

Experts Conference Notes
5/16/95

- Plaza materials. Anything having to do with Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963 should be made a part of the Collection. New technology will be important later. Photographs, audio recordings (Blakey thought that the dictabelt went back to the FBI and then back to the Dallas Police Department. James Barger probably has first generation recordings of all of the audio evidence.
- Records of the former Soviet Republics. Russian and Byelorussian archives. Electronic surveillance of the Oswald's in Minsk. Cable traffic (Soviet) between Mexico City and Moscow. Mexico City and Havana. Havana and Moscow. Get records from the Russian and Cuban governments, but also from U.S. intelligence agencies.
- FBI electronic surveillance of associates of major organized crime figures. Especially of Marcello and Trafficante. Legislative history provides ample ground that electronic surveillance tapes and transcripts of organized crime figures are assassination records. Files of associates and electronic surveillance of associates.
- Physical and medical evidence has driven the controversies.
- Records related to Cuban policy and Cuban operations. So many individuals and groups engaged in activities for which they were not held accountable. Do disinformation efforts regarding the assassination relate to the event itself? (David Phillips and E. Howard Hunt)
- Cuban government is preparing a report on the assassination. General Fabian Escalante. Once that is out, they may be willing to give access to other documentary materials. Mexican government. Japanese government. Finnish government.
- FBI records. Field office files can be more important than Headquarters. Getting access to first generation records of information is key. Either an agent's raw notes, or interview forms. In alpha-numeric subfiles, often log and log-like records are filed there.
- Documents from SDB (Russia?). Speak with Jim Hershberg or Miss Grimstadt at the Wilson Center. There is a history of Yasanevo(sp?) letting go of historically relevant materials.
- Many FBI agents have personal files. Speak with individual agents.

- Electronic surveillance of Marcello during the HSCA's existence.
- Unedited tapes of communications between Air Force One and the White House. Where are the originals. Tower records from Andrews Air Force Base and from Love Field. Helicopter unit around Andrews on the 22nd.
- Manchester interviews.
- Assassination records in private hands. Photographs. Robert Groden has autopsy photographs that are not governed by any deed of gift. Robert Bouck. James Fox. Where is the original copy of the Nix film. Did Groden get it?
- Secret Service records. Connally's review of Secret Service records when he was Secretary of the Treasury. Dallas police tape as recorded by the Secret Service for filtering purposes.
- Any remaining Ruby diary materials.
- Are there NSC assassination records? Are the Air Force tapes there.
- Dr. Ernst Titavitch in Minsk wanted to improve his english and has tapes of Oswald reading Shakespeare and Hemingway.
- Peter Ronski was the first person to go to Russia and interview all of Oswald's friends and acquaintences there.
- Redactions in the James exhibits in volume 20 of the Warren Commission.
- Mildred Steigle files at the LBJ library. Angie Novello. Evelyn Lincoln.
- Oswald letter from December 1960. First time he writes that he wants to come home.
- Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall. Get their business records. What did they do for the government. What did Oswald do there.
- Zapruder film. Get the original 35mm negatives frame by frame. 1967 EFX lab. Secret Service materials. Maybe get Oliver Stone's negatives.
- Who owned the Texas School Book Depository between 1959 and 1963? Get the records.

- Who interviewed the marines at El Toro following Oswald's defection.
- Why does the U.S. Army history say the JFK's body went to Walter Reed.
- Personnel records of Secret Service. In October 1962 a law was passed which provided a security detail comparable to the President's for the Vice-President.
- Military intelligence. Destroyed Army files. Navy post-assassination investigation. Hoch knows of a living source who may have been present at the purging of files.
- Other federal agencies. Especially BATF.
- Oswald's cellmate. Elrod. Masen.
- Get existing secrecy oaths lifted.

CIA

- History of the CIA station in Mexico City.
- 100-300-11. 970 CIA documents on the FPCC. Ask Newman about this.
- 16 September 1963. What did the FBI send to the CIA? Memo asking to run a black op. against the FPCC. The next day Oswald gets a tourist visa to go to Mexico City
- Hunt said the CIA set up a unit to assassinate double agents. Boris Pasch. CIA probably has records on assassins all over the world.
- Personnel records released since the passage of the act have a lot of people passing through "JKO". Newman doesn't know what that means.
- Can James Wilcott's statements that he knew that Oswald was on the CIA payroll at Atsugi be confirmed?
- On what basis did Helms say that debriefing LHO was the responsibility of the Navy? How would CIA investigate the assassination domestically? Probably under the cover of Military Intelligence. ONI. Lt. Bill Brewer may have been a CIA/Navy liaison person.
- Slawson and Coleman definitely read transcripts and listened to tapes of LHO in Mexico City

in the spring of '64. What happened to the tapes? Newman says there is a new transcript released of Hoover saying, "I have a tape here and a photograph. Neither is him."

