers had **big parts of the puzzle** put together in publications such as **Ramparts**. Large sections of the story now fit into place, as the JFK Act has enabled ordinary citizens to actually read the files. There's no reason to

reduce it to a series of frightening freeze-frames and arid cliches. Powerful changes result from a people asking never-imagined questions, taking a long, unblinking look at themselves, and absorbing valuable and important truths at the end of the journey. The JFK case is history in the making.

I believe that the impersonation of Oswald is a historical fact that has brought us to a critical turning point in the investigation of the assassination of John F. Kennedy. We can now turn our collective attention to who impersonated Oswald and why. This is a key to actually resolving the question of the assassination itself. I have offered my findings on it, like others in the past – now is the time to analyze these findings and move the discussion forward.

Alice Walker, the author of *The Color Purple*, addresses what we face with no small eloquence: “Only justice will stop a curse.” This case will haunt America and the world unless and until we resolve it. There is no government agency or corporate benefactor that can do it all for us. It falls to each one of us to shoulder our share of the load on this case. Just as with the Sixties cases such as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert Kennedy, and more recent cases such as Tupac Shakur. Just as with the history of lynchings, abuse of power, and wrongful convictions. Just as with the legacy of slavery and the wars waged on the original inhabitants who lived on this land. There is no other way. We can move together towards a morning that bathes light on the dark fields of the Republic.

This work is integral to all movements that build civil society in the United States and around the world. Assassinations are a heinous tool used to prevent individuals and movements from realizing their potential. Assassinations are designed to break the spirit of the people.

Do we want to maintain our integrity as a people? The only way is to stand shoulder to shoulder and get it done. Many champions fighting for social change have fallen to forces that avoid the light. The path to justice is to name those forces and to take decisive action.

NOTES

1 The principal author of the Warren Report, Alfred Goldberg, said that when Warren said that some secrets would only be revealed “not in your lifetime”, Warren was making a “precise” reference to the NSA: Tim Wray, Meeting Report, 1/30/96, re interview with Dr. Alfred Goldberg on 1/29/96, obtained from National Archives by Malcolm Blunt on 4/3/09. Document in Malcolm Blunt’s possession.

Wray met with Dr. Alfred Goldberg in his office for approximately one hour. At the time of the Wray interview, Dr. Goldberg was the historian for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. In 1963-4 he was on the staff of the Warren Commission. (He acknowledged that he wrote some of the Commission report and played a major role in editing the rest.)

*2 As Cuba operations executive officer Sam Halpern told Washington Post reporter Jefferson Morley, “the deceptiveness of Kennedy’s policy virtually justified extraconstitutional correction”: Jefferson Morley, *Our Man in Mexico* (2008) p. 166.*

*3 In his book, Bagley makes it clear that he believes that Kostikov was a member of Department 13, responsible for sabotage and assassination: Tennent Bagley, *Spy Wars: Moles, Mysteries, and Deadly Games* (Yale University Press: New Haven, 2007), p. 79.*

4 There is a long and confusing paper trail about a Mexican operation with Morales, Sforza, and Phillips trying to help get double agent AMLEO-3’s wife out of Cuba during the last few days leading up to November 22:

Below, see background on AMLEO-3/Jose Ricardo Rabel and his story:

AMLEO-3 is the man that Phillips was working on helping his family getting out of Cuba at the same time that Sloman and Phillips were working on getting out AMCANOE-3 following his landing in Cuba in mid-1963. AMLEO-3 was the Director of Rural Housing in Cuba after Azcue left as Director to become the Cuban consul in Mexico City. His full name was **Major Jose Ricardo Rabel Nunez (201-249386)** He refused to work in place but was willing to defect.

Rabel defected in Dec 1962 and was recruited by JMWAVE. Interviewed at JMWAVE in **Feb. 1963** re target personalities of interest to AMTRUNK. **He was the brother of Luis Rabel**, the New Orleans leader within the Cuban Revolutionary Council (CRC), who he worked with back in 1957 (in bio memo).

It’s hard to tell if this a wild goose chase story or not, so I’ll include it with hopes that someone else can untangle it.

Here is AMLEO-3’s debriefing in March 1963, talking about **the size of Viviendas Campesinas (Rural Housing)**, and actions taken after the Bay of Pigs to increase Cuba’s security. He believed that if Castro was killed, **the military would kill the Communists in a many-factioned civil war.**

CIA researcher thought **Rabel may have been a provocation agent sent by Castro to study American plans to assassinate Fidel.**

Azcue is described in Dec. 1959 as the "former director" of the peasant housing program Vivendas Campesinas/Rural Housing as he left for Mexico City.

