

ever was a time he would have permitted himself to be under "KGB control." I believe this is a central fact in any analysis. There was never a time when Oswald was pro-USSR. I believe there never was a time he was not anti. Like in Liebeler's rambles when deposing Delgado, quoted at length in Oswald in New Orleans. I suggest that if you intend to carry this analysis forward you reread that chapter, with care and alert to ellipsis.

In this connection, aside from the silly Epstein conjecture I find no possibility of either Lee or Marina having any usefulness to the KGB in the US.

p.15, 285ff. The CIA memo on Oswald might have some court uses. This passage reminds me of the assumption there was no KGB debriefing of LHO. This assumption is made in US not USSR terms. I'd be quite surprised if the KGB did not get enough, verbally, from Intourist, which I would assume is keyed into the KGB with everyone.

The initial false assumptions about the USSR's rocketry capabilities is that it did not have a rocket that could be fired as high as the U-2 with any accuracy. I see no reason to credit Epstein's assumptions that they had no radar capable of use with the rockets they did have, SAMs. It was not long thereafter that these SAMs were doing rather well in Cuba.

Translation Epsteinizing(Angletonian) horseshit. And this soft stuff is his very foundation.

Was Scott for real here? Did he really believe his question or was he putting EJE on to lead him into something?

322 I know of no basis for the allegation that LHO shot at Walker. The bullet was of the wrong caliber, too, and the scientific tests did not show any similarity. But who do you know who began to shy away from LHO then, as EJE eyes says? Only the invisibles.

423 Was LHO's mention of his part in the Indonesian adventure in a letter to his brother in the WC records? The fact was, but the letter? Or was it an intercept? If so, we both have unmet FOIAs on this, as does Mark A. Ditto on FOIA at 466.

p. 16, before OTO, incomplete ref to FOIA. (This reminds me, I'd like to hear the entire tape and since it was aired to have it available for Jim's use. Same for any other tape, like Williams' and Golz'.

097 is where EJE says "I wrote my book in '76." If so extraordinary that it did not come out until 1978, did not meet the better October 1977 market - was not in fact out before October 1977, The normal hardback spread is about six months. With a topical work this is shortened. Something here, as suggested earlier. Can it include addressing it to defense of the Angletonian ruin of the CIA, which follows, and he says in time came after he wrote his book.

p. 18, end side 2, CIA shrink "Robert Taylor" possible FOIA sue as secret leaked to EJE. Or obtained under FOIA, which would also make it useful to JL.

085 appears to refer to the record that says LHO was not CIA debriefed. Appreciate copy. Can't get to mine.

115 Anything on intercepted letters useful in court.

207 Maybe Francis Gary Powers was "convinced" of an LHO role but he did not tell his ghost, Gentry, that because Gentry was quite uncertain when he phoned me about it. I think Gentry used to to hype the book, not because it was real.

261 of interest to JL for in court, the spoon-feeding of the Barron book. Throughout. Note esp. that EJE says he could spend 6 months with the CI staff.

368 the ref to "from the FOIA requests" stops dead. Is there more on the tape?

P. 20, 400 interesting if Angleton is response for the Senate Intelligence interest now.

Dear Paul, you Epstein notes of 12/14/78, pp. 12- 20 HW 4/25/78

This will be hasty because a college class is coming soon, because I lost a day from other work I want to catch up on and because I've caught the first cold in years and do not feel good.

As by now you know the Post has a continuing interest in the Epstein-Angleton-SIC matter. Jim sent you copies of the Lardner review and yesterday's Kaiser story because that would save a day in reaching you. I spoke to George and I've already sent him this set of your notes. Before I read them, in fact.

It would be helpful if we could have some system for me to know if you send copies to Howard, Jim and Lardner. Howard and Jim should have them, period. Lardner should as long as the Post has an interest, whatever that interest is or becomes and whether or not it coincides with any of our interests.

I've become quite forgetful of the present while retaining sharp recollections of the fairly distant past. So I may not recall any arrangement we may make. However, because your notes are so good and because I can't take time for making them and because of what I believe is involved in this affair I am anxious, on the one hand, for these three to have copies but also anxious not to have to stay up too late or for Bill to stay up too late to make unnecessary copies.

Maybe I can remember that unless you indicate on the copy you send me that you have sent copies to these three I'll assume you have not. I think it would be easy if you could remember to add initial where you place mine, I presume for when you get to mailing.

A general statement of my present interests: while as of the past now limited by my limitations and therefore focused on what we can use in court, in the coming proceeding in the suit for the executive session transcripts. This is, legally, a rather unusual situation about which we cannot be certain of any interpretation. I have therefore suggested to Jim that we assume the appeals court wants a thorough and complete record made and that we should undertake that, regardless of the cost. It may mean I'll have to put out what for me is large sums to take depositions. (In this connection Epstein's address and phone may save Jim much time.)

For the suit one of the more important aspects is what the CIA and FBI gave Epstein, under and outside of FOIA. Recall the second Briggs affidavit, which was sent you? I think there is no question but that he swore falsely, little chance it is not, regardless of how any judge may rule, actual perjury. It is the most material factor in the case now, underscored, I believe, by what the appeals court has done.

While there is more I would like to do and while I retain an interest for when I can return to writing on AO, for the moment concentration on the litigation. I suggest you not underestimate what the potential can be.

Sources, your 34, WSJ review--may I please have?

35, on the leaking and not Angleton doing it: Maybe but I have reason to believe otherwise. There was a defector who used the name "Mr. Martin" who took the initiative in getting in touch with me and on Nosenko only. Very anti - paranoically, irrationally. Politically this guy is an Angleton. I wonder if "Mr. Martin" comes from "Stone's" middle initial, M. You might want to review in your own mind what the political situation with respect to political assassinations was at the time of the first leaks. I think it is an important consideration in any analysis. And if you made any notes on what Schorr said about Angleton that you found interesting I'd appreciate the references for when the book is reissued or in paperback. I can't afford to buy it now and do not have time to read it now. Ditto for when you see 36, the coming Dulles book. Also Colby's, 37. (I found Lardner's quote excellent journalistic judgement and important in an otherwise excellent and perceptive and balanced review.)

38. Hugh McDonald will be a continuing interest. If you can find another copy of this trashy novel I'd like to have it as a means of continuing the rather large job I've done on him (including pre-pub and for two prospective publishers) and his disinformation. When I met him he was offering an added package of three novels, in addition to Appointment.

19 is the Psychology Today piece. You might want to add to those justified

criticisms that for every interpretation Epstein attributes to Lewinson there is at least another at least as apparent and in most instances more reasonable. Thus the rewriting of his notes when LHO was returning is consistent with my 1965 writing, suggesting it was to be an intelligence report. (Reminds me, on Jagers-Chiles-Stovall, if your notes go to non-subject experts like Lardner it would be good not to abbreviate into JCS. Which could also be taken for Joint Chiefs of Staff and other orgs. And if LHO was in any intelligence role at JCS for the KGB, which is close to impossible, Epstein complicates it too much with his conjectures. This also places Oswald in a role other than he had a JCS. The simplest thing is that as a trainee in the offset photog. part he could have placed defective film inside his shirt. Of it he printed, made a second print. The central point Epstein misses is how a man with Oswald's past got a job doing classified work at all.

I spotted the same contradiction in beginning dates for the Epstein-RD project and decided to take the "in 1976" as a starting point to see how that works out with his having had access to Nosenko in 3/76. October is more likely in some ways. For example, the original planned pub date was October 1977, or two years ahead, reasonable. You might want to consider why the book was delayed, missing the important Xmas trade, and was made smaller, witness the lower than advertised price. I think it means the book was more than cut, may have been done over. Here note what Epstein says about when he completed it in the KSAN show.

From my point of view you are right in noting the importance of the fact that the CIA got him into the graphology nonsense, with a CIA person as graphologist. I think this can be of value to Jim in the suit and depositions.

Your wonders at the top of page 13 about what Epstein left out and his concern for his reputation may be explained by what was taken out of the book or by other things, not the least that he is a blabbermouth who also blabs his way into non-responses. BUT I disagree on his having made any effort to distance himself from James the Jesus. I think the opposite: that Epstein is openly aligned with the A and his faction of wreckers. (Not that the CIA is not wrecked, is alive and healthier, and that only the A-types even suggest its demise.)

At the bottom of this page you refer to CIA 376-154. Temporarily I have scads of cartons in front of that file in the basement. Could you please send me a copy? If I think it may interest Lardner or Kaiser I'll send a copy to one of them. And in this connection, as I think I may have asked you, can you let me have what I could not find a little while ago, that defector's "report" early after the JFK assassination, what was in the records the CIA gave the Rock. Commission? That exactly coincides with the kind of "thinking" I'd expect from my "Mr. Martin." If this hunch pans out it would be good to have some available info about the "Stone." But in any event, it was sick stuff.

