

CONFIDENTIAL

Meeting with Mr. A. 2/10/75

The person I'm calling Mr. A did not so call himself when he gave me a name other than his own by which I refer to him when he phones. He has phoned a number of times since he saw the WxPost story on WW IV. Elsewhere I note the name by which he identifies himself, not his last name.

From his accent I'd say he is Russian. From his conversation, the things he knows, the way he understands and speaks, and from what he has been explicit about, I'd say that at some point he has worked with or for the CIA and is disenchanted. From specifics, I'd say he is not a recent arrival. And of decent education.

We were to have met earlier on several occasions. Once he was ill and phoned to say he couldn't make it, with audible respiratory symptoms. Another time he was to have driven close by and I was to have met with him in a public place. My car was then, unexpectedly, in the shop. Today I had to be in a city between where he told me he lives and here and to do some shopping at a prominent store. We met there, WWIV in my hands being the identification. After I completed my shopping, on which he accompanied me, we lunched together.

He is 5'7-5'8, plump and jowly, graying, probably 50 or more, neat (he was simply but well dressed) with a good command of English but a conspicuous accent.

He suspects Nosenko is a double agent.

He thinks Tad Szulc is CIA, based on his writing, esp. of Hunt.

He keeps up with spook affairs and he was in this country at the time of the Heine-Raus suit, with which he was familiar.

We had merely a general conversation because I feel that if he knows anything I want to know there is a better chance of my learning it from his desire for me to than from my trying to pump him. I made no such effort, made no effort to learn anything about him, his address, background, phone - anything. He knows how to reach me and when we parted I again invited him here. I told him that if he knew what he thought I should or might want to, I wanted to know it but only if it was also his desire.

It was a pleasant meeting.

His disappointment with the CIA may be over a feeling that they have not done as much as he desired. He believes LHO was KGB. I tried to explain to him why this was improbable if not impossible.

He has a low opinion of the book KGB and seemed to agree with my opinion that it is an Angleton operation. He is the one who suggested I read it. (It says LHO not KGB.)

He says Anatoli Gromyko's book has about a half page on me and the JFK assassination.

While he was well dressed, he gives the impression of not being well off and of being honest. I asked him if he wanted WW IV and he said he didn't have the money to spare. I gave it to him and said he could pay me when he could. He thanked me but later said he'd better let it wait. I then suggested that he read it and if when he had finished with it he felt he could not afford it to merely mail it back. He happily then took it.

I have not asked questions that could disclose whether he knows what I want to know. I did tell him that my interests are limited and their limit.

He had some curiosity about Hunt's assignment to Madrid in 1965. And apparently not a high opinion of Hunt. But he holds simplistic views, like Helms was stupid to tell the Senate committee he had forgotten the Chile deal. When I asked him Helms' alternatives, a simple question he appears not to have asked himself, he saw that maybe it was less stupidity than lesser evil.

His complexion is pale but there are many fine capillaries visible in both cheeks.