Rabel was chief of Vivendas Campesinas, (aka Rural Housing) appointed in Feb. 1960. Azcue's friend AMKNOB-1 also worked in this group (see Chapter 3).

Rabel's uncle was Emilio Portunado Nunez, ex-Cuban ambassador under Batista - Rabel said he was the worst, and said he had no desire to see him when he defected in December 1962.

July 63, FitzGerald (aka Dainold) personally met with AMLEO-3. He said we'll go all out to try to get your family into asylum - aim for Mexican embassy in Cuba. Was this real, or a double agent game using AMLEO-3's wife as a pigeon?

Rabel was used to pitch something in 1963, and also to check out leads for the AMTRUNK operation during July 1963.

One of Rabel's leads led to the recruitment of Amtrunk-10 - Ramon Guin. Amleo-3 was so blue during August 1963 that Shackley sought him out on 9/8 to offer support.

In Sept. 63, there was discussion about having AMHALF-2 transport AMCANOE-3 into the Uruguayan embassy in Cuba, and then have the wife of AMHALF-2 try the same stunt with AMLEO-3's family in Mexico.

As of fall 63, Amleo-3 was a consultant in the MHAPRON program. MHAPRON was "penetration of the power centers and armed forces of the Cuban regime, worldwide" (last page) 9/8/63. If amleo-3 were to re-defect it would be a disaster for the mhapron program.

In early Sept, Amleo-3's wife supposedly approached Fidel in the water at the beach in a chance meeting. The story is that she engaged him in conversation, found out Amleo-3 defected w one of Fidel's ten special soviet pistols, thought she should give it back, CIA wasn't willing to part with it...

After this talk between Amleo-3's wife and Castro, Amleo-3 was morale at rock bottom and there was fear of a-3 re-defecting.

Helms sent a note on 9/23/63 to Alfonso Rodriguez asking him to keep in contact with Szulc so we know what they're doing.

10/30 memo says: "AMSAIL-1 gave memo from AMSUPER-1 to case officer night 28 October concerning commo with AMDAMP-3. Following summary: "Perez (subj ufga 8557) is close trusted friend of Amsuper-1." some time ago amdamp-3 asked REDACTED to be a letter drop for mail from Cuba, mail to appear as innocent love letters. told to send it to miami beach, fla (to amsail-1?) (Pedro Perez is agent used in past by Bernard Barker and others, see his work in 1960)

WAVE 7525 indicated need for maximum security for amleo-3 ("most desirable keep amleo3 out of sight given mexi situation)

WAVE c/o should be first out of customs, amleo-3 should be last out, c/o should look for staffer marvin a cabot (who worked frequently with lifires) known for this as "monty coolidge". MC will introduce two lifires (4 and 5?) to wave c/o. amleo3 and lifires in one car, cabot and wave c/o in separate car. lifires will escort a3 from safehouse to desired spots.

On 11/15/63, memo was sent from Mexico City to director re traces on Pedro Pablo Perez, and how he was ok's in April 7 61 by AMSAIL-1 as a fine member of AMIRON active in mexi exile operations. Onetime traveling agent Remington Rand Nava.

"Station will await telephone confirmation from "James D. Magrane early morning Nov. 16. emergency contact is Mr. David Phillips home phone 26-96-24".

"MEXI can of course handle twenty four hour surveillance for reasonable period. Suggest this may not be continually necessary if station can provide safehouse to which c/o and Amleo-3 can move from Continental Hilton. Surveillance/protection can then be provided during any periods outside safehouse."

Here's one 11/16 memo, MEXI 6924: "Case officer and amleo-2 arrived on schedule and registered Hilton as planned. Under protective surveillance Marvin A. Cabot and LIFIRES from airport. A/3 apparently regards this as last chance and determined handle own way. While appreciative kubark assistance, appears will brook no interference his plans. Thus refused leave hotel for safehouse as wished avoid unusual actions which might prejudice success his mission, welcomes protection but not his escort for same reason. Best we can do under circumstances is keep LIFIRES near as possible in event trouble. No room for them in Hilton, but will billet in vasco de quiroga nearby. Only hope a/3 will alert them to time of meeting with Perez and not try slip out. Will stay as close to A/3 as situation and he permit.

"Have not informed LIFAGOT/1 hotel security officer as believe this could lead unforeseen complications view a/3 attitude. Attitude seems be one of firmness and determination not unreasoning anger...no money be passed without HQ approval...hold off further LITENSOR talks this time."

