157-10011-10090 2022 RELEASE	UNDER THE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION RECORDS ACT OF 1992 JFK Assassination System Date: 7/30/201 Identification Form	
-	Agency Information	,
AGENCY : RECORD NUMBER :	SSCIA 157-10011-10090	
RECORD SERIES :	MATERIAL	
AGENCY FILE NUMBER :		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Document Information	
ORIGINATOR : FROM : TO :	ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION OLSEN, ROBERT FILE	!
TITLE :	MATERIAL FROM ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION RE: E. HOWARD HUNT	
DATE : PAGES :	03/06/1975 54	
SUBJECTS :	ALLEGATIONS HUNT WAS INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY BAY OF PIGS PUBLIC STATEMENTS MADE BY GREGORY, DICK AND SCHOENMAN, RALPH INTERVIEW WITH HUNT, E. HOWARD AND DAUGHTER, HUNT, LISA BOOK BY SZULC, TAD (E. HOWWARD HUNT, THE COMPULSIVE SPY	
DOCUMENT TYPE : CLASSIFICATION : RESTRICTIONS : CURRENT STATUS : DATE OF LAST REVIEW :	PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT Unclassified Consulted; 1B; Donor Restricted Redact 03/02/1994	
OPENING CRITERIA :		
COMMENTS :	SSCI Box 294, Folder 6	;

.

1

v9.1

Date:10/06/93 Page:1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : SSCIA RECORD NUMBER : 157-10011-10090

RECORDS SERIES :

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION FROM : OLSEN, ROBERT TO : FILE

TITLE : INTERVIEW WITH HUNT, E. HOWARD AND DAUGHTER, HUNT, LISA

> DATE : 03/06/75 PAGES : 54

SUBJECTS :

INTERVIEW WITH HUNT, E. HOWARD AND DAUGHTER, HUNT, LISA ALLEGATIONS HUNT WAS INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY PUBLIC STATEMENTS MADE BY GREGORY, DICK AND SCHOENMAN, RALPH BOOK BY SZULC, TAD (E. HOWWARD HUNT, THE COMPULSIVE SPY BAY OF PIGS

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION : S RESTRICTIONS : REFERRED CURRENT STATUS : P DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 09/29/93

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS : SSCI Box 294, Folder 6

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

			.**	
SSCI	Box	294,	Folde	er:16

COMMISSION ON CIA ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES Washington, DC 20500

Nelson A. Rockefeller, Chairman John T. Connor C. Douglas Dillon Erwin N. Griswold Lane Kirkland Lyman L. Lemnitzer Ronald Reagan Edgar F. Shannon,

> SECRET/SENSITIVE MEMORANDUM TO:

David W. Belin,

Executive Director

March 6, 1975

FROM:

Robert Olsen

File

SUBJECT:

Interview of March 4, 1975, with E. Howard Hunt and his Daughter, Lisa Hunt

The interview commenced at approximately 4:00 PM and was conducted at 712 Jackson Place.

Mr. Hunt is presently residing at 1245 N.E. 82th Street, Miami, Florida 33138. He has a silent telephone number of 305 758-6159.

Lisa Hunt resides at 3406 Nimitz Road, Apt. A-2, Kensington, Maryland 20795. She has an unlisted telephone number which she declined to give us. She was born on March 9, 1951.

The interview concerned allegations that Mr. Hunt was involved in the assassination of President John Kennedy and other public figures. He is aware of the public statements made by Dick Gregory and Ralph Schoenman in early February 1975 relative to his being involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. He states that most of the information that Mr. Gregory and Mr. Schoenman referred to is drawn from a book by Tad Szulc entitled, <u>E. Howard Hunt</u>, the Compulsive Spy. Hunt states that the book is saturated with errors. One of those errors is the claim that Hunt was Chief of Station in Mexico City in the fall of 1963.

SECRET/SENSITIVE

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

13 JAN 94

The Bay of Pigs Background

2

Hunt states that in 1960 he was assigned to the job of organizing a "government in exile" for Cuba among Cuban exiles in Florida. The plan adopted by the National Security Council under President Eisenhower called for the formation and training of a brigade of Cuban exiles who would invade Cuba, establish a provisional government, receive recognition by the United States and overthrow the Castro government. The brigade had its own air force and was otherwise fully equipped by the United States Government. The operation, however, was not supposed to be one involving United States Government participation. The venture was to involve training and launching from outside the United States.

In connection with his political activity and the organization of the government in exile, Hunt went to Mexico in 1960. Shortly thereafter the Mexican government demanded that they leave and he returned to the United States. Richard Nixon, then Vice President, was working closely with the CIA on the project.

