AFFIDAVIT

My name is Harold Weisberg. I reside at Route 12, Frederick, Maryland.

am the plaintiff in C.A. 77-1997, in which I sought information relating to Dr.

King and his assassination from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

- l. Throughout the time this case was before the district court, I informed the court that false representations relating to alleged "national security" were made to it under oath by and on behalf of the CIA.
- 2. I informed the court that following amending of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in 1974 the investigative and intelligence agencies began improvising means of circumventing the amended Act and were withholding information that had not earlier been withheld under fictitious claim of "national security." I informed the court that there was a whipsawing arrangement between the CIA and the FBI for each not to act on the referral of records by the other in order to prevent or delay compliance.
- 3. In an affidavit I filed in C.A. 70-0249 I attached copies of underlying records in which there was the actual disclosure of what the FOIA processing worksheets in question withheld under this spurious claim of "national security" need. This is to say that the identical information withheld under "national security" claim on the worksheets was disclosed in the underlying records earlier provided in compliance with the Order of the court in my C.A. 77-2155.
- 4. As I informed the court, if none of this had been true the withheld information was not secret in any event but was very well known throughout the entire world.
- 5. When I perceived the CIA's false swearing in C.A. 77-1997 I immediately wrote and informed the CIA of this. I attach a copy of this letter as Exhibit 1.

Once I located this copy I made no further check of my files to determine whether I wrote other such letters. I believe I also conveyed the same information to CIA counsel in person.

- 6. Exhibit I concludes with my asking the CIA to "reread this affidavit and if you agree with me correct or withdraw it for correction." My records disclose no response. No CIA affidavit was withdrawn.
- 7. Having willed all my records to a public archive in a major university system I preserve all records I receive under FOIA in exactly the form in which I receive them and separated from my working files. The only space I have for this is in the basement of my home, where I have the FOIA records as provided to me.
- 8. Medical and other problems limit and sometimes prevent my consultation with these original records I receive under FOIA. Because of this when I receive and read the records I make copies I desire for my work and file these copies separately, by subject, in my office.
- 9. It was not possible for me to make the extensive search necessary to produce proofs of the CIA's false swearing in C.A. 77-1997. I also did not expect the Court to grant Summary Judgment when and as it did because material facts were in dispute.
- 10. Among the kinds of information the CIA's affidavits swear have to be withheld in the interest of "national security" are where it has stations in other lands and the names of hotels and newspapers that could identify a country or a city and thus make known that there is a CIA station in that country.
- Il. I filed an affidavit in which I stated this was false. I cited records previously disclosed to me and to others as a basis for characterizing this as obviously false information. I also informed the Court that it was well known that the CIA used State Department "cover" for its personnel and that all thus were listed in the official diplomatic directories, which are published, and were known to the host government.

- 12. Earlier this month a local college student started doing research in my CIA files relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. The files to which I refer in what follows were disclosed by the CIA in 1976, to me and to others.
- 13. When this student started using my files I asked her to note disclosure of information of the nature set forth in Paragraph 10 above and to give the records holding this kind of information to me for copying.
- 14. Her research is only beginning but during the parts of the first two days she worked she called to my attention the first of the two sets of records I attach as exhibits. All these records are from what the CIA describes as its "Batch A." Although I was to have received a copy of each of these released records the student informs me that the copies the CIA provided are not complete but that copies I obtained from another requester fill in gaps in the copies provided to me. Some of those I obtained from this other requester are identified because the xeroxing includes paperclips he added to attract his attention to certain portions.
- 15. The student's first two lists of the CIA records disclosing in 1976 what it swore to having to withhold under "national security" in 1978 are attached as Exhibit 2.
- 16. The content of Exhibit 3 (from which the CIA eliminated its Document Number in xeroxing) discloses that the CIA has a station in Mexico. Page two discloses other "national security" information, that the FBI and the Navy also have representatives in Mexico. This is the precise information the CIA swore in C.A. 77-1997 is always withheld under "national security" requirement. This same "national security" information is disclosed repeatedly throughout the following exhibits.