Your KSAN notes: I take it the numbers are from a counter with C60 cassettes, this beginning with 1 three times.

As you note later at 14,098, Epstein is a rather large liar about keeping RD out. So why would he lie so blatantly?

I have a hunch that the arrangements for the book shifted after the project began. Early on I heard that Barron was project director. This may have been bad information but suppose it was not? Consider this in with the suggestions of major changes in the book? Consider that in connection with Epstein's obvious shift of alliance from the CIA (i.e., new WIA) to Angleton.

It is exceptional that with all his ins Barron was out on the final book. I do not doubt that he had some earlier connections with it.

At 195 you comment "Typical Epstein - start with ^{the right} assumptions." Subject to the frailties of memory I can't think of any one of the many Epstein assumptions in any of his writing that was not a wrong assumption. Like the second autopsy job in Inquest. There is not one in Legend that is not less reasonable than others that are apparent. Amendment: Typical Epstein: Start with wrong assumptions. (This in case you were not jesting.)

258: It is not possible to make the study of Oswald that I have made and believe there

[Sources, continued:]

(33) There is a favorable review by John Barkham (of Saturday Review?), printed in the S.F. Examiner-Chronicle, April 9. Epstein is called an "acute researcher" whose documentation is "impressive."

Incidentally, the same page contains Barkham's review of the Weinstein book on Hiss, also positive. Victor Navasky's persuasive exposé of Weinstein (Nation, 4/8) makes his scholarship look as bad as Epstein's; in both cases the press reaction has been generally positive.

(34) Wall Street Journal, 4/7, p. 14; review by Michael Ledeen, editor of the Washington Review of Strategic and International Studies - i.e., he sounds like a rather big wheel. Ledeen understands the significance of the "mole" story, and specifically predicts that "Legend" will enter into "the general debate" on the CIA which is about to begin, as legislative guidelines are being considered.

[(17) A P.S. on the Newsweek review - the reviewer is the managing editor! I don't know if he often reviews books, but it seems that if they wanted to have someone special do the review, they could have found someone who knows more of the facts of the case.]

(35) Schorr's book has some interesting material on Angleton. My knowledge of the circumstances of Schorr's initial interest in Nosenko does not lend any support to the speculation that Angleton's side was leaking an anti-Nosenko "KGB did it" scenario back then, before Epstein got it.

(36) I am told the new book on the Dulles family has quite a bit on Angleton. Recall that Angleton is one of the people with control over Dulles' papers at Princeton, presumably including his WC files.

(37) I am also told that Colby's forthcoming book will have a lot to say about Angleton. Supposedly Angleton is one of the few villains in the book, which complains about excessive zeal in counterintelligence. It may be that the Epstein book represented Angleton's attempt to get his side of the "war of the moles" out before Colby got the other side out.

(38) Russ Stetler got me interested in "Five Signs from Ruby," a trashy 1976 novel by Hugh C. McDonald - the same McDonald who gave us "Saul" and solved the JFK case. In the novel, the high-level penetration of the CIA is pro-PLO. As noted in Schorr's book, and elsewhere, Angleton was in charge of the Middle East account until Colby took it away, and since he's convinced that the PLO is a KGB front, pro-Arab sympathies are looked upon skeptically (to put it mildly). [As noted below, I think it is no accident (as the Russians used to say) that the alleged PLO-Weatherman link has come to the surface in the LaPrada-Gray-Felt-Miller case.]

Epstein's "Psychology Today" article [(#19) supra; April 1978, p. 97] is as bad as I expected. It deals primarily with the handwriting analysis, but Epstein has slipped in a couple of tidbits on related matters. For example, he repeats the devious analysis of the "anachronism" in Oswald's diary entry re McVickar, but this time credits the discovery to "one of my research assistants." Epstein may not yet have read the text of the entry himself!

Also, Epstein gives what I think is a new version of the Reader's Digest connection - he says that "In 1976, the Reader's Digest came to me with an offer to supply almost unlimited financing for a new investigation into the Kennedy assassination." The Digest says that Epstein agreed to their proposal in October 1975. Epstein continued: "At this late stage, however, the only question that seemed [to whom??] worth exploring" was Oswald's motive in defecting and staying in Russia. The Digest said that "the probe would focus on Oswald's associations with intelligence agencies, his access to U.S. military and reconnaissance secrets," etc. In New York, Epstein also focused on his interest in the defection, but the apparent conflict between his interests and the Digest's is not so obvious.

The most interesting thing in the Psychology Today piece is Epstein's confirmation of my hunch that the CIA got him into the graphology question. (See my question #14 for Epstein.) Specifically, an unnamed "former CIA research director" mentioned that the CIA had used Dr. Lewinson's work, with some success; Epstein called Lewinson the next day. In typically ambiguous language, Epstein reports

that Lewinson explained that "she had been an occasional consultant to the CIA but is now in private practice." Since she quite possibly was also in private practice when she was a CIA consultant, I would not conclude that she is no longer a CIA consultant.

I find it interesting that Epstein would go into Lewinson's CIA connection in such detail here, since (as far as I recall) there is nothing in the book to indicate how Epstein learned of her work, or why he had reason to believe that it should be taken seriously. Presumably Epstein realized that he could be criticized for leaving the CIA link out of the book. One possible explanation is that, by being somewhat more candid in his articles and interviews, he wants to give the impression that background information which would detract from the Angleton hypothesis had to be left out of the book - e.g., at Reader's Digest insistence. That is, Epstein may want to put some distance between himself and his function as a simple vehicle for Angleton. At least, I suspect he has some doubts about his role - but not enough to overcome the lure of all that money - and it might be productive to inquire about this if anyone gets to talk with him informally.

I certainly don't get the impression that Epstein understands Lewinson's analysis. Certainly the discussion in this article is singularly unhelpful. I gather that the vertical axis in each of the graphs on page 98 represents a percentage; i.e., the percent of the measurements of (e.g.) depth which are rated +3, +2, respectively - whatever those numbers mean! (The numbers in each graph do seem to add to 100%.)

I'm willing to believe that quite a bit of information can be obtained from analysis of handwriting, but the alleged underlying theory - "contracting and releasing tendencies" sounds questionable to me. If you can detect stress, haste, etc., this analysis can be a useful tool, although I don't get the impression that Lewinson has used it with the same critical judgment and sophistication that O'Toole applied to his PSE work on Oswald. And I would be very surprised if Lewinson can substantiate her claim that Oswald's handwriting shows that he "was an easy target for manipulation and control by others. His loyalty could switch, depending on [from] whom or where he could find support."

The superficial similarity between Lewinson's conclusions and parlor fortune telling makes me wonder how many of her conclusions are derived from clues other than Oswald's handwriting. It may not be fair to her to rely on what Epstein says, but he claims that "she determined that Oswald was traveling on a large ship [not a small ship? or an airplane?] when he wrote both these documents" [i.e., his political notes, CE 25 (presumably), and a self-questionnaire, CE 100]. [From p. 152 of the book, it is almost certain that Epstein is referring to CE 25, rather than to (say) CE 97-98.] Anyhow, one has to wonder if Lewinson's brilliant deduction was influenced by the fact that each page of CE 25 includes a picture of a large ship, identified as the logo of the Holland-America line.

Epstein is quite unfair in claiming that the Warren Commission "had accepted uncritically" the diary, "as their basis for charting Oswald's activities in the Soviet Union." In the same paragraph in which it noted that the diary was not contemporaneous, the Warren Report said that "The Commission has used the diary, which Oswald may have written with future readers in mind, only as Oswald's record of his private life and personal impressions as he sought to present them..." [WR 691]

Finally, it seems odd that the illustration in this article is a photo of Oswald superimposed on the famous letter to "Mr. Hunt," which is not mentioned in the text. Did Epstein have this letter analyzed, by any chance?

Jerry Policoff has reminded me of CIA document #376-154, dated 11 December 1963. The unnamed CIA author gives several arguments against the idea that the KGB did it. Referring to press reports about the FBI's summary report (indicating that Oswald acted alone), the author notes that "These disclosures presumably eliminate the possibility of further confrontations with Mr. Robert Slusser. In the event that Mr. Slusser continues to insist that the President was murdered by the Soviet secret police, the following additional negative indications and observations may be of some value." Can anyone out there tell me who Slusser is? Maybe a Congressional staff person?

Highlights of an interview of Epstein by Peter Dale Scott and Larry Lee (KSAN), taped 4/5/78, broadcast 4/16. Total tape is about 1 1/2 hours. [Bracketed material is paraphrase; comments in double parentheses are by PLH.]

