

MEMORANDUM

April 27, 1998

To: Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

cc: Bob Skwirot
CIA Team Leader

From: Michelle Combs
Associate Director for Research and Review

Subject: CIA-IR-30 The Cherepanov Papers

In response to ARRB's informal request CIA-IR-30, I reviewed the English translation of the Cherepanov Papers held by the CIA. I was also offered access to the original Russian copies, but these were not reviewed. The Cherepanov papers primarily examine the habits, potential vulnerabilities, and KGB approaches made to various members of the American Embassy staff. No information of believed relevance to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy was found in these papers. No pages were designated as assassination records.

In the fall of 1963, Paul Garbler, Chief of Station, Moscow copied a series of KGB papers from the American Department of the KGB's Second Directorate which had been given to some tourists with a plea for delivery to the American Embassy. The State Department representatives in the Embassy, fearing a provocation, ordered that the papers be returned. Garbler copied the papers before they were returned to Soviet control. The Soviets traced the papers to KGB Second Directorate Officer Aleksandr Nikolaevich Cherepanov, who was executed by the KGB.