Nov. 16 - MEXI 6930 amleo-3 and sister talked, satisfied deal is on the level a- 3 and Pablo Perez talked late nov 16 - perez only middleman. Amleo-3 called REDACTED and asked for a meeting without clearing

with c/o...may have blown things - no meeting will take place, station will see to that...

On Nov. 16, Amleo-3 is described as trusted not to redefect in this lengthy memo - Choaden/Phillips and case officer decide that case officer and Amleo-3 should stay where they are at the Hilton in Mexico City. The case officer is from WAVE, it could well be Sforza.

"(MEXI 6924) written after brief Choaden Hilbrake (Welbrake?) (Wildrake?) meet morning Nov. 16. Wish correct apparent misconception A-3 resistant guidance...as result above conversation c/o and Choaden decided A-3 would continue reside Hilton with LIFIRES residing at Hotel Vasco de Quiroga (five minute drive from Hilton) on 24 hour call under control of c/o.

"LIFIRES being used insure A-3 given full protection during critical periods when he meeting with Perez. amleo-3 not installed in safehouse since desire maintain some semblance cover story he? mexi independently with no odyoke (US) connections. Will move A-3 to safehouse with C/O, LIFIRES resident, if any indications danger from GOC (Govt of Cuba)."

Then there is a 11/16/63 meeting between Amleo-3 and Amleo-2 (his sister).

A-3 debriefs A-2 till 1700, then contacts case officer "and reported full details debriefing". A-2 told A-3 that (Mexican ambassador to Cuba) Bosques says he is willing to give asylum to a-3s wife and family. A-3 wife and A-3 both believe offer legit without any connection to cuban govt.

"a-2 able confirm general plan outlined ref g, but unable confirm or add details since she did not participate in meeting with Mrs. Bosques and wife. A-3 told her what basic elements plan were but refused supply details, names, etc.stating it better A-2 not know too much since she in process leaving Cuba and could be subject last minute interrogation or be refused permission depart by DIER.

"A-2 also noted A-3 wife confused re course action follow re asylum up until meet with Mrs. Bosques, but now feels offer legitimate if A-3 carries out his part of action (i.e. paying ransom) and will be glad after asylum."

"After talk with A-2, AMLEO-3 called Pedro Perez who informed A-3 everything fine and invited A-3 to party he going to. A-3 refused invitation party and told Perez he only desired discuss business at hand and wished consummate deal quickly as possible. Perez said arrangement would be for cash on delivery (payment to be made after wife in asylum) but that he did not have full details and would have to contact another individual (not named) who out of town and planned return mexi nov. 19. Perez said A-3 to contact him after 1800 hrs Nov. 18 by "wire?" and added after agreement reached between himself and (illegible - p2 a2?) does not have to see unnamed party above) five to seven days would be needed send word into Bosques and asylum A-3 wife."

There was an Amleo-3 letter of 11/17/63 that caused great suspicion, it was delivered to Amleo-2's daughter in Miami and daughter didn't know the courier.

One aspect of the letter suggested that Amleo-3 pay some money, and he would see his family in a week. Another aspect of the letter suggested that amleo-3 should give back the pistol and offer to give back the plane to the Cubans at the UN.

CIA/MOB officer Paul Maggio writes: "We went thru the crack in the door.

We sent AMLEO-3 and a WAVE Case officer to Mexico. (Probably Sforza?)

AMLEO-3 contacts the cut-out who we learned was known to AMLEO-3 and an old friend. About the time AMLEO-3 and his case officer were en route to Mexico we learn that AMLEO-2 arrives Mexico from Cuba AMLEO-3 met with AMLEO-2 in Mexico and got the story from her about his family. In my opinion, he may well have received work at this time from Fidel thru his sister AMLEO-2.

In any event, after making payment to the cut-out, amleo-3 and case officer return to Miami."

A-3 then met with the cutout Pedro Perez to arrange ransom, payment on delivery only, after family in asylum. Perez told A-3 to contact him after 1800 hours on 11/18 for further details by phone.

Couldn't find any traces on "Pedro Perez Giron" - run by Maggio, Fitzgerald in the loop. But here's a memo to Pedro Perez back in Feb. 63. A Pedro Perez Fonte looks like Castro's aide-de-camp. Also see [here](#).

They talked at 1815 and Perez and his contact agreed to meet at A-3s room at Hilton at 0900 on 11/19, b/c contact of Perez would

not arrive in Mexico City till late 11/18. LIFIRES and c/s will provide A-3 with cover during meet Hilton. Will advise results meet.

