

January 22, 1997

Mr. John Pereira
Director
Historical Review Group
Center for the Study of Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Re: Request for Additional Information and Records No. CIA-19
(Electronic Surveillance Operations in Mexico City)

Dear John:

We are trying to gather all existing documents and operational reports on all telephone, photographic, and any other electronic surveillance the CIA had targeting the Soviet and Cuban diplomatic installations in Mexico City during the time of Lee Harvey Oswald's visit in late September 1963 through the period of Kennedy's assassination. Although we are aware that the HSCA requested records on the operations that were in place during Oswald's visit to Mexico City, the records in the Sequestered Collection appear to be incomplete and somewhat inconsistent. We would like to assemble as complete a collection as possible of all types of reporting vehicles used by the Mexico City Station and Headquarters to provide information on surveillance. We are also trying to reconcile gaps in operational activity and operational reporting, and in order to do so would like to review all logs pertaining to these operations and all original negatives from the photo surveillance operations.

It is our understanding that the following operations targeted, in part, the Cuban and Soviet diplomatic establishments at the time of Lee Harvey Oswald's visit to Mexico City.

LIPSTICK
LIEMPTY
LILYRIC
LICALLA
LIMITED
LIENTRAP
LIONION
LIERODE
LIFEAT
LIENVOY

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We have identified various types of files and documents that may have been used to report on various aspects of these operations. We would like to obtain all of the project and related files for these, and all other surveillance operations on the Cubans and Soviets during the periods specified below:

For the period July 1963 through December 1963:

- Project Files
- Monthly Operational Reports
- Annual Reports
- Requests for Project Renewal
- Reviews of Project Renewal
- Authorizations of Project Renewal/Project Action Reports
- Quarterly Project Progress Reports
- Project Charts

For the period 1 September 1963 - 31 December 1963

- Photo technician monthly reports
- Resuma
- Back Channel Communications
- Equipment Studies
- Reports on testing of newly installed cameras as part of LIONION

For the period 26 September - 3 October 1963

- Basehouse Agent Logs
- Technical Services Division (TSD) Logs
- Negatives from photographic production
- Transmittal Manifests¹
- Disposition of storage of photographic material from this period

In addition, we request reports in the project and related files that make reference to activities during September and October 1963. In requesting these files, we are asking the CIA to conduct new and comprehensive searches of Agency files which go beyond what is contained in the Sequestered Collection. This request should be interpreted in its broadest sense and extended to include any other surveillance operations that were targeted against the Soviet and Cuban installations during the time

¹According to the Lopez report, in a 6/19/64 cable, MEXI 9440, Mexico City Station alerted Headquarters that "they were sending up the negatives from the pulse camera coverage of the Cuban Embassy," and that "All available negatives and five packages of undeveloped film were sent to Headquarters by transmittal manifest #252572. (See pp.20-21)

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of Oswald's visit. For example, if there were additional TSD operations, wiretapping, microphone surveillance (bugs), or technical surveillance other than those listed above, we request any files and/or logs that exist on such.

To clarify the record, we request that complete documentation of the results of the searches be provided to the Review Board. In the event that any file has been destroyed, we request that all information pertaining to such destruction be provided. For example, to our knowledge, photographic take from LICALLA and LILYRIC were never made available to any of the investigative commissions in the past and were believed to have been destroyed during a purge of the Mexico City files. We have also seen monthly operational reports for the LIENVOY operation for July, August, September, and November 1963, but cannot account for October 1963. We anticipate that the results of these searches and a written explanation of missing material will be included in the Agency's Final Compliance Statement.

In requesting access to these materials, we are not designating them "assassination records" as of yet. Nor are we, at this time, requesting that copies be given to the Review Board.

We would appreciate your response by March 7, 1997. If this does not provide you with sufficient time, please let us know, in writing, by what date you believe you will be able to respond to this request.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
General Counsel and Associate Director
for Research and Analysis

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