3

- 17. The first paragraph of Exhibit 4 again discloses the existence of the CIA's Mexico City station and that the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) also have offices there.
- 18. The second paragraph of the CIA's memo to the FBI, Exhibit 5, discloses the CIA's operations in Costa Rica: "Representatives of this agency in Costa Rica ..." This again is precisely the kind of information the CIA swore in C.A. 77-1997 that it must withhold in the interest of "national security," that it operates in other countries, in this case Costa Rica.
- 19. The CIA's "Director" cable attached as Exhibit 6 discloses it has representatives in England (Paragraph A) and Stockholm (Paragraph C) along with other information it swore in C.A. 77-1997 has to be withheld in the interest of "national security," the name of a newspaper. Paragraph A also discloses what the FBI swore in C.A. 78-0249 must always be withheld, cooperation by the authorities of these other countries. (These disclosures relating to these countries and to newspaper names are repeated in other exhibits.)
- 20. Nothing could be more explicit than Exhibit 7, the CIA's #85676, in stating that it operates in Mexico: "According to our representative in Mexico City ..." (Other records disclosed in 1976 use the same language.)
- 21. Exhibit 8 discloses the name of a Mexico City newspaper, a "national security" identifier requiring withholding, according to the CIA's affidavits in C.A. 77-1997.
- 22. In its cable to its Mexico City station, Exhibit 9, the CIA discloses the cooperation of Mexican authorities, which the FBI swore in C.A. 78-0249 has to be kept a national security "secret." This is still another of the CIA's many 1976 disclosures of the existence of its Mexico City station, never a secret despite its affidavits.

- 23. Page 2 of Exhibit 10 discloses both FBI and CIA operations in Mexico, which the CIA swears has to be kept secret. (Other Exhibits repeat this and include other United States Agencies.)
- 24. Exhibits 11 and 12 both deal with one Mrs. Sylvia Duran. She was supposed to have been a 1978 witness before the House Select Committee on Assassinations but at the last minute was not available. In other records the CIA discloses great interest in preventing Mexican police from roughing her up all over again. Exhibit 11 refers again to "This Agency's station in Mexico..."

 There is the same disclosure in Exhibit 12, which also reflects expected cooperation from the Mexican authorities.
- 25. Exhibits 13 and 14 again disclose what the CIA swore in C.A. 77-1997 it would endanger "national security" to "disclose," the name of a newspaper, an "identifier" which could lead to the "disclosure" of the existence of the CIA's station in Stockholm. Exhibit 14 passes the same information on to the White House, adding to the disclosure of what the CIA swore in C.A. 77-1997 had to be withheld the fact of the CIA's operations in England and its access to official British records.
- 26. Exhibit 15 is another CIA disclosure of its and FBI operations in Mexico.
- 27. Exhibit 16 provides another of those must-be-secret "identifiers," the name of a bar which could "disclose" the city of the allegedly secret CIA operations. The last page indicates that the CIA can retrieve information other than as it represented in C.A. 77-1997. Its last word is the directive, "index."
- 28. The student tabulated other previously disclosed CIA records she noted on March 15, 1979. (Exhibit 17)
 - 29. Page 3 of Exhibit 18 abounds in the CIA's 1976 disclosure of what it

swore in 1978 it dare not disclose for fear of endangering the nation's security. In the top paragraph on page 3 there is yet another disclosure of its operations in Mexico City. The next sentence refers to the cooperation of the Mexican police. Immediately after that CIA Director Helms is quoted as saying that the CIA's man was "under State Department cover." Here there is another reference to FBI and INS operations in Mexico City. The CIA Mexico City station is again referred to at the bottom of this page and on the following page. Contrary to the sworn CIA representations in C.A. 77-1997, that to retrieve it must paw through all its multitudinous records, the comparatively primitive retrieval system of 14 years earlier is described on the last page (paragraph numbered 12): "... any information reposing in our files could be recovered by this machine rapidly and efficiently." (This is another of the records not provided to me, one I obtained from another requester.)

- 30. In arguing against a newspaper account in Exhibit 19 the CIA discloses its operations in Moscow. Here the CIA also confirms that the American official to whom Oswald spoke in the United States Embassy in Moscow was CIA. The last paragraph discloses how readily the CIA can retrieve its information ("biographical account") on writers who are critical of it. This is the exact opposite of its representations in C.A. 77-1997 on this identical question, of its retrieving information about named writers, especially those critical of it. (This record also was not provided to me by the CIA.)
- 31. Although the name withheld by the CIA is well and publicly known, being available at the National Archives and the FBI's reading room, the purpose for attaching Exhibit 20 is to show that the CIA does indeed disclose "identifiers" like the "Roosevelt Hotel," here adding "in Mexico City" for good measure. This exhibit and Exhibit 21 are fairly specific in disclosing that the CIA was taking pictures clandestinely in Mexico City.