When President Kennedy was elected in November 1960, he was briefed on the project and confirmed the plans, including the plan to provide air cover to the invading Cuban force. In early 1961, however, the Kennedy administration decided that the political organization of the Cuban government in exile would have to be broadened so as to include all elements of the Cuban society. Even radical leftwingers were to be included. Hunt was assigned the job of convincing the leaders of the Cuban community to accept such a broadening of the political structure of the government in exile. Hunt found this to be an impossible job to accomplish because the Cubans recruited to make up the invasion force had been promised that the government in exile would be solidly anti-Castro and anti-communist. Hunt asked to be relieved of his assignment because he thought it was an impossible one to achieve and he returned to Washington to work on propaganda and similar non-political aspects of the forthcoming invasion.

Within twenty-four hours prior to the time that the Cuban brigade was to hit the beaches at the Bay of Pigs, President Kennedy made two critical decisions that affected the final outcome: he cancelled plans

for an airstrike on Cuba which would have destroyed the six remaining combat planes that were available to Castro; second, the order that there be no air cover for the invading brigade. The result was that the invading force was chopped up while it was still in the water; the ships carrying the armored vehicles were sunk, as were the supply ships, and the troops were left abandoned on the shore. The remnant of the Cuban Air Force was entirely adequate to demolish the invasion fleet. 3

Hunt concedes that he was bitter about the decisions made by President Kennedy, but he primarily blames Arthur Schlesinger, Adlai Stevenson and Robert Kennedy for advising the President to follow the course he chose. He particularly feels that the Gubans had been recruited with certain promises and that those promises were withdrawn at the last minute. Hunt says, in fact, that the decision not to make the airstrike and not to provide air cover was made after the invasion fleet had arrived at the point of no return, i.e., when radio communication to the invasion fleet had already terminated for security reasons.

After the Bay of Pigs disaster, Hunt worked with Allen Dulles until early 1962 at which time Dulles was replaced as DCI. In January 1962, Hunt was assigned to the Domestic Operations Division of the Deputy Directorate for Plans. He was involved in handling proprietaries based in the United States, which have their impact abroad. His immediate superior was Stanley Gaines, who was either Chief of Operations or Executive Officer of the Domestic Operations Division and Tracy Barnes, who was Division Chief of DOD (Barnes is a cousin by marriage to Vice President Rockefeller.)

The proprietaries which Hunt was engaged in managing were **Conductate Press**, which prepared news and radio broadcasts for foreign use; Allided Pacific Rublishing Company of Bombay, which was engaged in publishing textbooks for Indian schools; the Rome Daily American, a cover operation; and Fodor's Thravel Cuides, a proprietary which Hunt questions as to whether it had any use. (Fodor's had been set up in 1946 as a cover operation but served no apparent use during the years Hunt was with DOD.

The headquarters for the DOD was at 1717 H Street, N.W., in Washington, D. C., and then later it was on Pennsylvania Avenue.

4

Hunt's assignment with DOD lasted until the spring of 1965.

During the period from January 1962 until 1965, he states that he never traveled to Mexico or any other Latin American country. His first trip to Mexico after 1961 was in 1970, when he traveled there for the Mullen Company after his retirement from the CIA.

Hunt's Whereabouts on November 22, 1963

Hunt states that he had never been in Dallas until 1971, with a possible exception of a change of planes on his way to Mexico with his family in 1960. He does not recall whether that change of planes took place in Dallas or in Houston. In any event, he and his family never left the airport on that occasion.

He has never had any contact, directly or indirectly, with Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby or anyone else thought to have been associated with the assassination of the President.

He was never in New Orleans in 1963 and has never had anything whatever to do with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, which he identifies as a communist organization.

During the period from January 1962 to 1965, he traveled once or twice per year to India, two or three times per year to Paris, once or twice per year to London, and, during that period, he traveled two or three times to Rome. His only domestic travel in 1963 was between Washington and New York. All travel, whether domestic or international, was in his own name.

Hunt states that in 1961 he used the pseudonym of Edward Je Framulton in connection with his work on the Cuban project in Florida. With the exception of that pseudonym and the pseudonym he used on the identification papers provided him for the Ellsberg break in, he has never used a pseudonym.

On November 22, 1963, he and his wife were driving on H Street at about 9th in Washington, D. C., when he turned the car radio on and learned that the President had been shot. He and Mrs. Hunt had been shopping in a Chinese grocery store in that immediate vicinity, immediately prior to their getting into the car. The Hunts lived at 5215 Balton Road, Sumner, Maryland. On their way home they drove to the Sidwell Friends school on upper Wisconsin Avenue and picked up their younger daughter, Kevan. Kevan told them that Robert and Courtenay Kennedy, children of Attorney General Robert Kennedy, were students in the same school and had been picked up by the Secret Service. The children in the school knew that the President had been shot.