"Re Ref C and D (note: DIR 83238 and WAVE 7693 aka IN 62512), when A-3 returned Hilton after meet with A-2 and call to O1, he immediately contacted C/O and informed him he had called O1 at home from phone bar Del Prado Hotel. A-3 claimed he did not use true name or alias conversation and that O1 recognized him through details conversation. A-3 said call short and that O1 agreed meet him Del Prado bar 1900 hours 18 Nov 63. O1 reportedly told A-3 his political views still varied from A-3s (he still loyal GOC) and agreed see him only as personal friend with no politics involved. A-3 agreed. There had been no contact since between A-3 and O1 since phone call. A-3 did not make meet with O1 scheduled for 1900 hrs 18 Nov Del Prado Bar."

"After imparting info para five above to c/o AMLEO-3 racked over by c/o and told he should pack and prepare leave MEXI immediately and forget ransoming wife since he had probably ruined whatever chances she had for asylum. A-3 told not call nor see O1 and not contact anyone again MEXI without

clearing with c/o first. A-3 claimed he made call 01 because A-2 brought word from A-3 wife that he should contact 01 MEXI since IDEN A (who still reportedly anti-redihe?, anti-fidel, and still helping a-3 wife) desired have A-3 establish commo channel to her via 01 (reasons unstated). Background this op lead known addressee G? In early 63 A-3 told by 01 (as per Mexi station instructions) that 01 not approachable for recruitment, unstable, etc. A-3 always believed KUBARK previous assessment still correct, 01 definitely loyal GOC and should not be contacted. A-3 agreeable to instructions.

"In summary c/o believes A-3 cooperating fully (with one exception unauthorized action para five above). A-3 knowledgeable LIFIRE protection, knows them by sight, and pleased and in full accord with protective support to be given him. A-3 will in no way attempt shake or deceive LIFIRE team and only desires they stay in background and not burn themselves to Perez during A-3 meets. His main desired (sic) is to maintain his cover to Perez as negotiating independently re asylum with no ODYKE connections. Perez also aware A-3 reportedly came Mexi help Amleo-2 on arrival. C/O has made all decisions this case re type protection to be given A-3, his cover while in Mexi, etc."

Amsever-2 and brother of subj and case officer will meet for lunch nov 20 - at that time bio data on subj and extent of access to intel info will be obtained.

11.20 memo, DIR 84082: "exercising due caution b/c of amleo 3 case and subject (201-726614?)'s alleged collaboration with Ambassador Bosques, suggest amsever-2 attempt solicit subject cooperation without revealing odyoke interest." 201-726614 arriving MC 11/21. MC wants to recruit. SAS/EOB D. Ronis.

11/21 Agreement between Perez and amleo-3 consummated. A lot more going on involving Flores and others...

Looks like A-3's wife's name is Khalina, and that he sent her a message saying don't send letters to Flora Sotolongo.

Amcanoe-2 learned that call from "Virginia" on 11/21 (DIR 84284) was really Emma Cowley. "This good evidence contact between Emma and Gerardo (Cowley) with whom amcanoe-3 was staying with at that time, according angler-9".

On 11/22, Tilton was involved in the attempted exfiltration of AMCANOE-3 from Cuba, one of the most sensitive operations going, called off due to "heavy seas".

On 11/22, the story is that Sloman leaves WAVE this day to meet with amhalf-2.

"Henry J. Sloman arriving Mexi 22 Nov order meet with AMHALF-2. WAVE expecting priority message, *concerning maritime exfil of Headquarters asset*, in (Digraph-deleted)EXIT pouch which presumably will arrive MEXI 22 Nov.

Sloman will contact Choaden (Phillips) by phone either at station or home 23 Nov arrange pick up any material EXIT-3 may have received 22 Nov." AMCANOE-3 killed by Cuban government by Jan. 1964.

July 64: relations fell apart, AMLEO-3 was mad about failed asylum with his family. Shackley to Fitz on amleo-3.

Amleo-3 returned to cuba, and captured in sept 1965.
Mitch Werbell asked CIA to help, maybe by returning the pistol and the plane.
Referred to exfil of A-3's family as "a cover story" for his return to Cuba!

AMLEO-3's uncle Emilio Nunez Portunado was asked to help in 65 by amleo-3's sister after his capture.