- 32. If there had been any secrecy about where the CIA has stations abroad, with regard to 10 CIA stations FBI Director Hoover ended that forever in his May 14, 1964, testimony before the Warren Commission. I use the "corrected" typescript of the transcript rather than the version printed by the Commission because it shows that the testimony was carefully considered and drastically changed.

 FBIHQ File 62-109060-3215X is this typescript.
- 33. Parts of the Hoover testimony were virtually rewritten. All the FBI's top brass agreed that "the court reporter did not record the Director"s testimony accurately ..." (Exhibit 22) Any examination of the extent and nature of the alterations in the testimony of the Director who was always right about everything provides a separate means of evaluating the FBI's word about almost anything.
- 34. On typescript page 6537 (Exhibit 23) Hoover identified 10 countries where the CIA has operations by identifying them with those countries in which the FBI has "Legal Attaches." All one need do is examine public records, like the budget or the diplomatic list, to learn these 10 countries in which the CIA has stations. Despite the CIA's affidavits in C.A. 77-1997 this has been public since 1964.
- 35. I did not see this typescript until March 19, 1979, when another student working in my files called it to my attention.
- 36. However, while it reflects no more than public knowledge, Hoover's 1964 testimony constitutes disproof of the CIA's affidavits claiming the need to withhold for the "national security" what Hoover as well as the CIA itself disclosed.

HAROLD WEISBERG

Frederick County, Maryland

Before me this 979 Deponent Harold Weisberg has appeared and signed this affidavit, first having sworn that the statements made therein are true.

My commission expires July 1, 1982.

HOTARY PUBLIC

ht. 12, Frederick, Ed. 21701 8/4/78

Ar. Charles E. Savige, Deputy FOLA/PA Coordinator CIA Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Savige,

Res C.A. 77-1997

Your affidavit that is attached to the CIA's Reply benorandum is dated the day of its service, July 19. These papers were delayed in reaching my counsel. They were further delayed in reaching me.

I may now roud your affidavit.

Because my lanyor is ill I wante you about it directly, not knowing what the time factors are in suchs matters.

I believe that your affidavit is falsely awars. I do not assume that you awars falsely deliberately, although official false swearing is common enough within my experience for me to recognize that deliberateness is not impossible.

I therefore ask that you reposed this effidavit and if you agree with me correct or withdraw it for correction.

Sincerely,

Harold Welsberr

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March 14, 1979

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134-595 "This agency's station in Mexico ...

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for FOIA Review of J. R. F. 1911

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey OSWALD

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vas cabled in on 9 October 1963. It revealed that on 1 October 1963 Lee OSWALD had been in touch there with the Soviet Embassy. The data showed that OSWALD had also been at the Soviet Embassey on 28 September. Traces showed OSWALD was a former U. S. defector to the USSR and on 10 October CIA Headquarters notified the FBI, State and the Navy (OSWALD had been a Marine). Our Representative was told to pass its information on OSWALD to the Mexico City offices of the FBI, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Embassy.

2. Additional information shows that Lee Harvey OSWALD entered Mexico (apparently by car) at Nuevo Laredo on 26 September 1963, claiming he was a photographer, living in New Orleans and bound for Mexico City. On 27 September he was in Mexico City to ask for a visa so he could go to Odessa, USSR. On 23 September, he was at the Cuban Embassy. It seems that OSWALD wanted a Cuban transit visa so he could go to Cuba and wait there for a Soviet visa which would permit him and his wife to go on to the Soviet Union. On 3 October 1963, OSWALD drove back into the United States at the Nuevo Laredo-Laredo, Texas crossing point. He had travelled on a Mexican Tourist Card in lieu of passport.

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EXHIBIT 5

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TRAVEL OF PED-COMMENIST COSTA RICAN CONGRESSMAN TO TEXAS ON: 26 NOVEMBER 1963.