Mr. Hunt states that the following persons are witnesses to the fact that he was here in Washington, D. C., at the time the President was shot in Dallas:

- 1. His son, Howard St. John Hunt, then ten years of age.
- 2. His daughter, Lisa, then twelve years of age.
- 3. His daughter, Kevan, then eleven years of age.
- 4. The family maid, Mary Trayner, now employed by a family living at 4806 DeRussey Parkway, Chewy Chase, Maryland, and whose phone number is 652-2930.

Mr. Hunt believes that he was either taking the day off from work as a part of annual leave on November 22, 1963, or he may have been recuperating from a hospitalization for ulcers. He had been hospitalized at about that period at Sibley Hospital in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Hunt states that he held the following oil company charge account and credit cards in 1963 and that such accounts may provide corroboration as to his presence in Washington, D. C., on November 22, 1963: Esso Oil, Gulf Oil, Texaco Oil, Cities Service Oil, Brooks Brothers (New York), Garfinkle's, Woodward and Lothrop, Sears Roebuck & Co., Hecht Co. He also states that telephone records might be checked with

Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co.; that the CIA might have travel voucher records showing his travel during that year and that CIA should also have records on the dates on which he took sick leave or annual leave.

Mr. Hunt categorically denies that he has been involved in any way whatsoever with the assassination of President Kennedy, Senator Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King, or any other person either within or without the United States. He similarly denies any participation or involvement whatever in the attempted assassination of Governor Wallace, the disappearance of Congressman Hale Boggs or the shooting of Senator Stennis.

He states that in connection with the planning for the Cuban invasion in 1961, he did suggest that Fidel Castro should be assassinated either before or contemporaneously with that invasion, but his suggestion was not acted upon or otherwise approved.

Attached are copies of a press statement made by Mr. Hunt in early February 1975 in Florida, in which he denies the allegations made by Dick Gregory and others with respect to his involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy and a letter written to Mr. Hunt by the former family maid, Mary Traynor.

Lisa Hunt confirms her father's account that he was at home with the family in the afternoon and evening of November 22, 1963. She recalls that her father assembled the family in front of the television set. He wanted them all to watch the program because it was an important historical matter. They were all shocked about the assassination of the President.

cc: D. Belin Senior Counsels

The all ations made by Dick Grego and others connecting me to the murder of President John Kennedy are totally without foundation They constitute a false and vicious libel.

These charges are bizarre . products of sick minds. The Political Left has never been able or willing to accept the fact that Kennedy's assass in was a man of the Left; thus the Leftist preoccupation with finding an alternate assassin.

Dick Gregory's smear represents the ultimate in slander and innuendo customarily characterized as McCarthyism.

The Rockefeller and other investigative committees will probably examine Gregory's charges - as indeed they should. For my part I would welcome a thorough high-level investigation and a full airing of all relevant findings. Only if this takes place will I have any hope of clearing my name and living free from the threats against my life already made by neurotics.

I was not in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963; in fact I never visited Dallas until eight years later. I did not meet Frank Sturgis until 1972, nine years after we were allegedly together in Dallas. I was not in Mexico in 1963. and I did not meet Lee Harvey Oswald there or at any other place or time. Moreover, I shared the nation's grief over the murder of our President. These are the facts.

Until authoritative investigative bodies make known their judgment concerning my alleged involvement in the Kennedy murder I will continue to bring libel actions against any and all parties who repeat the libel. I must take this course because the libels are prejudicial to my position before the Court now considering my Appeal from the Watergate affair. And because the libels threaten my only means of livelihood, as a writer. But of even greater concern to continued publicity given to these reckless me is that charges could stimulate some yet-unpublicized maniac into violent 101 13 JAN 74 **CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO** DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR action against me and my family. RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT FEB 5

1975

DocId:32203858 Page 9

ADVICE AND WAIVER

Place 7/2 Rolline Date Time

Before you make any statement to, or answer any questions from, the Commission or its investigators, you should understand that you have the right to remain silent. If you choose to answer, anything you say can be used against you in court.

, You may consult a lawyer for advice before any questions are put, and may have a lawyer with you during questioning. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be appointed for you before questioning if you wish. If you decide to answer questions without a lawyer present, you still have the right to stop answering at any time; or you may defer your answer until you talk to a lawyer.

WAIVER

I have read and understand the foregoing advice. I am willing to make a statement and answer questions $\{with\}$ [without] a lowyer at this time. No promises or threats have been made to me, and no pressure or coercion of any kind has been used against me.