- 064) EJE: [I was interested in how organizations work.] And when I was asked to do a book about Lee Harvey Oswald, and the - Reader's Digest magazine came to me and said they would finance a study without any strings attached - and offered me unlimited resources and as much money as I needed to find as many witnesses as I could, I of course got into the idea that perhaps the Warren Commission had missed some very important witnesses who could comment on Oswald's life. And as I began the book I began to find various evidence that the intelligence services of the United States, and of Russia, and of Cuba all had something to hide - not necessarily about the assassination of President Kennedy, but about something that I didn't even know about, and that was an open espionage case that was going against Oswald. At the time I wrote "Inquest," - the FBI, by transferring a number of agents, by destroying a number of files ((!!)), had completely hid its involvement in this espionage case; in fact, it didn't even tell President Johnson about it. And so I began to get more interested in the espionage case....
 ((It's amazing how EJE can use his own ignorance of the Warren Report to bolster his 'discovery' of the FBI's interest in Oswald.))
- 088) LL: [It's a brief book, less than 300 pp.; supported by full footnoting; you remind me a little of Izzy Stone...; you had so much money from RD, and a staff; Did you ever worry that you were going to become the sort of organization that you had written [about] before...?
- 098) EJE: Well, I worried all about the time - all about the Reader's Digest getting involved in [the] research, and I kept them out completely; and, in a sense they only entered it in the public relations phase, after the book was written; they told Time magazine, or somehow they led Time magazine to believe that it was some sort of task force, but the fact is that I simply used two previous researchers who had worked for me^{me} did the brunt of the work, and then when I had special jobs, like finding the Marines that Oswald had served with, or finding his fellow employees at Jaggar-Chiles-Stovall, and I had a questionnaire that could be asked of these people, the Reader's Digest very kindly lent me editors, who went around the country and filled out these questionnaires.
 ((Cf. Legend, p. xvi: Oursler (of the Digest) "has contributed to almost every phase of the project, including research, interviewing, and organization of the book. By far, however, I am most indebted to him for his deeply perceptive editing of the manuscript." In this interview, EJE confirmed my hunch that he had thought about the complications of his hypothesis more than the book indicates; however, these comments argue against my suggestion that he has been trying (e.g., in the Psychology Today article) to make it obvious that things were left out of the book, presumably at the Digest's suggestion or insistence. -PLH))
- (195) EJE: This is the hypothesis I worked on: if the CIA was going to send anyone to Russia as a false defector - which is a possibility - it was a very delicate and sensitive mission, and something that required training; it wasn't something where you could meet someone in a bar and say, 'Now listen, you defect to Russia, and just remember everything you see.' He had to be trained. This is the - I might be wrong, but that's the hypothesis I worked on. If that was the case, there had to be - I assumed at least six months detached from his Marine career. I couldn't find six days detached from the career....
 ((Typical Epstein - start with the right assumptions,...))
- (258) PDS: How far do you see this KGB control of Oswald lasting, over him? Does it govern his behaviour when he comes back to this country?
- (264) EJE: Well, my view - again, and this is very speculative - is that the Soviets soon found they had no use for Oswald, [and sent him back; at worst, he'll be arrested, which will have propaganda value; more likely, the FBI will pursue him, and they'll be confused and confounded for years; at best, he'll be some sort of sleeper agent.]

[LL: The FBI followed him ineptly, which embarrassed Hoover.]

EJE: That's true, and I think the FBI involvement goes even deeper than - than we can ascertain at this point ... [whatever the KGB involvement was, it was very low level; he was just a piece of garbage to them.]

(285) [PDS: What about Marina? A piece of garbage, or of more interest to the KGB?]

[EJE: The Minkenbaum case fascinated me; went to USSR at same time as LHO; trained by high KGB people; his entire mission - open antique store in D.C. and bring back a Soviet wife, to be a radio operator. There's a CIA memo indicating that they should be interested in LHO because of this pattern of the Russians getting a spouse in that way.] And so I would think that Marina, before she was allowed to return to the United States, was told that some day someone might approach you; if he does, you still have family here, do what he says. I mean, that's all that had to be her mission, or even Oswald's mission. ((!)) Y'know, I'm talking - just to really get to the point that you were making before, it's inconceivable to me that the Soviets had anything to do with the assassination of Kennedy, or that Oswald was under Soviet control at that point. So whatever influence they exerted on him was very low level, and then he separated from them, er -

PDS: [Can you date the separation? The moment of his return, or when he went to New Orleans?]

(322) EJE: Well, I would say that the point - yes, I think we - I can't date when the Soviets - they might never have actually contacted him after he returned to America, which might have added to his frustration and caused all those letters that he wrote to the Soviet consulate, and other activities on his part, but I would say that the shooting at Walker in April of 1963 definitely was a watershed. Not only the Soviets but I think a lot of other people started to shy away from Oswald at that point, whether he did the shooting or not is another question.

PDS: [Up to then, is it possible he was under someone's control?]

EJE: [Up to that point, he might have been listed as an asset - a notational agent, as in Greene's novel - i.e. a dubious asset.]

(358) EJE: [On Marina: lied about her own name, etc.]

PDS: [Which made her very vulnerable for deportation; there were suggestions she felt she was being pressured by her interviewers after the assassination.] Does that seem credible to you?

EJE: Yes, and I would even go further and say that before the assassination the degree of pressures put on Marina might explain Oswald's more bizarre behavior.

(402) LL: [Marina's story to INS reeks of being an intelligence legend.]

EJE: Yes; I would think that conceivably the name Prusakova was given to her because someone might have seen her living at the home of Colonel Prusakova [sic], and that that would explain why she was there, or maybe even Oswald didn't know her true identity.

(423) PDS: (During discussion of Voloshin in California) Was it the Bolshoi ballet?

EJE: I think - the name was not the Bolshoi, but it was something like that. [Voloshin was in Santa Ana the day LHO applied for a passport; was in charge of Indonesian affairs for the KGB for a while; Oswald mentioned an Indonesia operation he was in, in a letter to his brother; then it wasn't publicly known.]

PDS: [The KGB was making a big propaganda issue of it at the time; the CIA was still denying involvement; I wonder why the Russians didn't use LHO as part of the propaganda operation?]

(466) EJE: [I was very interested in that; I looked at the other defectors; LHO was one of a series of 8 or 9; from his letters to his brother, it looked like he was going to start off as a propaganda asset, he was never so used.]

PDS: [Was Webster so used?]

EJE: [No; there's a similarity - if they intended to use someone for intelligence, "the assumption might be," ((whose?)) they wouldn't use him for propaganda. I think Webster offered info on plastics; I think both cases were considered intelligence, not propaganda.]

(016) EJE: [The day LHO passed through Amsterdam, Voloshin was a consul there, according to CIA traces. After reading Priscilla's book, about Marina mentioning

a Russian-speaking waiter named Didenko, which is her father's name, and we couldn't find a record of him,] I always wondered if there might not have been some final briefing on the ship.

PDS: [Angleton was concerned about Voloshin, wasn't he?]

EJE: Yes; I mean, he's a man who goes by supposition, and he thinks that when you find 3 or 4 lines intersecting, LL: That's triangulation. EJE: That's right; and - I don't know if he would assume (?) this, but he would assume that, y'know, here you have the probable recruiter, the man who handled him in Russia, and the person who gave him his briefing. ((Would assume, or does assume? -PLH))

PDS: I was just wondering whether he brought this case to your attention, or whether you brought it to his attention?

EJE: No; No; Through Freedom of Information - I brought it to his attention; I mean, I mentioned it to him; that's ... (inaudible) a good point. (?-unclear)

(070) EJE: [JJA tried to ferret out KGB penetrations, and did much more; RAND estimated that with the best quality control you would still have 1 in 10,000, but] Angleton never found - he thought he found one, two, or three; that was part of the job - his real job was to stop the KGB [which he saw as the only enemy; he didn't care about the minor countries - from manipulating the CIA via disinformation...].

EJE: He studied - tried to create a continuity of Soviet intelligence goals [and m.o.'s, from the Trust operations of the '20 thru WWI and up to today.]

(097) EJE: ((After discussion how the term "mole" came from fiction, and was then accepted:)) And by the time I wrote my book in '76, they ((no obvious antecedent)) were talking about how Angleton practically destroyed the CIA by positing that two moles existed, and then searching for them.

PDS: [How did Angleton get fired?]

EJE: [Let me tell you how the CIA operates; really aimed against the USSR; everything it does elsewhere is looked at as peripheral; politicians use the CIA for many things, like Nixon in Chile; but in the CIA what fascinates them is the chess game against the USSR; the CIA's whole job is to warn us against a Soviet advance in technology, etc.; at the bottom of this whole operation is 1, 2, or 3 agents in the USSR, all KGB people, you can't parachute Americans in and get access; Angleton suspected these people, since he knew the Russians knew we were dependent on those channels; like a magazine, the CIA needs stories every day; under Colby, there actually was a daily (inside) paper; so] there was an organizational reason not to like Angleton throughout the CIA... [Golitsin story....] Angleton's search for the moles was disruptive.]