This memo by CIA says he was freed in 1967. Gus Russo's *Live by the Sword*, at Chap. 8 and p. 549, says Jose Ricardo Rabel died in prison in 67. Both can't be right...

Even in 1977, Shackley not sure if Amleo-3 was loyal or a Cuban agent.

The CIA's Latin American Division in 1977 thought it was possible that Rabel was a CIS provocation agent whose mission was to convince the CIA or some exile group to try to undertake a plot to assassinate Fidel.

Fabian Escalante confirmed that Rabel was a Cuban agent in his 2004 book, pp. 32-35. (David Kaiser, *Road to Dallas*, p. 474)

5 As his nephew Shawn has told us, Phillips was in Dallas that day: E-mail from Shawn Phillips to Gary Buell, January 2003.

6 Shackley described Morales as his Chief of Operations in 1963: See Waldron and Hartmann, *Ultimate Sacrifice*, pp. 60, 206.

7 Bradley Ayers, who was stationed at JMWAVE, said that Morales "ran all the station's activities with a heavy hand and was famous for his temper. We soon learned that no one, save Ted Shackley, argued with Dave.". Bradley E. Ayers, *The Zenith Secret* (Brooklyn: Vox Pop, 2006), p. 19.

8 Sforza worked under Morales at JMWAVE in 1963, and saw Morales as his brother: *Legacy of Secrecy*, p. 208.

9 In late 1961, Morales was seconded to ZRRIFLE, Harvey's program of political assassinations: See Debra Conway, JFK Lancer website, "[Three Phases of Assassination](#)".

10 CIA officer Tom Clines agreed that Morales helped Felix Rodriguez capture Che Guevara: See the Clines quote reprinted at the Spartacus Educational website, Biography of [David Sanchez Morales](#).

11 In 1966 Ted Shackley was placed in charge of CIA secret war in Laos: Spartacus Educational website, Biography of [David Sanchez Morales](#).

12 Morales, Shackley and Tilton were leaders in the PHOENIX program in Vietnam that killed 23,000 Vietnamese civilians: See [Biography of David Morales](#), Spartacus Educational website, also Noel Twyman, *Bloody Treason*, p. 449. See [Biography of Ted Shackley](#), Spartacus Educational website.

See [summary of interview with John Tilton by Douglas Valentine](#), Vietnam Center and Archive, Texas Tech University. Tilton is referred to as the "third and final director of the Phoenix Program. Tilton served most of his career in Central and South America, and oversaw CIA operation that captured and killed Che Guevara in Bolivia. Blamed for the unapproved release of a photo taken of Che's spread-eagled corpse - which depicted the revolutionary as a crucified Christ figure - Tilton was exiled to Saigon, the end of the line. Tall and thin, gaunt and gangly, Tilton was a true cold warrior."

13 Morales, Sforza, and Phillips were in the thick of the Chile coup in 1973. During this period, former AMWORLD chief Harry Hecksher was the chief of station in Chile: Larry Hancock, *Somebody Would Have Talked* (Lancer, 2010), p. 114.

14 Sforza was part of the military group that was involved in the assassination of Chilean General Rene Schneider in 1970 in a failed effort to instigate a coup: "CIA Efforts to Promote a Coup", Church Committee, Interim Report – Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders, p. 244, [Church Committee Reports](#).

"Alfred Sarno" was an alias used by Sforza. See the Church Committee's Deposition with Alfred Sarno, 6/25/75. NARA Record Number: [157-10005-10250](#).

15 When journalist Seymour Hersh got wind of Sforza's role in Chile, Dave Phillips reported that Shackley said, "Don't worry about Sforza – he is loyal – anyway, he can be trusted, even if we have to dump him. Of course, he will not be able to do the good that Phillips has done.": Memo from REDACTED, Operations Support Branch to Deputy Director of Security (PSI), 3/14/77, p. 2. NARA Record No. [104-10128-10223](#).

16 Phillips created a grisly "Quartered Man" legend based on a torso found at the National soccer stadium that he skillfully turned into a meme about leftist plans to decapitate the Chilean military...: See Donald Freed, *Death in Washington* (1980) and *The Quartered Man* (1988). Phillips took Freed to court and sued him for how Freed had portrayed him in *Death in Washington*. With no money for adequate legal counsel, Freed was forced to [relinquish](#) the claim. Freed then fictionalized the story and turned it into a remarkable play.

17 Morales was in the presidential palace at the time of Allende's death: Anthony Summers, *The Arrogance of Power*, (Penguin, 2001).