- AS YOU WERE ADVISED BY TELEPHONE, A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE REPORTED ON 26 NOVEMBER 1963, THAT JULIO SUNOL LEAL, PRO-COMMUNIST, PRO-CASTRO DEPUTY TO THE COSTA RICAN MATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PLANNED TO LEAVE SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, FOR POLAND 21: NOVEMBER TO ATTEND THE WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE IN WARSAW, POLAND, SUMOL DELAYED HIS DEPARTURE AND NOW PLANS TO LEAVE SAN JOSE 26 NOVEMBER HE INTENDS TO STOP IN TEXAS EN ROUTE TO POLAND.
- REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS AGENCY IN COSTA RICA SUSPECT THAT SUNOL WILL THY TO CATHER DATAIN TEXAS TO USE IN PRO-COMMUNIST/CASTRO PROPAGANDA IN CONHECTION WITH THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.
- 3. SUNDL IS TRAVELLING ON A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. HE LEFT SAN JOSE FOR MEXICO CITY ON TACA AIRLINES FLIGHT NUMBER 701, HE IS ABOUT THIRTY YEARS OF AGE, SLENDER, ABOUT FIVE FEET HINE INCHES TALL, HAS A LONG NOSE, BLACE, SLIGHTLY CURLING HAIR, AND WFARS ELACK-RIMMED GLASSES.
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- CONCERNING THE TRAVEL TO MEXICO OF SOVIET DIPLOMATIC COURIERS VALENTING GERMANOVICH PONOMAREV AND ALEKSEY NIKOLAYEVICH POPKOV.
 - 2. ACCORDING TO OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN MEXICO CITY, PONOMAREV

 AND POPKOV LEFT MEXICO CITY FOR CUBA ON 12 NOVEMBER VIA CUBANA 465

 AND RETURNED TO MEXICO CITY ON 13 NOVEMBER VIA CUBANA.

 SOURCE REPORTED THAT THEY

 PROBABLY LEFT MEXICO CITY FOR NEW YORK ON 23 NOVEMBER VIA AERONAVES

 FLT 451.

Document Number for FOIA Review on MAY 1976

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27 November 63 R
THIS WHITE HOUSE AFFE: NR. MODICECK BURDY
THE STATE DEPARTMENT AFFE: 18. U. ALECS JOHNSON
THEREAL BUREAU OF PHYSHICATICAL

ECHTECH CENEAR BUZINGERGE WERCH

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DEEDLATE

SIDJECT: READERSH OF SHITIA HUMAN

THIS ADERCT'S STATICE IN HEALTO, WAS ADVISED ON 27 HOTERS TEAR PEXICAL ADDRESSION RAD REAGESTED SHIPTA DEAL, DEXICAL DAVICAL PRODUCES OF THE CUBAN EMERSEY IN MEXICO, WHO HAD TALKED TO LEE CHAND AT THE CUBAN expansive in land september 1963. The reason for the heappear was that steven DURAN WAS THYING TO LEAVE DEXTED FOR CURA.

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for FOIA Raview on APR 1976

PICHARD IPPLY

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CONCLUDE THAT OSWALD MUST HAVE BEEN VISAED

DIRECTLY BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY, STOC, ALTHOUGH

NO EVIDENCE

TO CONFIRM SUCH AN ASSUMPTION.

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		RECARDING THE TRAVEL OF LESS HARVET CSWALD AND HIS WE	IFB:	
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	2 1976	OSWALD LEFT LCTDON THIS DATE BY AIR		
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MEMORANDUM RE TELEPHONE CALL FROM MR. PAPICH

RE: OSWALD Case and Warren Commission

State has passed to FBI certain documents

originating from Mexico City - Learned via phone call from

THE FBI called and asked that I pass the following to

STAFF OFFICERS

- 1. Alards Johnson sent a latter to the FBI on the Oswald case and enclosed copies of several State Department dispatches, all of them oxiginating from Mendeo dealing with the early events following the assassination.
- 2. In his communication, Mr. Johnson says that they plan on making these communications available to the Warren Commission, realizing that some of this might be of historical significance and they might want to use it. They don't indicate what conditions would be imposed upon the Commission but they do ask the FHI for their comments and observations.
- 3. The FBI is replying that whatever the State Department does with its communications is a decision for them to make, but the FBI points out very strongly that from their review of the copies State gave them, the FBI notes that some of the information may relate to CIA operations, and they suggest that State might want to consult with CIA.