(166) [LL brings up Colby, and Angleton's apparent suspicion of him; LL thinks that high-level people naturally do meet each other.]

[EJE agrees.] I don't suspect Colby for one reason - his career wasn't based on a set of brilliant spies that he ran; if it was, then he could be suspected, because [you promote a mole by giving him good stuff. Colby's career was] a set of dismal failures in covert action [such as Phoenix.]

[LL: I'm not saying that Colby was a mole, just that JJA thought so - wrong?]

(190) EJE: Angleton's staff suggested that he was a suspect, and at one point Angleton confronted Colby with questions about these contacts. What Angleton believes, I have never been able to fathom. But, now - y'know, it is a theory that goes around Washington, and at [a] very high level, because of things Colby did later on, but I think, y'know, one - it's not important at this point to try and find the mole, because I can't be of any help. [The fact that JJA was confronting people made him even more unpopular. When Colby got back from Vietnam and became executive director,] it became practically an obsession with him, and you can see it from his own book that he's just written, to fire Angleton. [Finally he called Hersh in, pointed to the mail cover operation;] that led to so-called "family jewels" disclosures, and practically wrecked the CIA. [When JJA was fired, all the top CI people left;] then files disappeared, then finally [according to Senate Intelligence Committee sources] the institutional memory of the CIA was totally destroyed [because other parts were running operations without knowing how they fit together; it was CI who kept the continuity (e.g. when they recruited someone...)]

[LL agrees. EJE: Using the human analogy, I think when you kill the memory, you kill the individual or the organization]; that the CIA is dead without a memory of the past.

[PDS: Your book says the CIA is inside out; linked to the Nosenko case. You are suggesting, more or less, are you not, that] the good guys were pushed out and that the people who had something to hide are now - took over the agency at that point?

EJE: That's right; the people who protected the secrets of the CIA and the FBI came to power, no matter how dirty their secrets were, and no matter what skeletons were involved, and the people who had thought the worst possibilities, that the CIA had been penetrated ... were pushed out. Yes, I think that's what did happen.

[PDS: That's more important than the background of Oswald....]

[EJE: Hacker's review suggested, aptly but critically, that my book is a jigsaw puzzle, with some pieces missing and some pieces from another puzzle mixed in. Could be; at certain points in the book I became more interested in the shenanigans in the intelligence game than in Oswald. But it all criss-crosses as follows: back in 1963, the FBI was considered omniscient,...]

(248) [EJE: The FBI, and Hoover, knew of Oswald's note, saying he would blow up the FBI building in Dallas. I can't believe, nor can any other serious student of the FBI, that that was done except on Hoover's orders. If they would destroy that, it would seem that they would have destroyed] any other evidence, more important,]e.g., that they had tried to double Oswald, or blackmail him or Marina, all of which is standard operations. My thesis is that he was perceived as being a Soviet intelligence agent. So, you try and provoke him - e.g. by giving him access to classified information.]

[PDS: E.g., at J-C-S] [EJE: Absolutely; also at Michael Paine's house.] It seems to me that what was happening against Oswald is that he was being put in positions where he should have gotten into contact with - if he had contacts - with contacts in other intelligence services. And that, whatever the FBI did - and I think that at the end they tried to blackmail him - although I think his wife was then blackmailed into not saying what happened - [I think they just threatened to deport Marina, which got him very angry; they couldn't let that come out, so they erased part of the case, which is why my book is indeed so...(cut off)] .

(303) [PDS: Can't you read LHO's note as part of a conspiracy, blackmailing the FBI into responding, predictably, as it did?]

[EJE: That destruction was of the single most important piece of evidence.] What you suggest is possible. [It might turn out the note wasn't written by LHO. Just think of the situation if the Russians, or even the CIA, learned that Oswald was planning on shooting JFK, and they decided they didn't want to be involved, so they tipped off the FBI, assuming the FBI would immediately arrest someone, as they would in Russia, who threatened to blow up their headquarters.] That possibility struck me, that it wasn't Oswald who wrote the note, but someone who had become privy to the plan, and who wanted to destroy the plan...[It could also have said something different; we're relying on secretaries' memories; it could have been a diversion, saying, I'm going to Florida to blow up an FBI building, etc. If they note was authentic, it argues against a high-level conspiracy, which wouldn't tip off the FBI in advance. Destroying such evidence raises the possibility that they would destroy other evidence, which is why Legend can be described as a jigsaw puzzle with pieces missing.] I've been criticized for not drawing conclusions, but it's impossible, because we don't have some of the basic pieces.

(335) [PDS: Can we conclude that the FBI and CIA had a lot to hide?]

[EJE: CIA also hiding the 'mole' case, which they considered more important.... Inconceivable that they wouldn't be interested in debriefing him....]

[PDS: The WC didn't believe that the KGB didn't debrief him.]

(358) EJE: When I mentioned to Richard Helms that the KGB hadn't debriefed Oswald, because they - because Nosenko said they were short of manpower, which is what he told me in (the) interview, Helms laughed and said, that's crazy, if that ever happened here, we would of course, y'know, always find the people, and then I said,

but, y'know, did you debrief him, and he said, Oh my God, he started to think that of course they claimed they hadn't debriefed him. [Also, Fox of DIA said every intelligence service in the world would want to debrief Oswald. PDS: Including his own? EJE: Yes; let me give the reasons: at one point Oswald claimed to know the apartment layout of Kyril Mazarov (phonetic), who is a possible successor of Brezhnev. Also, the CIA was running a markings program on Soviet machine tools, trying to see when they changed - important re missile technology. Also, how the Russians handled defectors. Were they given drugs, isolated, etc? In case anyone wanted to send a fake defector. PDS: What about ONI? EJE ((seeming a bit evasive)):

Webster case discussed. CIA psychiatrist - code name Robert Taylor ((not clear if this is Webster's or the shrink's))... So, maybe if they thought LHO was very hostile, which is the only explanation EJE could get, they would use an unwitting debriefing. PDS: Are you suggesting DeM? EJE: That's what he told me,] in the last interview he had with me. [PDS: With anybody.] ((EJE sounds a bit sensitive here.)) [EJE: He had worked for everyone. He admitted that the Russians had approached him. He's charming, very professional, not a fool during the interview.

[PDS: Reports that he was not all sane?]

[EJE: He listened to my questions, etc. Finally admitted that Moore asked him to see Oswald. DeM knew who I was, may have been trying to confuse me by blaming the CIA.]

(013) [LL: Did he strike you as on the brink of suicide? Had you gotten into an uncomfortable area? Have you ruled out murder?]

[EJE: It was a very disturbing think; if you asked 100 people about a suicide's behavior just before, they would say they saw nothing odd, because you don't want to admit you did; I saw nothing odd... I was suspicious. PDS: When was the admission about Moore? EJE: An hour or two before; just before, he was claiming he was being blackmailed; talked about the inscribed photo. PDS: Did you see that photo? EJE: Yes. The picture seemed to implicate DeM and Marina in prior knowledge of the Walker shooting; maybe someone was blackmailing him...]

(050) [EJE: CIA was doing expedite check. CIA told him that a security check on a U.S. citizen is almost unheard of; done on an employee or applicant, or a possible penetrator. CIA wouldn't tell him why it was requested on DeM. When the Senate Committee (sic) gets the answer, we'll know if he's CIA.]

(085) [PDS: Suppose the CIA did debrief Oswald; didn't Helms lie at least about the contemplating of that? Any reason to believe Helms?]

[EJE: The CIA officer said nothing was ever done; it seems to be a technicality whether it was contemplated or not,] (but) the possibility that the CIA lied seems very live to me; [I asked people in other intelligence agencies if they thought that was possible, and they said,] yes, because once the CIA admitted a contact with Oswald, it could never prove that it broke the contact.... I'm convinced that they debriefed him, and that this paper he wrote, "The Collective" was written at the behest of George DeM [which is why his family are the only people to have seen it. The question is whether they did a witting or unwitting debriefing. He has asked the CIA if the IG checked the Dallas office.]

(115) [PDS: Did you ask Fox if DIA debriefed Oswald?]

[EJE: I'm not sure DIA existed then; Fox said he didn't know of any such debriefing, but he would assume that it was done for them by ONI, FBI, or CIA, and] that he assumed it had to be done at some level. [I'm talking about what he assumed, not what he knew. The more interesting ((who says??)) thing I discussed with Fox was the damage assessment when he defected....] ((EJE sounds evasive to me.)) (EJE commented skeptically on the alleged nonexistence of ONI records.)

[PDS: What about Angleton's pre-assassination interception of the letters; you say Angleton was aware of that correspondence, right?]

EJE: Yes, and let me just mention one other thing in support of what you're saying. [Nosenko gave CIA very important information in 1962 re the mole - defectors could confirm if Nosenko was in the tourist department in 1959 - a reason for the CIA to get info from Oswald. Thirdly, Oswald was contacting Kostikov and Gerasimov...] ((Definitely sounds like Epstein evaded this question - or, at least, he didn't get the point.))