Morales boasted to a close friend that he helped kill President Allende in the midst of the coup...: Lamar Waldron and Thom Hartmann, *Legacy of Secrecy*, p. 728; Noel Twyman, *Bloody Treason*, p. 467. Forensic experts concluded in 2012 that Allende committed [suicide](#) rather than be taken alive by the Chilean junta.

18 HSCA investigator Gaeton Fonzi writes about a revealing moment by Morales during a drunken tirade about JFK's cowardice during the Bay of Pigs: Gaeton Fonzi, *The Last Investigation*, pp. 388-390. Fonzi's book should be read by anyone with questions about the structure of the forces at play in the Kennedy assassination investigations.

See Monte Evans, "[The Last Investigation: A Review](#)", *The Fourth Decade*, March 1994.

Morales' attorney Bob Walton says that Morales told him "I was in Los Angeles also when we got Bobby."

19 What I find credible were the people who told me that's what he said. And these were the people who had no connection to the work that Morales was involved with...: Fair Play magazine, [Interview with Gaeton Fonzi](#), 10/8/94.

20 I knew Morales quite well, he worked at the CIA station in Havana when I was third secretary of the political section. And I got to know him fairly well, and saw him again a number of times, he came to Buenos Aires when I was political counselor down there and we had dinner at a friend's house one evening...: [Transcript of BBC "Newsnight" program, 11/20/06](#).

21 Smith has affirmed Morales' hatred of JFK: "Did the CIA kill Bobby Kennedy?", [Guardian, 11/20/06](#).

22 Smith has also said that "if (Morales) were in the mob he'd be called a hit man.": Lamar Waldron and Thom Hartmann, *Legacy of Secrecy*, p. 99.

23 Carbajal does know who killed JFK – it was the CIA, he said, without naming any individuals. Morales and his close colleague Tony Sforza both told him the agency was behind the Dallas plot...: David Talbot,

Brothers (New York: Free Press, 2007), pp. 398-400. I have relied on much of the final chapter of this book, which offers further supporting evidence on the Morales story described here.

24 *He was the kind of guy who spelled his own last name "Rosselli" even though his birth name was "Roselli"*: Memo from SA Harold F. Dodge to Director, FBI, 7/31/58, p. 3, [FBI - HSCA Subject File: John Roselli/NARA Record Number: 124-10224-10022](#).

25 *Roselli only admitted it to his lawyer and friend Tom Warden, who then passed it on to his former law partner William Hundley, the man who used to run the Justice Department's Organized Crime Section*: Richard D. Mahoney, *Sons and Brothers: The Days of Jack and Bobby Kennedy* (New York: Arcade Press, 1999) pp. 295, 408.

26 *Roselli hinted to associates that he knew who had arranged President Kennedy's murder*: Jack Anderson and Les Whitten, *Washington Post*, 9/7/76, reprinted at [HSCA Report, Volume 5, 365](#).

27 *Unexpected deaths of Harvey, Roselli, Morales*: For deaths of Harvey and Roselli, see Stockton, *Flawed Patriot*, p. 296. For the death of Morales, see Spartacus Educational website, Biography of [David Sanchez Morales](#).

28 *Hal Feeney's pal, the Rev. Jack Modesett, officiated at his funeral. Rev. Modesett left the Navy in 1964*: Personal communication with researcher Zack Robertson, 2013.

29 *Peter Dale Scott offers a pithy analysis of Roselli's story*: Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics II* (Mary Ferrell Foundation Press: Boston, 2003 edition), pp. 68-69.

Arrest of Sam Moreno: [HSCA, Volume 5, p. 298](#). He had been using the name Serafin Burgas Sablon. [Miami Herald, 7/31/78](#).

Also see monograph from Fidel Castro to George McGovern, 1975, "The Black Book", pp. 33-34 (unpaginated), [HSCA Numbered Files/NARA Record Number: 180-10090-10232](#).

Participation of Morales and Roselli: See Lamar Waldron and Thom Hartmann, *Ultimate Sacrifice*, p. 435.

For a good article about the PMs (paramilitaries), read the following section on "Cowboys of JMWAVE", from a longer article entitled "The Kennedy Vendetta", Taylor Branch and George Crile III, *Harper's Magazine*, sometime in 1975, [DDP \(Deputy Director for Plans\) Files/NARA Record Number: 104-10310-10203](#).

30 *Shortly before his death in 1975, John Martino from the Bayo-Pawley affair admitted to former Miami Newsday' reporter John Cummings that he had disseminated phony stories tying Oswald to the assassination of JFK...*: Anthony Summers, *Not in Your Lifetime* (1980), p. 373.

