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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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FROM : SCHWARZ, F.A.O & SMOTHER, CURTIS
TO : BARON, FREDERICK

TITLE :
SUMMARY OF PERTINENT TESTIMONY PERTAINING TO RICHARD BISSELL

DATE : 07/16/75
PAGES : 12

SUBJECTS :
BISSELL, RICHARD
EXECUTIVE ACTION
OPERATION MONGOOSE

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

HARVEY:

HARVEY confirmed the accuracy of the I.G. REPORT version of his initial discussion of Executive Action with BISSELL. (36-37; 6/25) HARVEY testified that his "net impression" from the discussion with BISSELL was that both Executive Action and the ongoing poison pill assassination plot were "fully authorized and approved" (54; 6/25), although no specific individual in the "WHITE HOUSE" was mentioned. (81; 6/25) HARVEY said that after his initial meeting with BISSELL, he discussed the propriety and feasibility of assassination with selected CIA officers, who generally expressed a "negative reaction." (40; 6/25) After a subsequent meeting with BISSELL, HARVEY continued to develop the assassination capability without mounting an operation or communicating the objective to any potential asset who was being assessed. (45; 6/25)

Chronology. HARVEY has notes (see attachment) of two meetings to discuss Executive Action which he is "almost certain" took place in 1961. (51; 6/25) On January 25, he met with SIDNEY GOTTLIEB, the new Chief of CIA's Technical Services Division. On the following day, he met with **ARNOLD SILVER**, who recruited agent QJWIN -- the only agent HARVEY ever employed in Project ZRRIFLE (for the purpose of "spotting" potential assets). (50-55; 6/25) HARVEY said that these meetings took place after his initial discussion of Executive Action with BISSELL, thus placing that meeting in "early January." (52; 6/25)