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MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

April 8, 1968

Dear Jim,

Enclosed is a transcript of my most recent interview with Mrs. H which includes most of the relevent material. The tape is a monologue rather than an interview to conserve tape time, since I transcribe my own tapes.

I would have gotten this to you sooner, but I have been swarmed under by informants and public appearances ever since I returned. The new info I have, which I told Harold to mention to you, will be in your hands within several weeks. For over a year now I have not had a photographer, but I now have one again so I can send you photos.

I am now firmly convinced that Kroman is working for, father than being used by the Company. Some of his people have bugged me sufficiently while on the radio, etc., to make it clear that there are at least three of them and that they do this on a full time basis.

As Harold should have told you, I think that I can set up a foolproof (if there is such a thing) method of getting info in and out of Springfield. Furthermore, very soon I expect to be talking with a man who was recently released from there and who saw one of our two boys.

By the way, I understand that you people never got copies of my articles, which were sent to you over a year ago. The week your investigation first became public knowledge, the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, which had been holding onto my articles for 2 months, suddenly published them. There's nothing new in them except for an emphasis on the other persons who were arrested that day--something no one else had written about to that date.

Since Tom Bethell has told me that he's abandoned his study of the list of classified documents, I'm going to finish the one I began a year ago. By the way, as Harold should have told you, the correct title of CD 931 according to my microfilm, is "Lee Harvey Oswald's Access to Classified Information about the U-2."

Take care and best of luck. Please call on me if there is anything I can do for you out here or within a several hundred mile radius. As Vince could tell you, I've been working on the case ever since I heard Mark Lane speak in Ithaca, New York late in 1964 (while sitting down the row from Ed Epstein who, of course, has never acknowledged any debt to Lane). I know all published material pretty well and am an experienced interviewer since I interview patients every day.

Sincerely,

Gary

Gary Schoener

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

November 19, 1965

Mrs. M.K. Hoover
105 S. Walnut Street
Martinsburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Hoover:

This will acknowledge your letter, with enclosures, which I have examined and turned over to the proper authorities, for their consideration.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Hugh Scott

HUGH SCOTT

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

VIP--P

WASHINGTON PM 19 1965

Hugh Scott

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY U.S. NAVAL RESERVE U.S.S.

Mrs. M.K. Hoover
105 S. Walnut Street
Martinsburg, P ennsylvania

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Transcript of tape

I am Margaret Hoover...who was referred to in the FBI report about the assassination of President Kennedy
And, uh, it was about a family that lived in the same yard that I did...and this Cubanfamily had came from Florida...and, uh, Mr. and Mrs. Ferendes (mispronounciation of Fernandez--designated from this point on as Fernandez, despite the fact that I did not want to confuse Mrs. Hoover by correcting her pronounciation. GRS.) hadn't moved here at the same time, and before his wife came, ah, and moved into the home, he had been staying at a hotel here in Martinsburg... and, there was, I understand, many Cuban people down there when he roomed there and they would come back and forth to this home before Mrs. Fernandez had joined him...
And he had came from Washington...and they occupied this house--and there was cars that came here in the night so much; and I had seen quite a few of these people...and they looked Cuban...then I found papers around that had names on that I didn't know at the time, that it meant anything about the assassination--
notes #'s → 1. but, uh, it uh, had Jack Ruby's name on, Lee Harvey Oswald, it said Club Room and a number...but I don't recall the number..and I had found before they moved ...it was a jointure home of mine...so I had found a paper under the bed, and it had a drawing of two windows on the other side; and it had several names: it had Ky. like for Kentucky and I thought it was about trailers, but when I turned it on the other side and saw these names, why I didn't know what to say so I saved the paper...and uh, it also had on Silver Slipper at the top, and a name I believeRuby went by--just the name at the top was Rubenstein... and it also had Dallas Texas wrote on...
So when I heard about the assassination, why this all came to me...but these people had moved here either the last week in September or the first week in October...
On one occasion, I went over there and there was a short stocky man, had,
2. was sitting there in a chair...and uh, in the meantime, she had told me that no she didn't have any company, that I should come in, that there was no one there--and I was even up on second floor and looked at her bathroom floor, and the new floor that she had put down...and uh, so we went back down and I went out, and uh, I guess she thought that he would stay upstairs, but anyway, when I went in, here this man had come down the steps and uh, sit on a chair, and he looked very much like a Cuban...but uh, it gave me the impression that she wanted to hide him or she wouldn't have told the untruth about it..and of course, he thought that we had left and we hadn't (on this town)
The week of the assassination, there wasn't any school here...and atat, he was a school teacher..he was teaching in the school...so they were at home, and I was told by the neighbors, and I couldn't see them out, and the neighbors said that they just seemed to stay in and had their blinds pulled down and they seemed upset about this...and uh, the whole week, the children