31 *The anti-Castro people put Oswald together*: Article by [Earl Golz, Gallery, December 1982](#). See page 6 of 8.

32 *Martino's wife Florence Martino told Anthony Summers that her husband said to her on the morning of 22nd November, 1963: "Flo, they're going to kill him (Kennedy). They're going to kill him when he gets to Texas."*: Anthony Summers interview with Florence Martino, recounted in his article with Robbyn Swan, "The Ghosts of November", *Vanity Fair*, December 1994.

33 *Simmons was intimately familiar with the duties of the various AMOT teams in Miami*: [C/WH/4/CI William Simmons said during 1961](#) that there were 97 staff and clerical AMOTs, 34 security CI AMOTs, and 43 AMCHEERS (senior citizens involved in banking, commercial and ranching), all in Miami.

[Simmons' 1961 memo](#) also has a reference to an Agency-controlled agent "with [access to leftist and Communist circles](#) in the Western Hemisphere, now in New York City." This may be a reference to T-3245-S* (almost certainly Victor Vicente) in New York City who was active within FPCC from 1961 to late 1963 and had loyalties to the FPCC and the CPUSA, as well as both the CIA and the FBI. T-3245-S* is the guy who had access to Oswald's FPCC records, and twice provided them to the FBI. He is probably Victor Vicente, who Anita Potocki and Lou De Santi helped get into Cuba in July 1963.

Simmons is the buddy of Morales whose [name is redacted](#) in p. 1 of this 1961 memo. See how Simmons' name accidentally appears on the [following page](#) in a reference to an interview with him that discusses the microfilming of the AMOT cards, as well as a passing reference to the chief of WH/4/CI (Simmons himself). In this vein, here is the memo of the [1961 interview with Simmons](#), which contains the discussion of the microfilming of the AMOT files.

Philip Agee describes Simmons as his former trainer at the CIA's boot camp at Fort Peary, and says that he was the deputy chief of station in Lima, Peru as of November 1962. Philip Agee, *Inside the Company* (1975), p. 313.

34 *A CIA component willing to collaborate with Giancana's men in assassination would certainly have no problem in recruiting Giancana's electronic expert for a wiretap operation*: Peter Dale Scott, *Deep Politics II*, p. 134.

35 *Just one of Cain's classes alone included 23 students; approved by the federal police, he described the participants as "representing every law enforcement agency in Mexico, from the equivalent of the FBI on*

down to the local police: Michael Cain, *The Tangled Web* (2007), pp. 91-93.

36 *He had wiretapped the Czech embassy in Mexico City*: Michael Cain, *The Tangled Web* (2007), p. 96. Also see Cain's obituary in the Chicago Tribune, 12/28/73, p. 16.

Michael Cain cites a 1962 Yucatan newspaper that describes Richard Cain as ex-Army intelligence, at p. 93.

37 *Cain had gone to Cuba to assassinate Castro in late 1960, and barely escaped with his life*: Michael Cain, *The Tangled Web*, p. 81.

38 *We do know that Simmons worked with CIA security official Joseph Langan in the attempt to cover up the American origin of the planes that conducted the surprise attack on Castro's planes right before the Bay of Pigs*: Peter Kornbluh, editor, *Bay of Pigs Declassified* (New York: New Press, 1998), p. 18.

39 *One of the other things we do know about him is that Simmons had access to highly sensitive information in 1962 – the deficiencies of the Secret Service*: HSCA interview with Secret Service agent Ernest Ignacio Aragon, 3/25/78, 180-10078-10450. Also see this [summary](#) by researcher Joe Backes.

40 *Aragon had some kind of personal relationship with Bobby Kennedy*: Cable, JMWAVE to Director, 12/1/62, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 63: CRC\)](#)/NARA Record Number: 104-10298-10134.

Also see Memo from Campanong to Director, 1/25/63, [HSCA Segregated CIA Collection \(microfilm - reel 70: AMBUD\)](#)/NARA Record Number: 104-10236-10350.

Aragon also tried to solve the Odio case, but [he couldn't find Father Machann](#).

41 *He wrote one of the first memos about "the violently anti-Kennedy" Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro*: [Secret Service report](#), Ernest I. Aragon, 1/31/64, final page. Commission Document 853 - SS Rowley Memorandum of 24 Apr 1964 re: Manuel Rodriguez w/Attachments

42 *Rodriguez was five foot nine, 145 pounds, and identified as "Oswald" during one of his visits to Sulfur, Oklahoma*: Philip H. Melanson and Peter F. Stevens, *The Secret Service: The Hidden History of an Enigmatic Agency* (2002), p. 85.