- Allegations of other transcripts and tapes of LHO in Mexico City which are now missing. Mrs. Tarasoff.
- Newman says that Staff D is a technical group. There should be no reason for them to have a file on Oswald. If they did that would be very interesting.
- MS 11165. Number assigned to LHO by the Special Research staff. An October 1960 memo on defectors. pre-Oswald 201 file. All others given "MS" designation were military men. Margaret Stevens.
- 74-500. Russia miscellaneous file. When the CIA released a list of CIA documents on the FPCC, the Oswald documents are missing.
- Newman has the name of a man who retrieved the DCD debrief of LHO. He is willing to provide the details of that.
- Birch D. O'Neill--CI/Ops. Peter Bagley--SR/CI. Scottie Myler--CI. John Selso and whoever worked for him. Who wrote the cables describing a 6' balding man who was supposed to be Oswald.
- Who worked the Cuban desk in Mexico City before David Phillips took over 10/9/63.
- Virginia Pruitt. find the CIA file on her.
- ZRBEACH--SIGINT operations against embassies.
- Cable traffic.
- Newman says that Bringuer reported to the CIA his contacts with Oswald. Who did he report to? JMWAVE?
- Lane represented Weberman in a lawsuit in Florida. Court records in Atlanta now.
- CIA had Director's daily meetings. Look at the minutes of those. FBI probably did the same thing.

- Newman got a call from someone present at McNamara's presentation at the LBJ library. He talked about a White House recording of October 2, 1963 where JFK discusses his Vietnam withdrawal plan.
- Any conversations between JFK and Congressmen Al Thomas who invited him to Texas.
- Talk to Al Haig. immediately after the assassination he claims to have seen a report placing Oswald in Cuba before the assassination.
- Honolulu conference of 20 November 1963. All of those documents are still withheld. This is a lightning rod of the research scene.

FBI

- Oral histories of mobsters who have cooperated with the government. Lenny Patrick is a government witness. Bill Roemer handled Giancana. He is still alive.
- Carver Gaeton allegation about James Hosty's boasting at the water cooler.
- La Fontaine story about Oswald's cellmates. gun running in Dallas area.
- Review all Dallas 134's and 137's. Sometimes the field offices would fake informant files to justify their activities. Especially in security cases.
- FBI. Not everything was centralized. Sometimes divisions within the Bureau kept their own records. Get to agents notes if possible. Primary resource materials. Tickler files. Telephone logs of assistant directors. Tolson, DeLoach and Sullivan.
- DO--4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Special Forms at FBI. Were these filed in Central Records or just kept in the Director's office.
- FBI copies of CIA memos on the lingual program.
- Symbol desigators in Dallas and New Orleans. There must be a list which matches names and numbers.
- Mexico City Legat files on organized crime figures. Were these files destroyed? M. Wesley.
- Havana Legat files identify major gambling/organized crime figures there. Who owned

which casino.

- INS. Who met the Oswald's at the dock in NY. Wiedersham's report. Passenger lists.
- Some Federal agency has the Batista records. Lesar thinks they are microfilmed and somewhere in Florida.
- The Cuban government had good intelligence on the plots to kill Castro, and other anti-Castro activities in the U.S. Identified more plots. Maybe as many as forty. Eric Hamburg, Wayne Smith, David Deutchman have each had contact with the Cuban government regarding their records.

Local Records

- Ft. Worth police. Law Enforcement Intelligence Unit.
- Clay Shaw's lawyers. Wegman and Diamond.
- Louisiana State Police
- Texas Rangers-Red Squad
- Panzika and Zelden. New Orleans lawyers. John Martzell represented some of these people, and would tell us who to talk to.
- Mary Ferrell
- Was there any contact between the New Orleans Police and the counterintelligence staff at the CIA. Phil Melansen wrote about contact between CIA and local police generally. Not sure whether N.O. involved or not.
- Cuban Consulate in L.A. Did Oswald visit there?
- Todd Vaughn knows chain of possession of Dallas Police materials. Dictabelt.
- Were Jack Ruby's conversations in the jail recorded?

Medical Records

- Lesar says there was an incident where the original autopsy protocol was misfiled. The mistake was discovered in 1965 or 1967. Either the ONI or the DIA then came to investigate the incident. Lesar was foggy on the details.
- Late Connally X-Rays.
- Hoch put forth the hypothesis of a “national security” autopsy either aboard Air Force One, or between Andrews and Bethesda. This would have to be kept secret because it totally violated Mrs. Kennedy’s wishes, but it would conceivably have been necessary to determine immediately whether there was a conspiracy or not.
- Clark Panel review of autopsy materials.

Military and NSA

- Go through CIA and FBI to determine NSA’s capabilities.
- Dissertation of Chris Pyle from the early 1970s: Military Surveillance of Civilian Politics.
- Congressional records of Senator Ervin’s hearings on Military Intelligence.
- Does the DOD General Counsel’s office have the requests from the Warren Commission.
- Army intelligence files on Hidell. Have they ever been asked for?
- Sigler. Dangled to the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City approximately one year after the assassination. He was Army. Speak with Newman for details.
- Was Marguerite receiving any military compensation?
- Gordon Winslow says that if the Navy wants to hide something but not throw it away, they go to the Coast Guard.
- AMDOT and AMOT are CIA crypts for military intelligence groups along the southern coast who track anti-Castro groups.

Foreign Records

- Mexican police or intelligence are taking instructions from the CIA. Who is ordering this?

Where is the contact?

- Lifton put forward the idea that Oswald's friend in Minsk, Zieger could have been working Mossad. Apparently the Mossad commonly used Jews in Russia for intelligence. This could be a back channel to the CIA from Oswald in Minsk.
- Would MI-5 or MI-6 give up anything? Maybe Maurice Bishop was British.
- Who ordered Sylvia Duran's interrogation?
- When contacting the Russians, it is important to ask for military intelligence records from them.

Pro and Anti Castro Groups

- SWP as well as CPUSA
- Louisiana un-American Activities Committee
- John Glenn. FPCC at Indiana University. went to Cuba. parallel case.
- Tampa FBI field office supposedly has 2000 serials in its FPCC file.