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CIA Handling of Sylvia Duran Matter

When/John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963, the United States investigative agencies -- FBI, CIA, Secret Service, etc. -- were asked to investigate the assassination. When the Central Intelligence Agency learned that Lee Harvey Oswald had visited Mexico City between durin ·late September and early October they reviewed their

tiles and found in the electronic surveillance files and found

phone calls to the Soviet Embassy made September 27th,

eptember 28th, and October 1st, that could have been made by Oswald. (See Electronic Surveillance Section.) They also found phone calls between the Russian Consul and Sylvia Duran where Oswald appeared to be discussed. (See Soviet Electronic Surveillance Section.) In addition

they found a phone call made by Sylvia Duran to the Soviet Consulate on September 28, 1978, where Sylvia Duran stated that there was an American citizen at the Cuban

Consulate who had previously visited the Soviet Consulate,

and put a man on the line. See Soviet Electronic Surveil-

A final phone call where Oswald identified lance Section.)

himself was also found. (See Soviet Electronic Surveillance

Section.)

is fulk about this.

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After preprositional phrase

At this point, the Central Intelligence Agency determined that it would ask the Mexican Government -- ut whom it had a good relationship with -- to arrest Sylvia Duran because she might shed some light on the circumstances surrounding the assassination. Sylvia Duran was also a Mexican citizen and did not have diplomatic immunity. The Central Intelligence Agency's Mexico City Station sent a note to Luis Echevarria requesting that he arrest Sylvia Sylvia Tirado de Duran immediately. The agency stated that she was a Mexican citizen who had put Oswald in touch with the Soviet Embassy. The agency gave Echevarria a note with Duran's address, her mother's address, her brother's address, her license plate number, her home phone number and her place of work.) The Mexico City Station also suggested that Duran be held incommunicado until she could be questioned on the matter. (Note to Luis Echevarria to arrest Sylvia Duran, November 23, 1963, CIA Leta. No. 444; Cable re oswald-Duran, Mexi 7029, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 441; Anne Goodpasture Chronology, Wx 7241, entry 36, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 635)

by the Central Intelligence Agency's Headquarters. When they received the cable on November 23, 1963, Headquarters they

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Alfabet The MCS did not receive prior authorization from CIA Headquarte to request the arrest politically Duran by Westian authorities, the times feares that to the home of such a reject while yeopardize the relationship between the treatment of the relationship with While Just officials with the CIA,

Sylvia Duran Statements who have some statements who have but a sure of the statement of the st

The Central Intelligence Agency feared/that Americans were behind the arrest of Sylvia Durant (It) would endanger their continuing convert surveillance operations For this reason the Mexico City Station requested the

Mexicans to arrest Sylvia Duran on their initiative. Similar logic dictated when Headquarters asked the Mexico City Station to request the Mexican authorities to interrogate Sylvia Duran to the extent necessary to clarify the outstanding points raised in their sables the previous forty-eight hours. Headquarters stated that the Mexico City Station could provide questions to the Mexican interrogators but that they wished no Americans to come in contact with Duran. (Cable CIA Headquarters to Mexico City Station, November 27, 1963, DIR 85318, CIA No. 497; chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 27, 1963, entry no. 121, CIA No. 653) When on November 27, 1963, the Mexico City Station sent a photostatic copy of Sylvia Duran's ten page signed statement to Headquarters (Cable Mexico City Station to Headquarters, November 27, 1963, Mexi 7105, CIA No. 479; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 27, 1963, entry no. 127, CIA No. 656) the following day Headquarters sent a clarification cable to the Mexico City Station & Headquarters wanted to insure that neither Sylvia Duran nor the Cubans fot the impression المادي ال

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Sylvia Duran Statements Page 33.

for concluding

have a

that the Americans were behind her rearrest. The cable stated "We want the Mexican authorities to take the responsibility for the whole affair." (Cable from Headquarters to the Mexico City Station, November 28, 1963, DIR 85371, CIA No. 464; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 28, 1963, WX7241, entry no. 141, CIA No. 658)

When the Central Intelligence began to deal with the Warren Commission, Headquarters cabled the Mexico City Station that their present plan in passing information to the Warren Commission was to eliminate mention of telephone taps in order to protect their continuing operations. Headquarters stated that they would rely on Sylvia Duran's statements and on the Consular files which the Soviets gave the State Department. Headquarters stressed that exact, detailed information from Tetamil-7 and Tetamil-9 (Penetration agents in the Cuban Embassy) on just what Sylvia Duran and other officials said about Oswald's visits and his dealings would be valuable and usable corroborative evidence. (CIA cable from Headquarters to Mexico City Station, December 21, 1963, DIR 90466, CIA

Prior to three Warren Commission staffers Messers.
Willins, Slawson and Coleman visit to Mexico City in

Land of the state of the state

Entry No. 268, CIA No. 682)

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tacted Sylvia Duran, their covert continuing operations

wight be endangered. Headquarters cabled the Mexico City
Station that one of the touchy subjects that the staffers

would discuss was whether they should talk to Sylvia Duran

in Mexico at the Consulate. (Cable Headquarters to Mexico

City Station, April 8, 1964, DIR 13026, CIA No. 698)

Headquarters further cabled that the Warren Commission staffers knew that the Central Intelligence Agency had tap

assets and that they might have guessed from the coverage

that they had photo points and a source in the Cuban Embassy, but that they did not know the details on the Agency's arrangements with the Mexicans. Headquarters stressed

that the Chief of Station should lend them all the needed

assistance with the minimum possible disclosure of assets.

and techniques. (Ibid.) - Re-

April 1964 the Agency still felt that if an American con-

At this point the House Select Committee on Assassinations has determined that the Central Intelligence Agency Library thought their continuing electronic surveillance operation extremely sensitive and important. The Warren Commission would have needed to disclose sensitive information to contradict Sylvia Duran's story. The Central Intelligence Agency had input into what could go in the Warren Report. (See Chuck Berk Write-up.)

ace over

James James

- state issue generally

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B for each section

a statement of issue,

a summy of facts

analysis of facts

O conclusion.

Remember: lack section of fact immediately summation of analysis must be be be about the clear series to the uninformed reader.