Document Number 539-232

for FOIA Review on JUN 1976

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1	. d' .	30000
Section .	1.	AFTER ATTENDING LECTURE TOGETHER AT SYNDICAL PALACE MADE ENTERED BAR
		"MARQUESA DE CUBA" AT ABOUT 8 PM NITE 22 NOV. THEY WERE TOLD BY BAR-
Section 1	٠	TENDER WHO ALONE AT TIME THAT PRES. KENNEDY HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED.
		FRIEND CALLED WIFE WHO CONFIRMED AND GROUP THEN WENT TO UPI
Section!		OFFICE NEARBY TO READ TICKER. THEY LATER RETURNED TO BAR TO HAVE DRINK
Paris series		AND THEN GROUP BROKE UP.
-		2. SOURCE SAID GODINEZ WAS IN BAR WHEN GROUP RETURNED BUT REFUSED
A CONTRACTOR		INVITATION TO DRINK AND LEFT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. THIS ONLY TIME SOURCE SAW GODINEZ DURING DAY. HE DID NOT SEE HIM MORNING 22 NOVEMBER.
and the second		3. SCURCE SAID HE RECEIVED NO WORD, VERBAL OR WRITTEN OR EVEN RUMOR
To any survivalent		THAT PRES. KENNEDY WOULD BE KILLED AND ANY ALLEGATION THAT HE MADE ANY
- Action		STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT AT ANY TIME TO ANYONE IS COMPLETELY ABSURD AND
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ADDED THAT

WHO WELL KNOWN AS ANTI-AMERICAN ONLY PERSON IN GROUP WHO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION UPON LEARNING OF PRES. KENNEDY'S DEATH.

INDEX.

follow up to determine if any foundation to story that : Cuben journalist, Gaston Baquero stated that he had received a letter claiming President Kennedy would be killed on 22 November.

***Forwarded report mentioned above concerning Cuban journalist statement.

March 15, 1979

CIA-DOC

308-114 "... the Hotel ROOSEVELT, arenida Insurgentes 287, Mexico, D.F. ... "

313-118 "... REgistered in Roosevelt Hotel
Mexico City: "

609-786 Richard Snyder "...on duty with EIA ... assigned to OPC ... slated to serve in Tokyo... serve in Heidelberg ... "(p.2)

603-256. "... Mr HELMS cautioned that our Staff Officer would be under State Department cover... (p. 3)

"... the Mexico City Station..." (p.4)

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, or al on cla contribution to Commission,

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Meeting with the Warren Commission on 12 March 1964 SUBJECT:

- 1. On 12 March 1964, Mr. Helms, STAFF OFFICERS met with Mr. Rankin, Chief Counsel for the Warren Commission, Mr. Willems, and other members of Mr. Rankin's staff. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the current status of the CIA contribution to the work of the Warren Commission.
- 2. The first topic raised by Mr. Rankin concerned information on Lee Harvey Oswald's stay in the Soviet Union as recorted by the FBI. based on their interview of the defector, Yuriy Ivanovich Nosenko. This discussion is reported in a separate memorandum.
- 3. After disposing of the question of Mosenko's information on Oswald, Mr. Rankin's staff showed us a detailed memorandum they had prepared based on all of the information available to them, including our own contribution concerning Oswald's stay in the USSR. This material, together with some questions specifically related to the material we provided, will be forwarded to us by Mr. Rankin's staff. It was then suggested that a CIA officer most familiar with the material provided by CIA on the USSR aspects of the Oswald case visit the Commission in order to review on the spot the testimony given to the Commission by Marina Oswald. We agreed to send the appropriate officer to review this testimony but suggested that we wait until after receipt of the material just shown to us.
- 4. Members of Mr. Rankin's staff then spoke about having found a book in Cswald's posséssions which had certain letters cut out giving the impression that this might have formed the base or key for a cipher system. They asked whether it would be useful in our opinion to send this book to NSA for review. He assured them that NSA was the appropriate Agency for this and STAFF OFFICER commented that when this was done reference might also be made to the portion of Lee Oswald's notes which mentioned microdot. Another member of the Rankin staff

Document Number 603-256 for FOIA Review on 1 JUN 1976

commented on the fact that Cswald had obtained employment in this country in a photographic firm through a Mussian friend. He thought this might have a possible bearing on any clandestine communications systems he might have received from the Soviets.