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weren't out the way they usually were...and following that, why uh, I hadn't at any time noticed that Mrs. Fernandez was in poor health, but she uh, had to go to the doctor, and for quite a long period after that she was under a doctor's care and she said that she...uh her glands were hurting her in her neck and it came from nerves--that her nerves were so bad that she almost
3. had a nervous breakdown...and she even had a cloth over her neck, and I did find medicine...uh, for her nerves, but uh, it just seemedm-just at that period that her nerves seemed to give way and that she got in bad health, it looked a little bit strange to me

4. And uh, in that home where they had rented, why we had very good tile around the bathroom, around the tub, and on the floor, bu-t they didn't like the color, and it seemed as though they intended to stay because they went to the trouble of putting new tile down on the floor which had a different color...they even painted a white over the good tile that was in our bathroom...and uh, that was probably less than two weeks before they moved...and there didn't seem to be anyone in the town know--he was supposed to teach another y-ear at school--and that was just at school time...in fact, the girl, the daughter prepared uh, the things to be moved while they started to teach in New York of Connecticut or whereever they moved to, and they left the responsibility to her, and uh, so many people asked me why they left, and I also asked because we all wondered, and there doesn't seem to be anyone that would, that knows or will say why they left...but hu, it was certainly a sudden move

Uh, this was the following Fall that they moved, and he was supposed to teach school here like he did the year before, and everyone thought that he was going to teach, and just the first of September he didn't teach, and moved away, just [illegible] real suddenly...so it was a puzzle for anyone to know, but they felt [illegible] as though there must have been something urgent///or he had fear that maybe someone was after them

I can't see to the front of this house very well--I see to the back because the lawn is between my home and our other home that they lived in...but uh, the neighbors on both sides and across the street all said that there was so many cars came in and out, all times in the night so early toward morni-ng still...but the cars went back and forth so much...and uh, that they wondered so about this...that after the assassination, there was none of that going on... the cars seemed to let up, only uh, the one exception that I saw here at the side of my house, some, that there was three men parked in an old model car, and they had black jackets on with zippers up and two men were very stout and they looked like Cubans...very dark with black hair..then there was one in the front seat...and he didn't have a coat on...but this was, about a week after the assassination I judge...approximately a week...and uh, this car uh, was so open and such an old model that I figured that it came from um, I didn't think about it at the time, but it must have came from a very old climate or it would had doors on it--it looked like they couldn't close the car up...for winter weather...and they acted as though they had fear..they looked around as though they were frightened about something...and I couldn't

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at the time
help but wonder...but I didn't think about it--it was afterwards that the thought
came to me...and uh, we had uh, my husband whom I'm separated from, had trailer supplies down below my apartment, and my son went in there to get a,something for them, and he took out to the car...and he laughed real heartily at something they said...so, I guess he could understand them, but it sounded to me like as if they spoke a foreign language, that I couldn't hear what they were saying... and it was something very small because as he walked out I couldn't see what he handed them...and they sure got in that car and left in a hurry

The guy in the front seat...didn't look like the two in the back--they looked like real Cubans, dark and with dark hair, and the one in the front seat looked like...he didn't get out, where the other two did--they were shuffling something around in there...and uh, one got out one side and [redacted] was out on the other, but the one in the front seat, he just stayed in the car and he didn't have a jacket on and he had sort of light curly hair...and I thought more of a ruddy complexion like, uh, like that he way maybe from Florida or some[redacted] place like that...it uh, I don't think that he was Cuban, but the other two sure looked like they were Cuban...

Uh, the picture [Picture in Plot or Politics of the sketch of Oswald made for Perry Russo] I completely covered the caption and rest of the page with pieces of paper. I was unprepared for this and had no other pictures of Oswald with me.[...uh, the picture in that book that you're showing me really looks like
5. the uh, the fellow that was in the front seat--he had his features, it looks like Lee Harvey Oswald's...pécture there...uh, maybe his hair was standing up a little more than in this picture, but uh, otherwise his features and the expression on his face as near as I could tell, really looks like him, whereas the other ones [redacted] just looked so different because they were so dark and had this dark hair...[Question: "Was that the impression that you had at that time/?[...Yes[...["Uh huh, and you think you got a fairly good look at him?[...I think pretty good...["Uh huh"[...he wasn't out of the car because I could see because he didn't look very tall
["Which son was this [redacted] which you mentioned who had given them the ting, whatever it was?"[
Why my oldest son that helped his father with trailers, ["Was this
6. Don?"[...Donald... ["Where does he live now...does he live in Martinsburg?"[...Why, he lives here in Martinsburg...