- (180) [EJE: Kostikov was under intense surveillance; was associated with oil pipeline sabotage; CIA told FBI pre-11/22 that Oswald had met Kostikov.] The FBI probably knew anyhow; they probably traced Oswald to some little restaurant in Mexico City...]
- [PDS brings up Cubela, Cuba]
- [EJE: all these things would have brought Oswald to the attention of - in fact, the CIA asked for a list of FPCC organizers. I'm not disagreeing with your contention that the CIA and FBI had an interest in Oswald.]
- [PDS: You said the CIA intercepted Oswald's Powers letter. Wouldn't that have made him high-priority interest?]
- (207) [EJE: Not conceivable to me that it's other than as you say, but when you talk to CIA people, they say, we had so many people to debrief... Powers was so convinced that Oswald had given the Soviets information, and I couldn't see why he was so sure, just from deductive evidence; I thought he was a pretty honest guy;] I thought in the 3 or 6 months that the CIA debriefed him, they asked him questions about Oswald that triggered his mind, and [[I thought that]] he couldn't say that, because he was probably - he was still getting paid by the CIA.
- [LL talks about collection bias, the Reader's Digest connection problem, etc.; supposed LHO was an out-of-control CIA agent; was EJE's objectivity damaged; isn't Angleton the perfect person to float another legend, that the CIA was just inept? Maybe the CIA was preparing to send him to Mexico, for example?]
- (261) [EJE: There are 2 parts to that. First, was he recruited by the CIA pre-defection?] I started with that hypothesis, [and found that he was an unlikely candidate, and there was no time. Second possibility: that he was recruited upon his return. That's much likelier, because they would have had a reason. If you want to go to the idea that he was an FBI or CIA agent, you look there, not at the pre-defection stage. About the objectivity: the stuff in the RD is not exactly pro-FBI...]
- [PDS: Angleton and Sullivan were both forced out; not just personal grudges, but very committed to greater vigilance.]
- [EJE: I'll get to that, but I don't think that the RD link-] They really didn't have anything to do with the research; an outline was never submitted to them; they didn't know what the book was about until they received it. And I'm sure that the Washington office of the Reader's Digest - [interrupted - LL suggested that they could just give Angleton to Epstein late in the project, and expect him to run with it.]
- [EJE: The RD's interest was that the book on the KGB was] heavily spoon-fed to them by Nosenko, and it has a completely different tack-
- PDS: But let's face it, by the CIA? EJE: By the CIA, absolutely, absolutely. I shouldn't say absolutely! (All laugh) Certainly the CIA gave them a lot of information for the KGB book. PDS: Would that have been Angleton specifically? EJE: [No; Angleton refused to speak to Barron; he was very much against that book, because it portrayed the KGB as a bunch of thugs; Angleton considered them sophisticated and elegant opponents;] his view was that that was all a disinformation operation, from Nosenko to - so that we would lose - if you read Colby's book, [he says that Angleton spends too much time dramatizing the capacity of the KGB, which is just a bunch of thugs. Yes, the book comes in large part from Angleton, Sullivan, etc., the main part comes from the Soviet Russia Division, who are also disgruntled, although they and Angleton hate each other. I spoke to some current CIA people - Helms, IG Gordon Stewart, John Hart, who are part of the book. It's hard to be sure you're not being used. I spent 6 months going around to CI staff; when I got to speak to the Soviet Russia people in Brussels, I was told that much had been left out - the '62 Golitsin story, moles.]
- (368) [PDS: Weren't you surprised by JJA's pre-ass'n knowledge of Oswald; the Powers letter, Voloshin, etc., not given to the WC?]
- [EJE: I'm not sure about that; from the FOIA requests; they got a good deal of information; I think the WC just didn't want to deal with the problem of Russia. ((Definitely evasive this time.)) CIA didn't give me photo of Voloshin, but would have given it to the WC. CIA and FBI were hoping things wouldn't come out.]

(400)

[PDS: But wouldn't Angleton have wanted more to come out?]

[EJE: There are 2 Angleton's - in and out of power. Now he sees his only chance of getting the mole story out is to flush it out through the Senate Select Committee or a journalist; in 1963, he was practically running the CIA; he was the most powerful man there, didn't want even his name to come out. CIA had interests in the Cubela stuff not coming out.]

[Concluding discussion about whether the case can be solved, etc. EJE thinks that guns & bullets may be a blind alley; with one gunman, there could still be a conspiracy; the second alternative is looking at Oswald's connections. Epstein does think it is a live case.]

[End of highlights of interview of Epstein by Peter Dale Scott and Larry Lee of KSAN, taped 4/5/78. If the earlier pages of this interview (which starts on page 14) are missing from your copy, they can be obtained on request.]

Some general comments: Epstein has obviously thought about some of the evidence about Oswald and U.S. intelligence in a more subtle way than is reflected in the book. I don't think we have yet heard the full story of why the book is so asymmetric. It seems possible that editing was done to keep the book simple, and that Epstein actually believes it was done for stylistic reasons. I'm certainly not convinced that the book was not the result of an intelligence operation by the Angleton people, even if Epstein didn't know it.

After the taping, Epstein inscribed Peter's copy of Legend with favorable comments about Peter's work, and gave him a New York phone number. Epstein supposedly claimed familiarity with our book, and recalled my help with Inquest.

* * * * *

A few days ago, I was considering adding to these notes some speculation that the recent defection of Shevchenko at the U.N. was somehow connected to Epstein's disclosures about Fedora. I decided that this would make me sound too much like Mae Brussell or J. Jesus Angleton. However, I am informed that today's NY Times (and Time) report that Shevchenko has offered to tell us something about Fedora, for the right amount of money. Very interesting.

So, I will mention my suspicion that there is more to the indictments of Gray, Felt, and Miller than meets the eye. I don't have any idea what it is; I'll just suggest that it might be worth the effort to ask people connected with this case if they can shed any light on the cases of Fedora, Nosenko, the mole in the FBI's NY office, or the Kennedy assassination.

One thing that did catch my attention is that the NY FBI agent, LaPrade, specifically alleged that the Weathermen were tied to the PLO. It is now well known that Angleton doesn't care for the PLO at all, considering them a KGB front.

It will be interesting to see if Angleton's Security and Intelligence Fund goes to bat for Gray et al., now that charges against Kearney have been dropped.

More sources:

(39) Hacker's review (NYRev, 4/V/78) is remarkably low key. In marked contrast to Hoch & Stetler, he finds the Oswald part more compelling than the mole part, and actually complains that Epstein "allows Angleton's recollections to wander far afield from Oswald." Some of Hacker's criticisms are well taken, but phrased most gently. Inquest is praised as the best single study of the assassination, with no indication that Hacker had anything to do with it.

(40) Courtesy of Peter Scott: NYT, 3/10/76, p. 1 - a story by Crewdson about alleged penetration of the FBI. The source is a former intelligence official, presumably Angleton (or maybe Sullivan). Golitsin is named, and quite a bit of his story is told, including the claim that the FBI had been damaged worse than the CIA. The story of the stolen documents which were offered back to the FBI is mentioned. Very interesting; and another reason to wondering about the chronology of Epstein's project. By 3/10/76 he was certainly well into it. In New York, (part I, p. 38), he said he didn't know of any previous mention of Stone's story. Hmm. Was this Crewdson story Angleton's first attempt, which didn't take, without the sex appeal of the Oswald angle? Hmm.

NYT
3/10/76
p. 1

3 Foreign 'Penetrations' Of F.B.I. Offices Indicated

By JOHN M. CREWDSON

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 9—The Federal Bureau of Investigation may have been "penetrated" by hostile foreign intelligence agencies on at least three occasions since the end of World War II, according to a former intelligence official who says he has direct knowledge of all three incidents.

The evidence in each case, which involved bureau agents in New York, Washington and another undisclosed American city, was entirely circumstantial, the former official said, and no criminal charges were ever brought against the three agents thought to have been subverted by foreign governments.

But in one case, he said, the conclusion that an agent assigned to the bureau's Washington field office had become a paid Soviet spy was virtually

inescapable, even though the man broke off his liaison relationship with Soviet intelligence after he became aware of an internal F.B.I. investigation of his activities.

Clarence M. Kelley, the F.B.I. director, said through a spokesman that, over the years, "several allegations have come to our attention that attempts have been made to penetrate the F.B.I."

Mr. Kelley said that what he termed "exhaustive investigations" had not disclosed any evidence that a hostile foreign intelligence service ever successfully recruited or operated an employee of the F.B.I.

