

9/26/69

J. Walton Moore

This name is familiar to me, but my files reflected only CD 555, therefore I do not recall why it seems familiar. At the right time, Gary may be able to inquire of Paul R. of I cen. I think it unlikely he is FBI. I also do not believe the CIA ever has any but the recruiter's phone listed anywhere. Your listings for him of 1968 are identical with those of the 1963 phone directory, which I have.

If you interpret DeM's Walter Moore (with Jenner, anything is possible, as with some reporters) to be Walton, the function reported is that of CIA, not FBI. And I think if you read about, with the FBI "to some extent", it is possible to interpret DeM's refs to FBI as to intelligence of various sorts. One is not with the FBI "to some extent". I think this is particularly worthy of consideration with reference to the FBI's getting up so tight in Haiti, from these same files. It was the CIA where DeM had a source, not the FBI.

It is not unlikely Moore/CIA offices were located near other federal offices for satellite services there available.

It is also possible there were more CIA unlisted offices in Dallas, each having different functions. They regularly question returned travellers, and that could be a separate office. They could have had one for petroleum intelligence only, for another example.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

J. WALTON MOORE, aka JAMES W. MOORE, G. WALTER MOORE (CIA (?), DALLAS)

According to George DeMohrenschildt's testimony (9H235-6), G. Walter Moore is either FBI or CIA, took DeM's deposition after his Yugoslavia trip, and became "quite friendly" (socially) after that. DeM asked Moore if "you FBI people" had looked through a manuscript of his, and also (probably) about Oswald.

The May 1968 telephone directory lists
MOORE J WALTON 5145 Rexton Lane EM1-0749
ofc Reliance Life Bldg RI7-5647

A current city directory gives, for James W. Moore (??) at that home address, (check-JNS)

Wife: Patricia
Employment: "Employee, U. S. Government"

The yellow-pages listing of insurance companies reveals that the Reliance Life Building is at 505 N Ervay. The U.S. Government listings include none for the Reliance Life Building, but the following for 505 N Ervay:
Post office, engineering and facilities division
Post office, internal audit division
Treasury department, Secret Service

No CIA office or phone number is listed, either under US Govt or separately.

According to DeM (CD 555, p. 76), in 1957 Moore had his office in the Post Office building in Dallas, but had since moved "to Akard Street, near Pacific Street." Pacific and Akard intersect at 300 Akard; the Mayflower Building, at 411 Akard, housed/houses (? - ask JNS) offices of the INS and the Military Intelligence Corps (?-ask JNS) (among others? - ask JNS).

The FBI is in the Mercantile Continental Building, 1810 Commerce. It is pretty clear to me that Moore is not FBI, despite DeM's apparent preference for associating him with that agency.

No additional references were found in: WR index, Vol. 15 index; Sylvia's index; Manchester and Bishop books; my CD indexes. I will get the contents of the Archives name file.

(Footnote: a diversion to avoid: Douglas Moore. (then and thru 5/68 at 2537 W Kiest Blvd, Dallas) was interviewed by the FBI concerning some apparently unfounded speculations he made about the assassination (CD 223, p. 386). "Moore said that his father, a realtor, had expressed interest in part-time employment in undercover assignments for the FBI." The phone book does list a realtor named Don Moore, so I no longer suspect a connection with J. Walton.)

(This is just a draft memo detailing what I now know. Use your good judgement in evaluating it or distributing it further.)

Sept. 23, 1969
Paul L. Hoch
(Original research
by JNS)

Mr. JENYER. Well, this is September of 1962.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. 1962, sure. They were out of my mind. I forgot the Oswalds.

Mr. JENYER. No; 1962, sir.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. No, no. Now the Oswalds were out of my mind.

Mr. JENYER. You mean you have not been thinking about them.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Yes; I have not been thinking about them.

Mr. JENYER. I say a few things here that I remember? As I told you before, we met the Oswalds through Boule, and then we talked about them to Max Clark, and again to Boule. And I asked Mr. Boule "Do you think it is safe for us to help Oswald?"

Mr. JENYER. You did have that conversation.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Yes.

Mr. JENYER. Why did you raise that question?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. I raised the question because he had been to Soviet Russia. He could be anything, you see. And he could be right there watched day and night by the FBI. I did not want to get involved, you see. And I distinctly remember, No. 1, that George Boule said that he had checked with the FBI. Secondly, that in my mind Max Clark was in some way connected with the FBI, because he was chief of security at Conval—he had been a chief of security. And either George Boule or someone else told me that he is with the FBI to some extent. You never ask people "Are you from the FBI?" And to me it is unimportant. But somehow in my mind I had this connected. And so my fears were alleviated, you see. I said, "Well, the guy seems to be OK." Now, I am not so clear about it, but I have the impression to have talked—to have asked about Lee Oswald also Mr. Moore, Walter Moore.