- 5. Members of Mr. Rankin's staff then commented on the testimony of Mrs. Oswald to the effect that the letters from her son regarding his desire to return to the United States had the appearance of being dictated since they contained none of his usual grammatical errors and used legal language with which he would not have been familiar. In this connection, the fact that Lee Oswald wrote to the Embassy requesting help in arranging his return to the U.S. soon after receipt by the Embassy of a telegram from the Department reporting on correspondence with Oswald's mother seemed to indicate to members of Mr. Rankin's staff that the Soviets might have had access in some fashion to the contents of the telegram. They did not believe it was coincidental that Oswald's letter to the Embassy came immediately on the heels of the telegram from the Department. This led to a discussion of the appearance in the press of another telegram or report, from the Embassy in Moscow to the Department. Mr. Rankin said he would undertake to clarify this.
  - 6. Mr. Willems noted that Mrs. Oswald had introduced a statement to the effect that she suspected her son to be a CIA agent. Mr. Willems asked whether in fact Oswald had been a CIA agent. Mr. Helms replied that he had not been. Mr. Willems then asked if there were any way of proving this. Mr. Helms first remarked that in him and Stuff Officer the Commission had the two Clandestine Services officers who certainly would know whether or not Oswald had been an agent for CIA in the Loviet Union. He then said that the Commission would have to take his word for the fact that Cswald had not been an agent. Mr. Rankin interjected the view that the Commission had not adopted this procedure with other agencies and wondered whether there was not some way to clarify this point more effectively for the Commission. One suggestion he made was to have Mr. Fulles, who is familiar with CIA records procedures, review the material which would normally be held on agents and report to the Commission. Another suggestion was to follow the lead of the Director of the FBI who forwarded an affidavit to the Commission regarding the nature of FBI relations with Oswald.
    - 7. A considerable part of the meeting from this point forward consisted of a review by Mr. Rankin and his staff of the gaps in their investigation to date. They noted that the most significant gap appeared in the Mexican phase. For example, they had no record of Oswald's

daily movements while in Mexico City nor could they confirm the date of his departure or his mode of travel. The original assumption that he had returned by bus could not be proven. Several possibilities were discussed whereby the Commission could fill in the gaps of its investigation of the Mexican phase. The suggestion was made that the most effective way of resolving the questions they had would be to have a member of the Commission visit Mexico City and discuss the issues on the spot with those American and Mexican officials directly concerned. Mr. Helms noted that it would be possible for a member of the Commission to visit our Staff Officer who would then be able to work out with the Warren Commission staff member the best way to handle interviews with Mexican police officials, particularly if it is desired that these interviews be informal in nature. Our Staff Officer would also be able to put the Warren Commission staff member in contact with the FBI officials and Emmigration and Naturalization Service officers stationed in Mexico City. Mr. Helms cautioned that our Staff Officer would be under State Department cover and that it would be proper to advise the Department of the planned visit and upon arrival to meet briefly with the Ambassador or Minister Counselor before proceeding to work out details with the CIA Staff Officer ..

- 8. In connection with the Mexican phase of the investigation, members of Mr. Rankin's staff questioned Mr. fielms and Staff Officer regarding the extent of the CIA file on Oswald for the period 8 October to 22 November 1963. They questioned the sanitized extracts which they had been shown and wondered if there were not more. Staff Officer summarized the materials that had come to the attention of the Secret Service, or had been disseminated to the Secret Service, immediately after the assassination. Staff Officer said there was not additional substantive information and that the sanitized version seen by the Commission constituted the sum of our holdings. Mr. Helms then explained that as a matter of practice we did not release actual copies of our messages because they contained codewords and digraphs which would be unintelligible to a person not familiar with them. He added, however, that he would be happy to show the file with the original messages to any staff member of the Warren Commission who might come to visit him at Langley.
- 9. The question of why no action was taken by other agencies of the government after their receipt of CIA information that Oswald was in contact with the Soviet and Cuban Embassies in Mexico City was next discussed. Mr. Rankin and members of his staff clearly felt that this was a crucial question which needed careful review. They appeared to

believe that the information on Oswald was unusual enough to have caused recipients to take special measures which might conceivably have led to a closer scrutiny of Lee Harvey Oswald and his movements.

Such information is routinely passed to other agencies and entered in CIA files.