The director's statement did not take account, however, of instances in which the bureau's agents might have voluntarily

3 'PENETRATIONS' OF F.B.I. INDICATED

Continued From Page 1, Col. 3

approached representatives of hostile governments with offers to sell or provide information, which was understood to have been the case with the Washington F.B.I. agent.

Nor did it refer to any instances in which the results of investigations of such matters were officially termed inconclusive, as one bureau official said today had been true of the New York incident.

Both the F.B.I. and the Central Intelligence Agency have declined repeatedly to discuss the subject of possible penetra-

tions of their organizations by double agents, a matter to which they accord the highest sensitivity and one that neither the Senate nor House intelligence committees have attempted to examine.

Penetrations of the Soviet K.G.B. and virtually all of the major Western intelligence services have been documented over the years—but there has never been any detailed public allegation of a successful penetration of the C.I.A. or, apart from the former official's assertions, of the F.B.I.

However, Anatoli Golitsin, a Soviet K.G.B. major who defected to the United States in 1961, is reliably reported to have told American and British counterintelligence officials that such penetrations had occurred.

According to one official present at the meeting, Mr. Golit-

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...in employed a medical analogy in asserting that the British service was "sick," having been penetrated at various levels, that the C.I.A. "also sick," had been penetrated broadly at a fairly low level and that the F.B.I. was "dying."

Mr. Golitsin reportedly did not elaborate on that occasion on his remark about the F.B.I., but the former American official described the circumstances of the purported Soviet penetration of the bureau's Washington field office, a unit set up apart from F.B.I. headquarters here to handle Federal investigations in this city.

The bureau's suspicions were first aroused in the early 1950's, the former official recalled, when three top secret documents were discovered to be missing from the field office's files.

Their whereabouts remained unknown, he said, until a disgruntled Soviet official somewhere in the world approached an American naval attaché and offered to sell him the three documents for \$10,000.

That was the first indication, the former official said, that the missing papers had fallen into Soviet hands.

F.B.I. counterintelligence specialists, he said, later received information that an agent in the Washington office who had had access to the documents had been working as a paid operative of the K.G.B., presumably to help pay off substantial gambling debts he had accrued.

The defector was told that the agent would make contact at a certain hour with his Soviet "control" from a telephone

booth outside a restaurant in suburban Maryland, and placed the booth under surveillance.

Because the man could be expected to recognize his colleagues from the Washington office, the former official said that undercover agents from the Baltimore office were brought in for the task.

The suspected agent did arrive at the appointed time, the former official said, entered the telephone booth, dialed a number and then hung up—a standard Soviet intelligence technique for initiating a telephone contact.

A few minutes later, agents secreted in and around the restaurant heard the telephone ring and saw the F.B.I. man answer it. After an extended conversation he left the booth, only to recognize one of the supposedly incognito Baltimore

agents and make a hasty departure.

The Washington agent, former official said, immediately broke off his relations with the Russians. A polygraph examination proved inconclusive and he was allowed to resign quietly.

Fewer details were available about the New York incident except that the internal investigation of the suspected agent there continued, as one bureau official said, "for a long time."

But several intelligence officials said that it was separate from an incident, described in published accounts some months ago, in which an ex-official in the New York City office became involved with a waitress in an East Side restaurant frequented by Federal agents at lunchtime.

gramme extracts from an important new book by Kennedy: EDWARD JAY EPSTEIN, which indicates is killer, strongly that Oswald was an agent of the used by KGB. Today Epstein discusses the issues reopened by Panorama and looks at other possibility unanswered questions such as the true role he was a of the shadowy George De Mohrenschildt asks The and the series of deaths involving key extended figures in the affair.

are now established by the Inspector-General of the summer of 1963 the CIA ne involved with Cubella in t to assassinate Castro. shella satisfied himself that Kennedy Administration was id the plot, through a meet with Desmond Fitzgerald, a ranking CIA official who presented himself as an sary of Robert Kennedy (and indeed, an indentifiable d of RFK's). Castro learned of this plot in autumn of 1963 (probably tch Cubella himself), and d a public warning that clean leaders would not be if the plots against Cuban ers persisted. (Oswald, an follower of Castro, possibly the Press reports of this ing before his trip to Mexico ptember 1963.) the very least, then, it is listed that Castro had a "motive" for inspiring the apted assassination of an ican leader? Whether he or not is another question. t the Cubans certainly had opportunity to inspire Oswald ndertake a violent act. He led to Mexico on September eording to his wife for the ose of proving his loyalty to Cubans — and being accepted a friend of the Cuban tion. Oswald appears to had at least three meetings Cuban officials. What hapd at these meetings is un- but according to various ets, Oswald appears to have into an argument with the about whether he had t without service for

ceivable to me that in the heat of these discussions some Cuban officials mentioned either the assassination plots against Castro or Castro's warning to American leaders. It may then have been that Oswald took this as marching orders to attempt such an assassination and that he chose his own target, Kennedy, to win the approval of the Cubans.

Your book makes the case that Oswald was a low level agent of Soviet intelligence who ran amok. Is it not equally possible that Oswald was a low-level CIA agent sent to Russia as a phoney defector?

I considered this possibility when I began my research. If Oswald had been a CIA agent dispatched on such a sensitive mission I assumed as a working hypothesis that he would have to have been recruited and trained by the CIA sometime between 1957, when he joined the Marines as a 17-year-old high school drop-out, and September 1959 when he defected to Russia. As a practical matter this would require some interlude in his Marine service when he was detached from duty and trained. Since the Warren Commission interviewed only one Marine who knew Oswald during his tour of Japan and the Pacific, and left a number of intriguing blanks in his service record, it seemed at least conceivable that he had been separated from his regular duty.

However, when I located some sixty other Marines who served with Oswald at various points in his career, these gaps were gradually filled in. Marines were found who

did a dangerous CIA mission, he would be amply rewarded on his return in 1962. In fact Oswald received an undesirable discharge from his reserve unit and returned to a life of near-poverty in Texas.

On the other hand, the evidence that Oswald was associated with Soviet intelligence is cogent. He defected to the Soviet Union with unknown funds, and then offered the Soviets, according to his own admission, classified military secrets of special interest. As proof of his sincerity to the Soviets, he handed his passport to the US Embassy in Moscow, and announced his intention of providing the Soviets with US military secrets. In effect, he put himself completely in Soviet hands for a two-and-a-half year period. In return, the MVD, a Ministry associated with Soviet intelligence, provided Oswald with a subsidy to live on, a plush apartment, job and other amenities.

After Oswald returned to the US, he refused a FBI request to submit to a lie detector test, kept constantly in contact with Soviet Embassy officials, and contacted a known KGB officer, Kostikov, in Mexico City.

Finally, some effort seemed to have been made to cover Oswald's

associations with Soviet intelligence. Oswald fabricated a "legend" or false biography, for himself before returning to the US, lied in FBI interviews, and attempted to conceal his movements.

The Warren Commission, the FBI and many other sleuths over the past fifteen years have investigated the Oswald case. How can you hope to come up with any new facts or different answers?

I began by rejecting the idea that there was something new to be found out about bullets, wounds, or the grassy knoll. Instead I asked: Why did Lee Harvey Oswald defect to the Soviet Union in 1959? It seemed incredible to me that a 20-year-old Marine would suddenly decide to leave his family and friends and go to live in a strange country. I became interested in the question of motive.

I wanted to know what happened to Oswald in the Marine Corps. The Warren Commission had questioned only one Marine who served with Oswald at the Atsugi air base in Japan. With the help of four researchers, I

Continued on next page

THIS IS THE ONLY
PAGE I (OF 100)
A very rare
Barometer
in replica
Limited edition of 150

Guard and proud to announce a limited edition of great historical interest: finely hand-crafted replicas of a Daniel Quare patent standing barometer, dated circa 1709.

Daniel Quare, one of the great horologists of his day, was also a distinguished maker of scientific instruments. In 1695 he was granted a patent for "a portable weather glass or barometer".

The instrument shown for this edition is a very rare



19- OCTOP - LEE HARVEY OSWALD: ASSASSIN OF
PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY; HAD ACCESS TO HIGHEST PRIORITY
MILITARY SECRETS AND MAY HAVE PASSED THEM ON TO THE RUSSIANS;
ACCORDING A STUDY RELEASED TODAY BY THE READERS DIGEST.

THE STUDY ALSO CONCLUDES THAT THE CIA; THE FBI AND THE
SOVIET KGB WERE INVOLVED IN COVERUPS OF OSWALD'S LIFE IN THE
U.S. MARINES AND IN THE SOVIET UNION; WHERE HE LIVED AS A
DEFECTOR FROM 1959 TO 1962.