This Cuban family had two teenage children that were in high school...and uh, they uh, tried to be real sociable and they asked the other students to come in and uh, the son was very good at drawing--in fact he sold his pictures...
7. and uh, I saw some of these pictures that he had on the wall, and he had some that he had even drawed of his sister, and it was was so nice, and it looked real...and uh, then uh, he had one of Castro the children [illegible],the school children had said, and uh, he had them in and he had drawed this one of Castro and they had darts...and they had told it that they'd thwowed darts at Castro...now I

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know that they did many things to make a good impression because they came from Cuba and I think that they liked them to feel that uh, they were one of them...

They were so very friendly, and uh, and I certainly don't mean to do this against them, I'm just trying to tellall the facts as I know them, and uh,
8. it seemed like....when they'd be out in the yard, they'd often just start to say something and then they'd sort of clam up...and they mentioned differedt times about, uh, him working for the CIA in Washington, and he also did too...and uh, then the son had said how they didn't like Goldwater, and making remarks like that, but they'd just seem to clam up when there'd be something like that, like as if they were afraid that they would say too much...but that was about the only time that they didn't seem to be very outgoing...so after this happened, I just didn't know what to think, and ### believe me, they never brought the subject up of the assassination... ...I never heard them bring that subject up.....and they lived there from that time until the ## next fall, when uh, they had left here, and they left so suddenly...everyone thought that he was going to teach the year out, he was supposed to, but what happened isn't known

When I found this paper, why uh, I had found it before the assassination, so when this happened, why I recalled the names...so I had got in touch with the
9. FBI because I felt very badly and serioes about this...so the FBI had came-- they were here three different times...and uh, they had also asked me, I believe the second time,if I would take a lie detector test, and I said "Yes", that I maybe would consider it...I said where would I have to go?...At the time my health wasn't good enough to go anywhere I felt, and uh they said well I could take it right here in my home...I said, Sure, then, I would take the test... and uh, I guess that was the third trip because uh, I know they were here three times, anyway they didn't take this...and they had also seen a daughter of mine who knew I had found this paper because I had asked her what she thought it meant...and uh, they, then the Cubans seemed to be awful careful after that... now they had let papers lay, just batches of them, right at the bottom of my steps...about, oh I'd say a yard and a half away, but I had this fear and didn't want to look through them...but under my porch and around my window, under the window, in the leaves why there was papers, so I had collected quite a few so see if, what I could find out and what I could put together from this... and uh, of course, I had saved them in the home--I had put them different places... I have a habit of putting them in books...and as I'd find them, for instance I'd
10. saved some, thwas on my mind so much, so to get it off of my mind, why I sent them to Senator Scott, Senator Hugh Scott...and uh, then he wrote me a letter back thanking me for my interest...and also when I found a few more, and I sure thought that they may help solve this, so uh, I had sent them to Jim, Attorney Jim Garrison and I hear that he never has, had, got them...now why that would have been lost in the mail I just don't know..but uh, what I could accumulate

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around here that may have been a bit of evidence, why, I did so
"Do you know when you sent them to Garrison?" ...I , I just don't recall when I sent them, but it still didn't take it off my mind and I still think about it because I think that it's something that should be solved... for the sake of the people..everyone wants to know, and certainly the president is worthy of all that two

The Cuban lady was very friendly with me and they were so curteous that uh, I always found no fault in any way with their attitude toward me, and one one day I went over and I borrowed their telephone book--I wanted to look up some addresses...so uh, here the telephone book that I was going to get... they had two phones in their house, they lived very well...they- seemed to have a good income from somewhere, and uh, lthe uh, the one telephone book that they were going to give me first, the daughter says "Oh no, I'll give you the other one" and here the one I had looked in already and it had names all the way down on their telephone book--the whole way to the bottom, and I couldn't read one of them because they were all wrote in Cuban, or Spanish whatever, and uh, they had uh, they had "Negro" written so many places clear through the book, that uh, some was at the top of the page and some down the sides, but that was wrote in English, so I thought that that was very strange too that uh, I don't know whether there was any reason for that or not, but uh, I thought it was odd

I found some things that I couldn't account for, uh here by my room window down below, it was in the Fall and it was leaves and it was sort of covered up and when I went to clear them up well here was, uh...uh an airplane ticket--several airplane tickets and a bus ticket, paper, and uh one was for a club, it had a lot of club names on, but it had this name on "Silver Slipper" like was on like was on the paper where I had found with Jack, over in the house with JackRuby, and Lee Harvey Oswald's name on, and uh, so naturally I was suspicious about them and kept them, so I'd sent those in and anything that I thought that would help...