Thus the information on Oswald was similar to that provided on other American citizens who might have made contacts of this type. In Cswald's case, it was the combination of visits to both Cuban and Soviet Embassies which caused the Mexico City Station to report this to Headquarters and Oswald's record of defection to the Soviet Union which prompted the Headquarters dissemination. At the conclusion of his remarks on this subject, Mr. Helms specified that the information he had given Mr. Mankin was extremely sensitive

- 10. The Commission, Mr. Rankin said, would be interested in any information held by CIA on Jack Ruby. Mr. Rankin said the Commission staff had prepared a roundup on Ruby, a copy of which he handed Mr. Helms. He said he would appreciate any file reflections or comments that CIA analysts might make on this material. Mr. Rankin and members of his staff then discussed Ruby's confirmed trip to Havana in 1959. The Commission has received information from an unspecified source that Ruby was in Havana again in 1963 under a Czech passport. Mr. Rankin asked whether CIA could provide any assistance in verifying this story. Mr. Helms replied that CIA would be limited in its possibility of assisting,
- 11. Mr. Helms was then asked if CIA had done any follow up to its original telegraphic dissemination of the information on Oswald's visits to the Cuban and Soviet embassies in Mexico City. Mr. Helms replied that there had been no CIA action following our initial dissemination. Mr. Willems then asked if there were any liaison problems faced by CIA in its efforts to deal with other agencies in matters affecting internal security. Mr. Helms replied that there were always understandable human problems in conducting any liaison on any subject but

that by and large the procedures for dealing with internal security and counterespionage information which needed to be brought to the attention of other agencies were effective.

- 12. Mr. Willems then asked if CIA's intelligence collection system was automated. Mr. Helms replied that we did in fact have a machine records system for recovering file information which was unique in that it had been designed specifically with the requirements of the CIA Clandestine Services in mind. Thus, any information reposing in our files could be recovered by means of this machine system rapidly and efficiently. Mr. Helms invited Mr. Rankin and members of his staff to visit the Langley Headquarters and inspect the machine records system which he had described.
- 13. In speaking of the broader question of protection for the President, Mr. Rankin asked about our procedures for working with the Secret Service when the President travels abroad. Mr. Helms described how the system works and cited examples from the past to illustrate. He commented on some of the South American trips and on the visit to West Berlin to show the way in which the effectiveness and competence of the local police force plays a key role in efforts to insure the President's safety.
- 14. Mr. Willems asked if we could check on a memorandum sent to Stoff OFFICER on 12 February regarding one of the pictures identified by Mrs. Oswald as that of Jack Ruby. These pictures were

provided to the FBI and then cropped to make a display to show to Mrs. Oswald soon after the President's assassination. The Commission has not been able to determine which of these pictures was shown Mrs. Oswald. Staff Officer will follow up on this.

17- Mar 64

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief,

SUBJECT: Comment Regarding

BJECT: \Article Alleging OSWALD was Interviewed by CIA Employees

1. On 28 February 1964 the Northern Virginia Sun carried an article (see tab a) alleging -- among other things -- that "State Department records show that OSWALD had several meetings with the CIA representative in the US embassy in Moscow. During this period, the assassin was seeking to renounce his citizenship. One State Department cable, No. 234, dated November 2, 1959, reports that OSWALD was interviewed by the CIA and other embassy officials."

- 2. This allegation is absolutely unfounded as the following facts bear out:
  - a. The article cites a State Department "cable" No. 234, dated 2 November 1959. Such "cable" probably does not exist; however, the State Department despatch, No. 234, dated 2 November 1959, from the US Embassy in Moscow is no doubt the one which the article intended to cite. That despatch carried the security classification "Confidential". (See tab b).
  - b. That despatch contains no statement or inference that Richard E. Snyder, the Second Secretary of the US Embassy in Moscow, who talked with OSWALD on 31 October 1959, has CIA connection. Snyder's name is the only name of a person mentioned who might have spoken with OSWALD. The only other US official whose name was mentioned in that State Department despatch was Edward L. Freers who signed the despatch as Charge & Affairs, ad interim.

Document Number OUCI- B

17-MAR 1965

Brief history of Agency

c. Richard E. Snyder (DPOB: 10 December 1919, Passaic, N.J.) applied for employment with CIA in June 1949 and submitted a complete PHS form at that time. He entered on duty with CIA on 8 November 1949 as a GS-9 (\$4600.00 per annum). According to his Personnel file (see tab c) he was assigned to OPC and was slated to serve in Tokyo (the file contains no entry showing that he actually served in Tokyo). He did, however, serve in Heidelberg, beginning in March 1950. While in Germany he apparently resigned effective 26 September 1950 in order to assume a position with HICOG. There are no further entries in his Personnel file.