THE 2 1/2-YEAR; 200,000-DOLLAR INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED
BY EDWARD J. EPSTEIN; A LEADING AMERICAN CRITIC OF THE OFFICIAL
WARREN COMMISSION PROBE OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

CALLED "LEGEND: THE SECRET LIFE OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD" IT
FOCUSES ON AREAS OF OSWALD'S LIFE NOT TOUCHED ON BEFORE BY
EITHER JOURNALISTS OR GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATORS; ESPECIALLY HIS
ACCESS TO MILITARY SECRETS WHEN HE WAS A MARINE; AND HIS LIFE
IN RUSSIA.

MORE 1453

R458

R R4013)201WNYDRYA

OSWALD 2 NEW YORK

THE STUDY DOES NOT CHALLENGE THE OFFICIAL THEORY THAT
OSWALD ACTED AS A LONE ASSASSIN IN THE KENNEDY MURDER.

BUT IT REVEALS FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT A KGB "DEFECTOR"
ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES JUST AS PRESIDENT JOHNSON WAS
PUSHING THE WARREN COMMISSION TO FINISH ITS STUDY. THE DEFECTOR
CLAIMED THAT WHILE IN RUSSIA THE SOVIET KGB INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
DID NOT BOTHER WITH OSWALD BECAUSE IT CONSIDERED HIM UNSTABLE.

ACCORDING TO EPSTEIN; THIS DEFECTOR'S STORY WAS A "LEGEND"
-- THE ESPIONAGE WORLD'S TERM FOR A COVER STORY -- AND THE CIA
WAS SUCCESSFULLY PREVENTED FROM BREAKING THE DEFECTOR'S STORY
BY J. EDGAR HOOVER; THEN HEAD OF THE FBI.

THE DEFECTOR WAS NAMED YURI NOSENKO; AND HE CLAIMED TO HAVE
BEEN IN CHARGE OF OSWALD'S KGB FILE. EPSTEIN SAYS THAT NOSENKO
CLAIMED THE KGB HAD NO INTEREST WHATSOEVER IN OSWALD AND
RECOMMENDED THAT HE GO BACK TO THE U.S.

OSWALD; AFTER BEING MUSTERED OUT OF THE MARINES IN 1959;
WENT TO MOSCOW; WHERE HE RENOUNCED HIS U.S. CITIZENSHIP.

EPSTEIN SAYS NOSENKO'S CLAIMS RAN COUNTER TO ALL STANDARD
KGB PROCEDURES IN DEALING WITH U.S. DEFECTORS AND WHEN THE CIA
WANTED TO FOLLOW THE MATTER UP; THE FBI STEPPED IN.

MORE 1456

R 04019)4UJWYD1YC

OSWALD 4 NEW YORK

HE SAID THE REASON THE FBI DECIDED TO "DOMINATE THE SITUATION" WAS THAT MR. HOOVER FEARED ANY INFORMATION SHOWING OSWALD HAD A SINISTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE KGB WOULD EXPOSE HIS ORGANIZATION.

HOOVER AND OTHER TOP FBI EXECUTIVES BELIEVED THAT THE AGENCY BOTCHED ITS INVESTIGATION OF OSWALD ON HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

EPSTEIN SAYS THAT HOOVER PREVENTED THE CIA FROM ASKING NOSENKO 44 KEY QUESTIONS EVEN THOUGH THE DEFECTOR APPEARED TO CHANGE HIS ACCOUNT ABOUT OTHER ASPECTS OF HIS LIFE IN THE KGB.

HOOVER USED A SOVIET DOUBLE AGENT WORKING AT THE UNITED NATIONS TO CHECK NOSENKO'S ACCOUNT. THIS AGENT, CODE-NAMED "FEDORA" VERIFIED NOSENKO'S STORY; BUT THE CIA FELT THAT FEDORA HIMSELF MIGHT HAVE BEEN A KGB PLANT.

THE CIA'S THEN DIRECTOR, RICHARD HELMS, MET SECRETLY WITH CHIEF SUPREME COURT JUSTICE EARL WARREN AND LET HIM KNOW FOR THE FIRST TIME ABOUT CIA SUSPICIONS OF NOSENKO. AS A RESULT, THE WARREN COMMISSION DECIDED NOT TO CALL NOSENKO AS A WITNESS.
MORE 1458

R460

R 04020)4UJWYD1YC

OSWALD 4 NEW YORK

EPSTEIN CLAIMS OSWALD'S BACKGROUND AS A MARINE WAS COVERED UP BY U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. HE SAYS OSWALD, WHILE A MARINE RADAR CONTROLLER IN JAPAN, TAIWAN, THE PHILIPPINES AND CALIFORNIA, HAD ACCESS TO HIGHEST PRIORITY INFORMATION, INCLUDING HOW THE THEN-SECRET U-2 SPY PLANE WORKED.

EPSTEIN SAYS OSWALD WITNESSED REPEATED TAKEOFFS OF THE U-2 AT A U.S. AIR BASE AT ATSUGI, JAPAN, AND COULD HAVE KNOWN ITS RATE OF CLIMB, PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS AND CRUISING ALTITUDES.

EPSTEIN QUOTES ONE UNNAMED OFFICER AS SAYING OSWALD SHOWED AN EXTRAORDINARY INTEREST IN THE PATH OF THE PLANE, WHICH WAS THEN CONSIDERED TO BE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TARGET OF SOVIET INTELLIGENCE.

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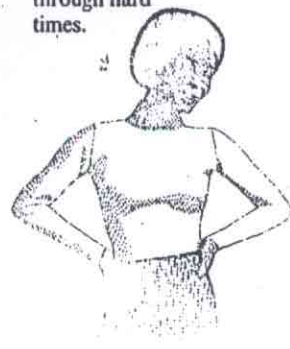
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Obituaries

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Wreckage of Gary Powers' U-2 CIA spy plane on display in Moscow in 1960

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19. REVEALS - LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, HAD ACCESS TO HIGHEST PRIORITY MILITARY SECRETS AND MAY HAVE PASSED THEM ON TO THE RUSSIANS; ACCORDING A STUDY RELEASED TODAY BY THE READERS DIGEST.

THE STUDY ALSO CONCLUDES THAT THE CIA, THE FBI AND THE SOVIET KGB WERE INVOLVED IN COVERUPS OF OSWALD'S LIFE IN THE U.S. MARINES AND IN THE SOVIET UNION, WHERE HE LIVED AS A DEFECTOR FROM 1959 TO 1962.

THE 2 1/2-YEAR, 200,000-DOLLAR INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED BY EDWARD J. EPSTEIN, A LEADING AMERICAN CRITIC OF THE OFFICIAL WARREN COMMISSION PROBE OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

CALLED "LEGEND: THE SECRET LIFE OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD" IT FOCUSES ON AREAS OF OSWALD'S LIFE NOT TOUCHED ON BEFORE BY EITHER JOURNALISTS OR GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATORS; ESPECIALLY HIS ACCESS TO MILITARY SECRETS WHEN HE WAS A MARINE; AND HIS LIFE IN RUSSIA.

MORE 1453

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OSWALD 2 NEW YORK

THE STUDY DOES NOT CHALLENGE THE OFFICIAL THEORY THAT OSWALD ACTED AS A LONE ASSASSIN IN THE KENNEDY MURDER.

BUT IT REVEALS FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT A KGB "DEFECTOR" ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES JUST AS PRESIDENT JOHNSON WAS PUSHING THE WARREN COMMISSION TO FINISH ITS STUDY. THE DEFECTOR CLAIMED THAT WHILE IN RUSSIA THE SOVIET KGB INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DID NOT BOTHER WITH OSWALD BECAUSE IT CONSIDERED HIM UNSTABLE.

ACCORDING TO EPSTEIN, THIS DEFECTOR'S STORY WAS A "LEGEND" -- THE ESPIONAGE WORLD'S TERM FOR A COVER STORY -- AND THE CIA WAS SUCCESSFULLY PREVENTED FROM BREAKING THE DEFECTOR'S STORY BY J. EDGAR HOOVER, THEN HEAD OF THE FBI.

THE DEFECTOR WAS NAMED YURI NOSENKO, AND HE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN IN CHARGE OF OSWALD'S KGB FILE. EPSTEIN SAYS THAT NOSENKO CLAIMED THE KGB HAD NO INTEREST WHATSOEVER IN OSWALD AND RECOMMENDED THAT HE GO BACK TO THE U.S.

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EPSTEIN SAYS NOSENKO'S CLAIMS RAN COUNTER TO ALL STANDARD KGB PROCEDURES IN DEALING WITH U.S. DEFECTORS AND WHEN THE CIA WANTED TO FOLLOW THE MATTER UP, THE FBI STEPPED IN.

MORE 1456

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OSWALD 3 NEW YORK

HE SAID THE REASON THE FBI DECIDED TO "DOMINATE THE SITUATION" WAS THAT MR. HOOVER FEARED ANY INFORMATION SHOWING OSWALD HAD A SINISTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE KGB WOULD EXPOSE HIS ORGANIZATION.