Signed

Witness Witness:

Time:



COMMISSION ON CIA ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES Washington, DC 20500

March 10, 1975

SECRET/SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

FILE Robert B. Olsen

SUBJECT:

Telephone Interview with E. Howard Hunt on March 7, 1975

I called Mr. Hunt at his residence in Miami, Florida, after first clearing the matter with his attorney, Mr. Snyder, of Baltimore.

I asked Mr. Hunt about the apparent inconsistency between his description to us of the circumstances under which he heard about the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963, and the letter from a former family maid, Mary Traynor. In particular, I called his attention to the fact that Mrs. Traynor in her letter, advises that Mr. and Mrs. Hunt were at home when word of the assasination came in a telephone call from Veronica Moppett. This is inconsistent with Mr. Hunt's statement that he and Mrs. Hunt heard about the assassination on the car radio while they were in downtown Washington, D. C. Mr. Hunt stated that Mary Traynor seems to be in error. He says that it is entirely possible that there was such a call from Veronica Moppett, although he does not remember it. He says that a lot of people were calling each other with the news about the shooting of the President. He says it is also possible that this was the manner in which Mary Traynor heard about the shooting and that she is simply in error in her recollection that the Hunts were then at home.

Hunt stated that he thinks that the Sidwell Friends School dismissed classes for the day at 3:15 pm or 3:30 pm. He says it is possible that the school was dismissed earlier on the day of the assassination but he does not know for sure. He acknowledges that he and Mrs. Hunt would not have known about an earlier dismissal of classes in time to pick up Kevan unless Mrs. Hunt had called the school while they were enroute from downtown Washington, D. C. He does not recall making such a call himself, and he does not recall his wife making one. If classes let out at the normal time, he and Mrs. Hunt would have arrived at home, with their daughter Kevan, at about 3:30 or 3:45 pm.

SECRET/SENSITIVE

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT CO. 13 JAN 94-

NW 50955 DocId:32203858 Page 11

He states that, as he recalls it, there was some delay between the time of the death of the President and the time it was made public on radio and television. He does not recall whether the death of the President had been announced by the time he and Mrs. Hunt arrived at home and he turned on the television set. [The President was pronounced dead at 2:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time. The exact time when the death was announced on radio or television has not been checked out.]

He recalls that when he was watching T.V. with his family after arriving at home, either Huntley or Brinkley made some statement to the effect that the assassination was an outgrowth of the hatred of far Right groups which was much in evidence in Dallas, as had been shown by a recent incident involving some one spitting into the face of Adlai Stevenson. The implication made by Huntley or Brinkley was that the assassination had been accomplished by some one from the far Right Wing. This was before anything was known about the actual assassin. Hunt remembers commenting to his family that it was just like Huntley or Brinkley to jump to the conclusion that the shooting had been by a Right Winger before any evidence was available concerning the assassin.

Mr. Hunt will give us a detailed affidavit covering his non-involvement in the various assassinations. He states that he hopes to be able to avoid another trip back to Washington because he wants to spend as much time as possible with his eleven-year old daughter, who is very anxious about her father's impending imprisonment.

Mr. Hunt states that he hopes to be assigned to a minimum security federal prison in Florida when he reports on March 25.

With respect to the late-night television program on the evening of March 6, 1975, on ABC TV, Hunt states that he recorded the program on tape. It was an interview of Dick Gregory, Ralph Schoenman, and one of their companions. None of the above mentioned Hunt's name or that of Sturgis on the program. He describes the interviewer pressing Dick Gregory on whether he claims that the CIA was involved in the assassination of President Kennedy and Gregory responding that they were not stating that as a fact, but only that if there was any chance of CIA involvement, then the President's Commission should investigate it. Gregory and his companions showed the Zapruder film and the major thrust of the program was an emphasis on the snapping back of the President's head at the time of the fatal shot. One of the interviewees (I believe he said it was Schoenman) stated that they did not really expect much from Olsen at the CIA Commission, but that they were going to "keep embarrassing him with the facts."

Mr. Hunt feels that the press should give some publicity to Schoenman's background with the Bertrand Russell Foundation.

