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interview

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at 9:30 A.M. on 5-14-78 SCA Staff investigator Harold D. Leap interviewed William Crawford, former executive officer of the CIA station at Atsugi, Japan concerning his knowledge of LHO and the military intelligence that LHO may have possessed from his military assignment as Radio-radar operator at the Atsugi Naval Airbase.

Mar 59 - Oct 60

Crawford advised that he did not know LHO and never heard the name until after the assassination of J.F.K. The U-2 program administered by the CIA at Atsugi did not have their own radio-radar facilities. The U-2 planes utilized the naval base communications ~~for~~ only for take-off and landing clearance.

The ~~the~~ CIA employees at Atsugi had no clandestine activity other than the U-2 program. All human

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intelligence ~~assets~~ resources were handled by ~~the~~ case officers stationed else where in [13 a gram].

The cover story for the U-2 plane at Atsugi was that it was used to monitor radio activity in the atmosphere. In fact the plane actually ~~have~~ had equipment installed to measure radio activity. To facilitate the cover story. ~~When the~~

Oswald would have seen the U-2 take-off and land at the base however he would have had no other information. Radar operators would not be able trace the U-2 ~~on the~~ over flights. The plane would take off in the opposite direction. The U-2 would ~~start~~ fly to a staging area (Pershar, Pakistan) before going into the flight plan for the over-flight. However the Russians were aware of the over-flights from the beginning of the program 1955. The Russian did not have the ability to shoot the U-2 down at the altitude of the U-2 flight.

CIA recruited personnel for the program from the military service. The pilots would resign from their respective service units with the understanding that at the completion

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of the program they would go back without losing service time and at a rank comparable to their contemporaries. All program employees were paid by CIA. General maintance on the U-2 was provided at Atsugi however major overhaul was made only in U.S.

Although the program was directed and administered by the CIA, the commander of the Atsugi program was Col. Marion "Mack" Mixon from the air force.

The program was terminated in 1960.

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Harold:

Can you add the following statement?:

Crawford said that had LHO been associated with the Atsugi CIA station, he, as exec officer, would've known about it.

~~However he would not have~~
~~aware of his existence~~

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