

We cannot prevent the speculation that someone did cover up, but the arguments that a cover-up continues and will continue, can somewhat at least, be lessened. What has been losted cannot be replaced. But what we do have can be made public. We should have access and our students should have access to what still exists.

--Bruce Hitchcock, a teacher at NoblesvilleHigh School in Indiana, in a May, 1997 letter to Congress to support Review Board extension.

[T]he enduring controversy of who Oswald really was, what he was, is an inherent part of the historical truth of this case. . . Oswald, as you know, is the most complex alleged or real political assassin in American history. . . the idea that, for the first time, citizens will be the judge of the balance between government secrecy and what we know, rather than the agencies themselves or the courts, I think is extraordinary. . .

--Philip Melanson, Review Board hearing in Boston, Massachusetts, March 24, 1995

Jeremy Gunn: *“How could we find out whether any CIA agents met Lee Harvey Oswald [in Moscow] even if it was innocuous?”*

Russ Holmes: *“Ask the Agency.”*

Jeremy Gunn: *“How do we believe them?”*

Russ Holmes: *“There is no reason for them to withhold.”*

-- Exchange between Jeremy Gunn of the Review Board during interview of Russ Holmes, former CIA officer.

I have no knowledge [of that], I don't believe it; I had no need to know.

--Former CIA officer Russ Holmes' response to Review Board's question about any CIA contact with Lee Harvey Oswald in Moscow and allegations that James Angleton ran agents in the Soviet Union.

[T]he CIA, with thorough photographic surveillance of both the Cuban and Soviet Embassies, had at least ten opportunities to photograph Oswald, yet CIA records at the time of the assassination allegedly did not contain a single photograph matching the man arrested in Dallas.

-- Professor Peter Dale Scott in his monograph, *Deep Politics II*.

Jeremy Gunn: “*What explanation is there for the [Mexico City] surveillance logs being incomplete?*”

Russ Holmes: “*It’s not there.*”

-- Exchange between former Executive Director Jeremy Gunn and former CIA officer Russ Holmes.

The Oswald visit was not, certainly to my knowledge, ever an operation, so it was just a flash in the pan, a product of something that happened. . .

-- Anne Goopasture, former CIA officer assigned to Mexico City, from her deposition to the Review Board.

Several colleagues have called my attention to the role of the Assassination Records Review Board in potentially effecting the public release of documents related to Vietnam policy and perhaps other issues of foreign policy in late 1963.

-- James K. Galbraith, Professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

The Board has an obligation to examine the records of former public officials who participated in any aspect or phase of investigation concerning the assassination, or of former public officials closely allied with Kennedy.

--Anna Kasten Nelson, Review Board Nomination Hearings

Because the files that were once known as Angleton's have been dispersed within the DO records, they are no longer identifiable as a collection.

--From CIA Response to Review Board informal request CIA-IR-4 for information on James Angleton files, August 24, 1998.

We did not understand how intelligence agencies worked. The CIA “gave [us] nothing more than what was asked for. Every time we asked for a file, we had to write a letter. There were no fishing expeditions.

--Ed Lopez and Dan Hardway, former HSCA staffers who authored the HSCA Report on Oswald's Activities in Mexico City, *The Lopez Report*, interviewed by Review Board staff.

A torrent of prejudicial information about Oswald started to flow within hours of the assassination. Its purpose was to link Castro's Cuba with the alleged assassin, and it seems to track back time and again to U.S. intelligence or the exiles.

-- Anthony and Robbyn Summers, "The Ghosts of November," Vanity Fair/December, 1994.

We had begun to see a general outline of the truth in 1979, as the House Select Committee on Assassinations finished its investigation: leaders of organized crime were behind the President's murder.

-- Robert Blakey, former Chief Counsel of the HSCA, in *Fatal Hour*

The most durable conspiracy theory is that the Mafia killed the president.

-- Anthony and Robbyn Summers, in "The Ghosts of November," Vanity Fair/December 1994.

The most telling evidence in our investigation of organized crime was electronic surveillance of major underworld figures by the FBI.

-- Robert Blakey, former Chief Counsel of the HSCA, in *Fatal Hour*

In the case of the Kennedy assassination, unprecedented belief in all kinds of nonsense, coupled with extraordinary disrespect for the Warren Commission, has waxed in good times and bad times and flourishes among remarkable numbers of otherwise sober-minded people.

-- Max Holland, researcher and author.

The records contradicted the report of when the Campbell affair was supposedly to have ended.
--Joan Higdon, former Church Committee staffer, interviewed by Review Board.

*The public was curious, and that curiosity could not be satisfied without revealing what we had decided to omit. At the same time, some political figures described in the manuscript demanded that they be presented in glowing terms. I balked and refused to make changes that would falsify history. -- William Manchester, in *Death of a President*.*

In my view, the Manchester interviews have an extraordinarily unique historical value and are the most important records not yet released. . . I am hopeful that you might agree to release the material before the Review Board completes its work in September so we can help manage the release in an appropriate manner.

-- Hon. John R. Tunheim, Chair of the Review Board, in a letter to Caroline B. Kennedy.