43 *Just before JFK was to arrive in Chicago, the Secret Service got a tip that a four-man right-wing sniper team was planning to kill the President*: James Douglass, *JFK and the Unspeakable*, p. 200. The original research was done by Edwin Black, [Chicago Independent, November 1975](#). Black is best known for the groundbreaking book *IBM and the Holocaust*. One of Black's sources was Abraham Bolden. Douglass, p. 429.

44 *Vallee was picked up by two Chicago police officers after hours of surveillance, under the pretense of an improper turn signal, just two hours before Kennedy's arrival at O'Hare Airport*: James Douglass, *JFK and the Unspeakable* (2008) pp. 200-207. One of Vallee's arresting officers, Daniel Groth, was deployed in a counterintelligence capacity with an early focus on the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Groth was believed to work in a cross-designated capacity with the CIA or military intelligence.

Six years later, [Groth led an FBI/police team](#) that broke into the Chicago apartment of Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and assassinated both men. Groth was one of the defendants in a lawsuit filed by the Hampton and Clark families. In an out-of-court settlement, the families were awarded \$1.85 million. *Id.*, at p. 204.

45 *After learning that someone with Secret Service credentials had waved Dallas police away from the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza, which may have allowed shooters to escape, Bolden concluded that the White House detail's protection of the President was a complete sham*: Abraham Bolden, *The Echo From Dealey Plaza*, pp. 72-74.

46 *On May 17, 1964, while in Washington DC, Bolden attempted to report to counsel J. Lee Rankin of the Warren Commission his knowledge about the Secret Service's drinking on duty on the night before the events in Dallas, as well as the Chicago and Tampa attempts...*: Abraham Bolden, *The Echo in Dealey Plaza*, pp. 72-73, 106; Waldron and Hartmann, *Legacy of Secrecy*, p. 309. Bolden claims to this day that he was framed. Bolden was convicted based on the testimony of two known counterfeiters, one of whom later admitted in court that he had committed perjury when testifying against Bolden. Bolden's book makes a compelling case for his innocence, and that he was "shut up" for his knowledge about the JFK killing.

47 *Dr. Robert McClelland, the lead surgeon at Parkland, has said for many years, "I think he was shot from the front...I think that the rifle bullet hit him in the side of the head and blew out the back of his head"*: See Anthony Summers, *Conspiracy* (1989 version), p. 486.

48 *If someone planted a 30-30 bullet by a stretcher minutes after the shooting, this indicates a plan that pre-existed the assassination*: See Douglas Horne, *Inside the Assassination Records Review Board*, pp. 1089-1095. Horne's book offers not just a great analysis on the magic bullet evidence, but also incredible insights on the autopsy evidence from his vantage point as an ARRB staffer.

49 *Westbrook also lost the list of theater patrons...researcher John Armstrong reports that Westbrook took early retirement by 1966 and was working with the secret police in South Vietnam*: John Armstrong, *Harvey*

and Lee, pp. 885-886.

50 *Besides Westbrook and Bentley, one other suspect is affiliated with the Dallas police - Tippit's close friend Carl Mather...*: James Douglass, *JFK and the Unspeakable*, pp. 294-298. The source for the Tippit-Mather conversations of November 22 is interviews conducted by researcher Jones Harris. On more on Collins Radio, see William Turner and Warren Hinckle, *Deadly Secrets*, p. 153.

51 *After Tippit was killed, Mather and his children went to Mrs. Tippit's home to comfort her, while Mather's wife stayed at home*: The story of Mather visiting Mrs. Marie Tippit is based on interviews conducted by researcher Jones Harris.

52 *A psychological stress evaluator (PSE) test conducted by George O'Toole, a former chief of the CIA's Problems Analysis Branch, showed chief polygraph examiner Paul Bentley lying about not knowing that Frazier was polygraphed*: See George O'Toole, *The Assassination Tapes* (1975) pp. 168-206.

53 *The primary author of the Warren Report, Alfred Goldberg, said that Earl Warren's caution that some things in the files would only be revealed "not in your lifetime" was "precisely" a reference to the work of the NSA*: Tim Wray, Meeting Report, 1/30/96, re interview with Dr. Alfred Goldberg on 1/29/96, obtained from National Archives by Malcolm Blunt on 4/3/09. Document in Malcolm Blunt's possession. (See endnote 1 of this chapter)