In March 1959 (probably just before SNYDER's departure for Moscow), State requested that he be given two weeks of the OBS Course (probably ORR's training in Soviet Order of Battle).

d. Edward L. Freers was never an employee of CIA. He has been an employee of the Department of State since 1941 and has served in various countries. In 1952, while a "Peripheral Officer" with the State Department in Rome,

requested "liaison clearance" on him; the clearance was granted in April 1952. The interest was dropped in 1955 and the clearance was cancelled. From September to November 1956, officials were in official contact with him because of his position at the Department of State. For that purpose requested and received liaison clearance from the Office of Security. In addition, the Office of Security file contains the following record of interest and clearance action concerning FREERS:

- 3. The original article containing the subject allegation was written by Robert S. ALLEN and Paul SCOTT. ALLEN is a former associate of Drew PEARSON's. The article has been replayed in various publications which carry the ALLEN-SCOTT articles. Many of the replays appear to have deleted the citation of the State Department "cable". Among the publications carrying the allegation in its entirety is the current issue of Human Events (see tab e) which is published in Washington, D.C.
- 4. ALLEN's and SCOTT's attacks on CIA are well-known and have been persistent. In December 1961 STAFF EMPLOYEE wrote a memorandum to the DCI concerning both of them. In May 1962, STAFF EMPLOYEE wrote a memorandum to the Office of Security and attached several items concerning these two men (see tab f). A surface analysis of the various articles written by this duo shows that they have been sharpshooting at Mr. Dulles whenever the opportunity has presented itself. The recent article shows that they are still at it: in connection with Mr. Dulles' service on the Warren Commission, they accuse him of displaying "...a militant protectiveness regarding the CIA". The Office of Security has furnished a copy of a detailed biographic account of ALLEN and a copy of (a portion of) an investigative report on SCOTT (see tab g). These papers contain no derogatory information.

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Reference:		
1. Attached are copie	es of a photograph of	
Subject of reference. This	photograph was taken the	night of 27 November 1
entered Mexico on this docu the day after President Ken  3. Subject checked in Mexico, D.F.,	mpa, Florida, on 20 Novement at Nuevo Laredo on nedy's assassination in Dato the Hotel Roosevelt, Among the Late of 25 otel. At 1900 hours (Mexichecked out of the Hotel R	23 November 1963 - Illas, Texas.  venida Insurgentes 287, November 1963. He ico City time) on oosevelt and at 2100 ho
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5. The photograph of Subject which is attached (see para one above) was taken

6. Source states the timing and circumstances surrounding Subject's travel through Mexico and departure for Habana are suspicious.

7.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## 1emorandum

MR. TOLSON

DATE 5/19/64

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Gendy .

FROM :

A. H. Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont Mr. Mohr Mr. Malley Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT:

DIRECTOR'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Attached is a copy of the transcript of the Director's testimony before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy. This transcript has been examined for accuracy, including misspellings and typographical errors on the part of the court reporter. It is noted that apparently the court reporter did not record the Director's testimony accurately in some instances. We have made as few changes as possible, in order to preserve the intent and accuracy of the Director's testimony.

This testimony was gone over by Messrs. Mohr, Malley, Branigan, M. A. Jones, Gheesling, Rogge, and me, on a word-by-word basis. In addition, Assistant Directors Sullivan, Rosen, DeLoach and Conrad have read the testimony and furnished their suggestions.

It is planned that I will personally go over these changes with Mr. Rankin of the Commission.

Enclosure

AHB: CSH (5)

23

the F.B.I., and if there is need to meet a plane coming in to New York or a boat that is docking at New York, it is all accomplished within a matter of 45 minutes or an hour.

the paper well that goes on so often in the government it might wook or ten days, and abroad we do have. The F.B.I.

does have 10 legal attaches attached to 10 embassies abroad.

Their purpose is not operational. They don't investigate in those countries any matters that have to be investigated. That, if it is to be done, is handled by the C.I.A., but our purpose in the surface of the finishment of the surface and the finishment of the surface and the finishment with the surface and the finishment with the national police of the Philippines, to exchange information that is vital to our international security, and also vital to the international occurity of the other country.

Sen. Cooper. May I ask one other question?

Is there any, considering the number of defectors in the United States to Communist countries, which cannot be large, I would assume --

Mr. Hoover. I think there are about 36.

Sen. Cooper. Which would indicate, I would think either a lack of reliability on their part and stability or beyond that a dedicated purpose to become Communists, then upon their return, wouldn't it seem to you they should be given some special attention?

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