HOOVER AND OTHER TOP FBI EXECUTIVES BELIEVED THAT THE AGENCY BOTCHED ITS INVESTIGATION OF OSWALD ON HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

EPSTEIN SAYS THAT HOOVER PREVENTED THE CIA FROM ASKING NOSENKO 44 KEY QUESTIONS EVEN THOUGH THE DEFECTOR APPEARED TO CHANGE HIS ACCOUNT ABOUT OTHER ASPECTS OF HIS LIFE IN THE KGB.

HOOVER USED A SOVIET DOUBLE AGENT WORKING AT THE UNITED NATIONS TO CHECK NOSENKO'S ACCOUNT. THIS AGENT, CODE-NAMED "FEDORA" VERIFIED NOSENKO'S STORY, BUT THE CIA FELT THAT FEDORA HIMSELF MIGHT HAVE BEEN A KGB PLANT.

THE CIA'S THEN DIRECTOR, RICHARD HELMS, MET SECRETLY WITH CHIEF SUPREME COURT JUSTICE EARL WARREN AND LET HIM KNOW FOR THE FIRST TIME ABOUT CIA SUSPICIONS OF NOSENKO. AS A RESULT, THE WARREN COMMISSION DECIDED NOT TO CALL NOSENKO AS A WITNESS.
MORE 1458

R460

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OSWALD 4 NEW YORK

EPSTEIN CLAIMS OSWALD'S BACKGROUND AS A MARINE WAS COVERED UP BY U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. HE SAYS OSWALD, WHILE A MARINE RADAR CONTROLLER IN JAPAN, TAIWAN, THE PHILIPPINES AND CALIFORNIA, HAD ACCESS TO HIGHEST PRIORITY INFORMATION, INCLUDING HOW THE THEN-SECRET U-2 SPY PLANE WORKED.

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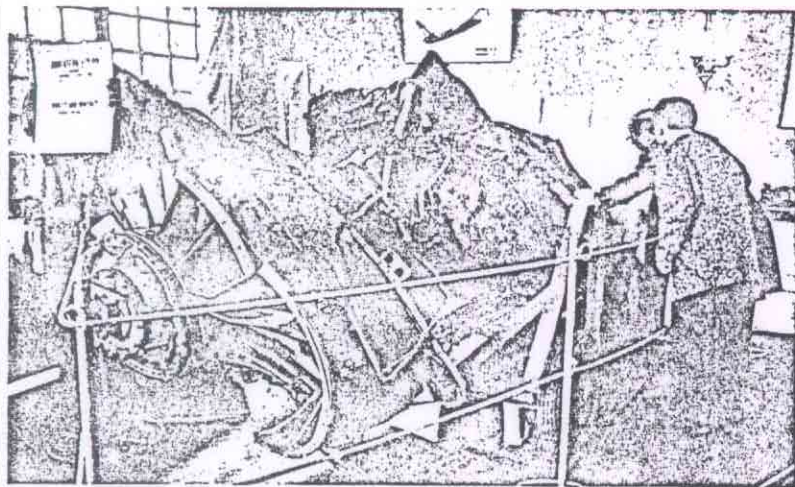
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gramme extracts from an important new book by Kennedy, EDWARD JAY EPSTEIN, which indicates is killer, strongly that Oswald was an agent of the used by KGB. Today Epstein discusses the issues reopened by Panorama and looks at other possibilities. Unanswered questions such as the true role of the shadowy George De Mohrenschildt and the series of deaths involving key extended figures in the affair.

are now established by the Inspector-General.

the summer of 1963 the CIA was involved with Cubella in a plot to assassinate Castro.

ubella satisfied himself that Kennedy Administration was in the plot, through a meeting with Desmond Fitzgerald, a ranking CIA official who presented himself as an agent of Robert Kennedy (and indeed, an identifiable agent of RFK's).

He learned of this plot in autumn of 1963 (probably through Cubella himself), and issued a public warning that Cuban leaders would not be the plots against Cuban leaders persisted. (Oswald, an follower of Castro, possibly the 'P' reports of this ing before his trip to Mexico in September 1963.)

the very least, then, it is clear that Castro had a motive for inspiring the assassination of an American leader. Whether he or not is another question.

the Cubans certainly had opportunity to inspire Oswald undertake a violent act. He fled to Mexico on September according to his wife for the purpose of proving his loyalty to the Cubans — and being accepted as a friend of the Cuban Revolution. Oswald appears to have had at least three meetings with Cuban officials. What happened at these meetings is unknown but according to various reports, Oswald appears to have been an argument with the Cubans about whether he had rendered sufficient service for the Cuban revolution to be accepted in Cuba.

though this is purely speculative, it does not seem incon-



Edward Jay Epstein, 42, holds a government from Harvard University. His first book, 'Inquest', reveals his undercover work in the CIA. Early questions about the CIA's methods and its role in the assassination of Oswald and Kennedy, which he reveals the possible involvement of US intelligence agencies are raised for the first time. Two years of research, involving four informants and two law suits, led to the publication of 'Lee Harvey Oswald and the CIA' in the New York Times.

ceivable to me that in the heat of these discussions some Cuban officials mentioned either the assassination plots against Castro or Castro's warning to American leaders. It may then have been that Oswald took this as marching orders to attempt such an assassination and that he chose his own target, Kennedy, to win the approval of the Cubans.

Your book makes the case that Oswald was a low level agent of Soviet intelligence who ran amok. Is it not equally possible that Oswald was a low-level CIA agent sent to Russia as a phoney defector?

I considered this possibility when I began my research. If Oswald had been a CIA agent dispatched on such a sensitive mission I assumed as a working hypothesis that he would have to have been recruited and trained by the CIA sometime between 1957, when he joined the Marines as a 17-year-old high school dropout, and September 1963 when he defected to Russia. As a practical matter this would require some interlude in his Marine service when he was detached from duty and trained. Since the Warren Commission interviewed only one Marine who knew Oswald during his tour of Japan and the Pacific, and left a number of intriguing blanks in his service record, it seemed at least conceivable that he had been separated from his regular duty.

However, when I located some sixty other Marines who served with Oswald at various points in his career, these gaps were gradually filled in. Marines were found who served with Oswald in his basic training unit, his training courses, during transit to and from Japan, during the manoeuvres in the Pacific and in hospital. Even the doctors who treated him for a gunshot wound and VD were interviewed. At every point, Marines were found who shared quarters with Oswald, drank with him, played cards with him, and served long hours on radar duty with him. Some considered themselves close friends, and produced snapshots and records showing Oswald was indeed on duty with them.

What emerges is a fairly complete and believable account of Oswald's time in the Marines. There seems to be no period during this time when he could conceivably be detached and trained by the CIA, and certainly none of the men who lived with him and any clue that suggested he had any special sort of duty. (And his erratic behaviour hardly suggests him as a candidate for any such assignment.)

Furthermore, Oswald activities in the Soviet Union do not seem consistent with a CIA mission. It seems at least plausible that the CIA would station a man to carry a high profile and sensitive mission in the Soviet Union. If he had been a CIA agent, he would have been a high profile and sensitive mission in the Soviet Union.

on a dangerous CIA mission, he would be amply rewarded on his return in 1962. In fact Oswald received an undesirable discharge from his reserve unit and returned to a life of near-poverty in Texas.

On the other hand, the evidence that Oswald was associated with Soviet intelligence is scant. He detected in the Soviet Union with unknown funds, and then offered the Soviets, according to his own admission, classified military secrets of special interest. As proof of his sincerity to the Soviets, he handed his passport to the US Embassy in Moscow, and announced his intention of providing the Soviets with US military secrets. In effect, he put himself completely in Soviet hands for a two-and-a-half year period. In return, the MVD, a Ministry associated with Soviet intelligence, provided Oswald with a subsidy to live in a plush apartment, job and other amenities.

After Oswald returned to the US, he refused a FBI request to submit to a lie detector test, kept constantly in contact with Soviet Embassy officials, and contacted a known KGB officer, Kostikov, in Mexico City.

Finally, some effort seemed to have been made to cover Oswald's

associations with Soviet intelligence. Oswald fabricated a "legend," or false biography, for himself before returning to the US, lied in FBI interviews, and attempted to conceal his movements.

The Warren Commission, the FBI and many other sleuths over the past fifteen years have investigated the Oswald case. How can you hope to come up with any new facts or different answers?

I began by rejecting the idea that there was something new to be found out about bullets, wounds, or the gross knoll. Instead I asked: Why did Lee Harvey Oswald defect to the Soviet Union in 1959? It seemed incredible to me that a 20-year-old Marine would suddenly decide to leave his family and friends and go to live in a strange country. I became interested in the question of motive.

I wanted to know what happened to Oswald in the Marine Corps. The Warren Commission had questioned only one Marine who served with Oswald at the Atsugi air base in Japan. With the help of four researchers, I

Continued on next page

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