Mr. JENYER. Who is Walter Moore?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Walter Moore is the man who interviewed me on behalf of the Government after I came back from Yugoslavia—G. Walter Moore. He is a Government man—either FBI or Central Intelligence. A very nice fellow, exceedingly intelligent who is, as far as I know—was some sort of an FBI man in Dallas. Many people consider him head of FBI in Dallas. Now, I don't know. Who does—you see. But he is a Government man in some capacity. He interviewed me and took my deposition on my stay in Yugoslavia, what I thought about the political situation there. And we became quite friendly after that. We saw each other from time to time, had lunch. There was a mutual interest there, because I think he was born in China and my wife was born in China. They had been to our house I think once or twice. I just found him a very interesting person. When I was writing this book of mine, a very peculiar incident occurred.

Mr. JENYER. Which book?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. The last one—the travelogue. One day we left for Houston on a business trip, and I left all my typewritten pages, some 150 typewritten pages, in my closet. When I returned from the trip and started looking through the pages, which had not been touched, supposedly, by anybody I noticed small marks on the pages—"No. 1" after five pages, "2"—small marks with a pencil, another five pages, No. 3, and so on and so forth.

I told my wife, "Jennie, have you fiddled around with my book?" She said, "Of course not." I said, "That's impossible." And I forgot it for a while.

In the evening we got back home, and we stayed in bed, and all of a sudden the idea came back to me that somebody must have been in my apartment and checked my book and read through that and took photographs. And it was such a horrible idea that Jennie and I just could not sleep all night. And the next morning we both of us went to see Walter Moore and told him, "Now, look what happened to us. Have you Government people"—and I think I asked him point blank, you know—"Have you FBI people looked through my book?" He said, "Do you consider us such fools as to leave marks on your book if we had? But we haven't." I said, "Can't you give me some protection against somebody who has?" He said, "Do you have any strong enemies?" I said, "Well, I possibly have. Everybody has enemies." But I never could figure out who it was. And it is still a mystery to me.

So I am not so sure whether I asked point blank Clark or Walter Moore

about Oswald. I probably spoke to both of them about him. My recollection is, and also my wife's recollection is, that either of them said he is a harmless lunatic. Later on Max got disgusted with him and said that he is a normal b-----d, a traitor, and so on and so forth. But by that time we already forgot Oswald—got Oswald out of your lives, you see. This is one point.

The second point is as you can see the whole of the Russian colony in Dallas were interested in Oswald one way or the other, because they represented somebody who had been to their old country just recently; and could give them the latest information on what was going on. As I said, the old guard were naturally against them right away. The others were just curious. But this particular couple, Natasha and Igor Yushman, refused to see them. And I insisted several times, "Why don't you see them? You love all the Russians. Why don't you meet Marina Oswald?" And she said, "We don't want to, and we have our reasons for not meeting them." And it kept on in my mind. I did not want to raise that question. But why didn't they want to meet them?

Mr. JENYER. Well, tell me what is your speculation as to why they did not want to meet them?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. I do not have the slightest idea. Maybe they knew something about Oswald, of some connection.

Mr. JENYER. Or maybe they were alarmed, and didn't want to take any chances.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Maybe just that.

Mr. JENYER. But they were pretty firm in not having any traffic with them.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Absolutely firm. The only ones. Maybe they were just more recently arrived in the United States and they were not so secure like we were, you see. And possibly they were just alarmed of meeting somebody who just came from Soviet Russia.

Mr. JENYER. I think I will ask you at this point, Mr. De Morneschildt, you are a man of very superior education and extremely wide experience and acquaintance here and in Europe, South America, West Indies—you have lived an extremely colorful life. You are acquainted to a greater or lesser degree with a great variety of people.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Yes.

Mr. JENYER. Did there go through your mind speculations as to whether Oswald was an agent of anybody?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. No.

Mr. JENYER. Why? Before I put it that way—when you say "No," am I correct in assuming that you thought about the subject and you concluded he was not an agent of anybody? Is that what you meant?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. I never thought even about it. I will tell you why I thought he never was—because he was too outspoken. He was too outspoken in his ideas and his attitudes. If he were really—if he were an agent, I thought he would have kept quiet. This would be my idea.

Mr. JENYER. You say he was outspoken. What do you base that on?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. For instance, he showed me his—he discussed very freely with me, when he showed me his little memoirs.

Mr. JENYER. I am going to show you those papers in a little while.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Those memoirs I think are very sincere. They explain more or less the sincere attitude of a man, sincere opinion of a man.

Mr. JENYER. Before I show you any papers, I want you to finish this reasoning of yours.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. I did not take him seriously—that is all.

Mr. JENYER. I know you didn't. Why didn't you?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Well—

Mr. JENYER. You are a highly sophisticated person.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Well, he was not sophisticated, you see. He was a semidisciplined hillbilly. And you cannot take such a person seriously. All his opinions were crude, you see. But I thought at the time he was rather sincere.

Mr. JENYER. Opinion sincerely held, but crude?

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Yes.

Mr. JENYER. He was relatively uneducated.

Mr. De MORNESCHILDT. Oh, yes.