RBO/vmr CC: D.Belin Senior Counsels

4806 De Russey Paky Chevy Chars and 20015 Feb 6 1875 Dear Multunt I om so glad you thought ? writing to me. I remember the day President ennedy was shot very well, and I certainly emember you were there. If you recall, Mrs Hund's Aunt sonie, (9 am sovreg 9 cuit remember her last none) " Chicayo was staying with you for a few. Lays, and on the Friday Mis Hunt, her Aunt, it the three children were going dawn town a movie matinee, other Veronica Moppet Elect from the Spenish Embessay to tell Mastheut it the president had been shat. Tremente alls tood around and stand at each ather en you but the television on, and the inst thing we beard was the even maying but it was now 45 juinetes since the shat ad been fired, and that they still did at know here badly he bed beer input

WW 50955 2525 7 õ \$. 6 2203858 253 halle È 3 Page Ś 5 Δ Boen Pleve ym Al you کم E 3 28 5 6 ٨ ል 5. Ċ. 9 ġ 2 IJ 51 SI ር ম R S har Ą 1 ሎ 5 R Z ð Ø \mathcal{I} 10 ži 2000 Z 51 J 11.11.1.11.1.1 ACCOUNT OF THE PARTY OF THE REAL PARTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

June 6, 1975

Mr. William A. Snyder 1600 Maryland National Bank Building Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mr. Snyder:

Bob Olsen has asked me to return the enclosed photographs of Mr. Hunt, which Mr. Hunt left with the Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States. We appreciate very much Mr. Hunt's making these photographs available to us.

Sincerely,

James $N \downarrow$ Roethe Staff Attorney

Enclosures

AFFIDAVIT OF LISA T. HUNT

I, Lisa T. Hunt, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am submitting this Affidavit to the Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States at the written request of Mr. Peter R. Clapper, who identified himself as an investigator for the aforementioned Commission.

The purpose of this Affidavit is to record my recollections of the whereabouts of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Howard Hunt, Jr., and myself on November 22, 1963.

On that date, I was living with my parents in our house in Summer, Maryland. After returning from school that afternoon, and throughout the weekend that followed, I was with my father and mother at our house spending much of the time watching television reports in connection with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The foregoing represents a truthful summary of my recollections of the whereabouts of my parents and myself on November 22, 1963.

Executed this <u>115 th</u> day of May, 1975, at hisa T. Wund Lisa T. Hunt

Subscribed and sworn to before ma and subscribed and sworn to before ma and subscribed and sworn to before many and this day of May, 1975, at <u>this standard</u>



April 24, 1975

Ns. Lisa Hunt: 3406 Nimitz Road Apt. A-2 Kensington, Md. 20795

Bot: I also phoned Stragis nepter, Hunt, today april 2, and again alled for his afferent. pc

Dear Ms. Hunt:

On March 10 I wrote to you with a request that you forward to this Commission an affadavit containing your recollections of your activities and your father's whereabouts on November 22, 1963. As you will recall, that was the date of the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas, Texas.

I think you are aware of allegations that your father may have been in Dallas on that date. It would be very helpful to this Commission to have your recollections in that connection.

The affadavit may be as short as you wish. It may be typed or in ink. It must be sworn to by you before a notary public.

If you have any questions or wish any assistance from me, please give me a call on (202) 456-7017.

The affadavit may be mailed to me at the following address:

Peter R. Clapper Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States Office of the Vice President Executive Office Building Washington, D.C. 20500

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Star K. 1.4.1920)

Peter R. Clapper Investigator

A in E Afer 3-4-75 Mauch 9, 1957 2 33138 ia 6159 Si. ን 2 30 8 Cum ve Apy. wa -Schoenource was Chief of Helio 196 \$ 1963 62 to 7a ALLOIT. Ċ L Aler wa Ve 101 aci was D Coum UP Ster arch er orric CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT AS SANITIZED

13 JAN 94

Cour alianed whether it ha Ua 1946 17-58 ß Za Roc until Spring 165 aco or other fot 1 lesam 91 1. Count up ofter in 1970 for Hullin et. 12 fr CIA o. ct retiremen May have changed planes in Dallay in 1960 (iv/a leav corport) on ivay to Mexicolity. Bil Co. credit cards. held in Charg 1963 Lettrop Chesapeabe CIA Should I have trave her record.

saudonym Cuban proyect 19.61 used by fund in re o India Truls raie times Times year, 2003 Ro s per y lar A lor less time's per yr in Roa Only domestic travel in 63 wa 1 or less we have -NY. all travel d leen - \sim he of -wife were driving Nov. 63, Wish ont AF Ċ D Car 10 Aller hear upi / Kel renembers Keven - Kennedin 10 5-Ulu ha en picked up from ty Secret The Childre 6.1 Witnesses Tevar - Mary Trayner, now of familiat 4506 De Russey Plany Maid Cherry Ch 651 -2930

Hunt thinks he was on leave (taking the day off) that day, also may have been recuperating from hospitaly for ulcers, Sibley Hospital, Wash, D. C. ₩₩ 50955 DocId:32203858 Page 21