

NYT 1962: Relevant articles D12,1:8, D12,3:7, D15,3:2, D21,2:5, D27,1:7, D27,3:2.

Dec. 21, p.1: Soviet Demands U.S. Embassy Halt 'Spying' by Staff Members  
 .... The United States Embassy is understood to have no plans to send the three implicated Americans who are still here out of the Soviet Union. Their normal home leaves are due in 1963. The three are Dr. Alexis H. Davison, the embassy physician, who is a captain in the United States Air Force; Robert German, book procurement officer, and Hugh Montgomery, the Embassy's security officer.... (Reference is made to unspecified Russian "press accounts.")

(Note: these 3 names are not in the index for 1962, perhaps because this was during the strike and the particular Western edition I saw was not the one indexed.)

Washington Post - not carefully checked; the following noted:

Dec. 16, p. A3 (Preston Grover, AP) Reproduced Pravda picture. Davison described as "a physician attached to the Embassy as an assistant air attaché to permit him to act as doctor for the Embassy."

Not much new in the trial stories of 5/8/63, p. A1, A23; 5/9, p. A28; 5/10, p. A17; 5/11, p. A10; 5.12, p. A16.

London Times - good coverage (presumably because of Wynne)

12/12/62, p.10c: Reuters, from Tass.

12/17/62, p.8d: Reference to Pravda and Nedelya (weekly) of 12/16 (or so?)

5/8/63 p10: nearly full page on trial (OVP part) Col. 6: details of Davison caught in trap: "A police report read out by the clerk of the court said that the first number (43-26-94) was alleged to be the number of the flat occupied by Captain Alexis Davison. The second number (43-26-87) belonged at first to William Jones and then to Hugh Montgomery (second secretaries at the American Embassy). After this, the Russian security police painted a black mark on lamp-post No. 35 on Kutuzovsky Prospekt, another agreed signal between Penkovsky and his contacts. According to the police report, the system worked admirably.

At 9.20 Captain Davison passed the lamp-post slowly in his car, then got out and walked past the lamp-post twice before getting back into the car and driving to the U.S. Embassy. That afternoon a member of the embassy came to the secret hiding-place in Fushkin Street and removed a packet from it. He was immediately detained and taken to a police station, where he was proved to be Richard Jacob, of the American Embassy...." (Another phone number involved: 94-89-73)

5/9 p.10: long report, mostly on Wynne.

From 12/17: "WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.- The State Department said ~~that~~ yesterday that the allegations of espionage made against three United States Embassy officials in Moscow are "completely unfounded". - Reuter."

I don't have Xerox copies of these London Times articles, but could get them. I do have the two substantial Pravda articles (12/15-16/62), and should be able to get at least the Davison part translated. Nedelya is not available at U.C. If we want details from the trial (the first day would be most relevant), despite the fact that there was reportedly less emphasis on Davison than in the December articles, I recommend the London Times, Pravda and/or Izvestia for 5/7-16/63, or the official Soviet version (published by the Political Literature Publishing House, Moscow, 1963). Item 1 can be read but not easily copied by me at the UC library; item 2 can be copied but not read; item 3 we don't have.

I now have the P.Papers (paperback). Nothing new on Davison, but very interesting: Contact on Gorky Street, by Greville Wynne, Atheneum, 1968. Trial: pp. 98-164; 1st day, pp. ~~116-123~~ 116-123. Wynne was a trained agent, not an innocent businessman (as even the Russians seemed to believe at the trial); P was not shot, but later killed himself (p.9) P. comes off as less politically "western," more bourgeois-degenerate than in the CIA-edited (written?) "Papers." (In the latter: only reference to Davison is that noted in Gary's memo.)

10/12/69

Dear Ian,

I meant to show you the enclosed when you were here Saturday, but we never got into my office and I forgot.

Dr. Davison is in Oswald's pocket notebook and there are some inconclusive Commission files.

He also figures in the Penkovsky case, which makes him even more interesting.

I would like this to remain confidential (but I have no objection to your telling "cuis is you think it would interest him).

If it is not difficult for you to retrieve what your paper published on this, I would appreciate copies. I plan to use this in AGENT OSWALD.

As always, we enjoyed your visit very much.

Peewee is going to make you a wonderful companion. He is quite a puppy, with a real character and individuality.

Best regards,