

Additional Discussion Topics for 28 October Meeting with HSCA Researchers

Oswald in Mexico City

A. CIA Operations in Mexico City

1. Operational Files to be requested by ARRB

2. Insights on Sources and Methods

Electronic Surveillance

Telephone Taps

Wiretaps

Bugs

STAFF D operations? Was any production from additional site ever reviewed?

Questions:

What evidence that surveillance was obtained by wiretaps as opposed to telephone taps? CIA claims only had telephone taps. In report are telephone taps and wiretaps used interchangeably or do they refer to distinctly separate methods.

Was there any evidence that CIA also had bugs in either the Soviet or Cuban Embassies?

Photographic Surveillance

CIA cooperation in providing HSCA with production from photo.

Collection at Soviet and Cuban Embassies

Why were production logs from Base 2 not made available for review?(This base covered A.M. hours: 0900-1400/1500)

What attempts were made to gain access to this material?

Stories regarding photo of LHO (headshots from behind)

Unresolved Issues

Was CIA forthcoming with providing information derived from all types of operations?

Confusion as to whether a voice comparison was conducted. Were all leads followed to verify one way or another?

What conclusions were reached regarding additional (missing?) transcript marked urgent in which LHO reportedly identified himself and indicated he was seeking aid?

Was the question regarding the procedures for processing and destroying tapes ever resolved?

Discrepancies in handling/expediting conversations of special interest

CIA claims would not have held onto tapes, therefore would not have photo,

Tapes routinely erased after 2 weeks, roughly 10/16/63.

CIA HQ taking interest in Oswald by 10/9

Initially treated name trace as routine until it was discovered that CI/SIG had 201 file

on Lee Henry Oswald = ex-defector to USSR, renounced citizenship at Amer Emb. Moscow believed to be same as Lee Harvey Oswald in contact with Soviet embassy in Mexico City, had met with Kostikov. This connection elevated the significance of LHO's visit with Soviet Embassy, prompted directive seeking additional information on Lee Henry Oswald, dissemination to other relevant agencies including the Mexico City stations, and the opening of a "P" file on 15 October, a day before the tapes would have been routinely erased.

"Oswald was of significant interest that MEXI should not have erased tapes at that time."

The 201 file was in the possession of the Mexico City desk at the time of the assassination; had file since 10 Oct. when it received report about LHO's visit to Soviet Embassy

Clarify references to methods of communication available that were not incorporated into the CIA record keeping system? (p.115)

Discrepancies in Silvia Tirado de Duran's Testimony

Initial statement says Cuban Consul spoke to Soviet Consul official was missing from most subsequent reports.

Did the HSCA ever have access to original testimony/interview of Tirado by Mexican officials? Were any inquiries made to determine disposition?