11.

When I heard of the assassination and it was Lee Harvey Oswald that had did this, ah, it was sort of faint in my mind because I had found the paper some time before that and had wondered abou-t the name and thought "Well, that sounds so familiar, I should, I heard that name before" but it didn't come to me how familiar the name really was until I heard the name of Jack Ruby, ah, when I heard it mentioned then about him shooting Oswald then it came to me all about this paper, and of course I had just searched everywhere, ah, but uh I think my grandchildren must have picked it up, but I still think that I'll run across that paper, which so often a good while after...why uh, something like that is located...and I still think--I can't remember that it was thrown away, because I thought I had saved that paper, but uh, I just haven't been able to find it yet at least

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["Do you want to explain why you saved it."]
Ah, the reason that I'd saved the paper was uh, I was trying to link it with my husband's trailer business, and I, uh, I just didn't recall these two men (meaning Ruby and Oswald) calling me on the phone which I had always answered
12. the trouble calls, ah, at the house--it was an extension phone--and I received the trouble calls and uh, messages of orders and things like that, and so when I heard the names that long before, I had just uh, was thinking they were trailers...trailer papers and I had saved it, but when I heard these names, why it came to me--then I knew that I didn't record the names in the trailer business.

So it's just always been a puzzle to me like it is to a lot of other people

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Notes on transcript of tape with Margaret K. Hoover:

1. My earlier memo and CE3067 both describe this piece of paper

2. This is the Cuban who she earlier described as having a scar. She is no longer sure that he had a scar although she re-affirmed the fact that he was quite ugly.

3. The "cloth over the neck" part is interesting. If someone comes into see me after some sort of "nervous breakdown" and seems to be hiding this or her neck, I suspect either marks from a suicide attempt or attempted strangulation by a spouse due to a domestic argument or fight. Cloth of bandages around the neck are only for one purpose--to hide wounds. Perhaps either the wife, or both the husband and the wife were shocked to learn that people they had heard about or perhaps dealt with, were involved in the assassination.

4. This certainly suggests that the move was a sudden one.

5. The value of this identification is questionable, although Mrs. Hoover's vision is OK and I have checked the spot out at night and found both that the light is good and that her window would have provided an excellent vantage point. I would conclude from this that a man who was not grossly dissimilar to Oswald was involved unless other info comes to the surface which suggests that an Oswald look-alike was in the area. For now it is only important to note that a caucasian was with the Cubans.

6. I have not yet checked out the son Don and told Mrs. Hoover not to tell anyone that I had been to see her so that Don won't find out (I hope). This was a new development and I therefore decided not to talk to any of the neighbors until I have fully checked Don out. According to Mrs. Hoover Don has never been in the Armed Forces. I will try to find out more on my next trip without arousing suspicion.

7. This is a correction on my earlier memo. Apparently they were throwing darts at Castro, not JFK. I'm not sure whose mistake the earlier account was--Mrs. Hoover's or my note-taking which was sparse since she was nervous at the time of our first meeting.

8. Mrs. Hoover knows nothing of the CIA and thinks that Communists may have been behind the assassination. This isn't as outlandish as it sounds. Remember the Bay of Pigs which was talked about before hand by Cuban refugees. He may have been employed in some menial capacity. Mrs. Hoover also told me that whenever the father got drunk, there would always be someone with him who would hurry him off if he began talking too much. She said it looked as

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someone in the family always had to play watchdog when he got drunk.

;9. This increases the probative value of Mrs. Hoover's statement immensely since she is of a class of people who believe firmly that the lie detector can tell truth from false hood. Such persons would be scared to death to lie to such a machine. It's also significant, of course, that the FBI never gave her one nor did they report this incident in their report.

10. Enclosed is a copy of the letter from Hugh Scott and a copy of the envelope in which it was mailed. There is no reason to assume that she did not send materials to Jim Garrison since this proves that she sent them to Scott.

11. These pèces of evidence are included in the earlier report, except for the tickets which the FBI took.

12. This is probably not true, but I didn't want to pry into Mrs. Hoover's personal life. From talking with her daughter, Kay Kauffman, and reading the FBI reports, it seems that the reason she save the paper was the name Ruby which was the same as a girl's first name. Her husband had just left her and was at that time going out with other women. There was no reason to go into all of this with her.

Final note: After the tape recorder was off, Mrs. Hoover reiterated the fact that the Fernandezes seemed to being living above their means and that some of the neighbors had made mention of the fact. The house was very nicely furnished, etc., and yet only the husband was employed, and as a school teacher at that.

I'll send a copy of the tape when I find a way to get it copied.

GRS