

Dear Bud,

6/20/78

Thanks for the ^{Wilmington} Morning News story "Senate unit probes CIA security breach," issue #/ 6/7/78. Aside from publication, there is nothing new in it. In fact it is incomplete. The committee has broader interest, as I've known since March or April.

It is interested in whether or not there was any breach through Epstein and whether he obtained his information by FOIA.

Epstein says he got his info via FOIA but proof of this is lacking and the certainty that not all was by FOIA waves like a red flag throughout his book and appearances. There is a possibility that he obtained some by his own FOIA requests.

I did not know that the committee had already interviewed Epstein. Perhaps before he went abroad, perhaps he returned early. If you hear I'd be interested. His return had been scheduled for some time in June.

You again used the wrong route number. We have the third since we've been here, as you know without moving. It has been St. 12 for about 3 years. Forwarding is not automatic after 6 months, so it is always possible mail using one of the old numbers may not reach me.

Odd coincidence in hearing from you in that early this morning I was wondering if the DC brainstorming on belling the assassins committee cat had produced anything of any promise.

I've not spent any ~~the~~ time thinking about this but I believe some effort might be useful for the future. Nothing can be done about Frankensteins after they are created and misprogrammed.

From Jerry I gather that crazy Jimmy wants to testify still. About all that is not relevant, naturally enough.

I worked for the Morning News in the early 1930s, when it was Pierre Dupont's paper. I've spoken to Trento but not met him. He was part of an expose of the Copley-CIA connection.

Sincerely,

Senate unit probes CIA security breach

By JOE TRENTO
and RALPH S. MOYED

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The Senate Intelligence Committee intends to question two former CIA directors and a former chief of CIA counterintelligence about roles they may have played in allowing Soviet double agents to penetrate the agency.

"The long knives are out," said James Jesus Angleton, who was fired as chief of counterintelligence for the Central Intelligence Agency in 1975. He said he feared he was being set up to take the blame for any security breach.

Reached at his home in Arlington, Va., Angleton confirm-

ed that the investigation was under way and said he was preparing to testify before three congressional committees.

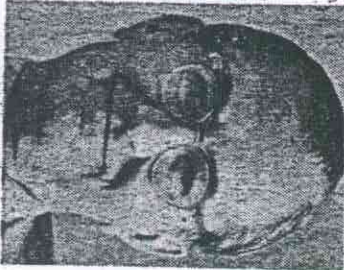
Intelligence community sources in Washington said the committee also intends to call Richard M. Helms and William E. Cobby, the two former chiefs of the CIA. The committee staff wants to question them and Angleton about the handling of KGB detectors suspected of feeding false information to the agency with the possible help of "moles," or high-level double agents, within the CIA.

In Ottawa, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police spokesman confirmed that a similar investigation has been started in the Canadian capital.

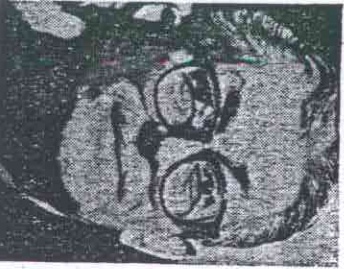
In Washington, Spencer Davis, spokesman for the Senate Intelligence Committee, confirmed that the committee staff has begun what he called a "routine" preliminary investigation into a writer's charges that Lee Harvey Oswald had been working for the Soviet spy service before he killed President John F. Kennedy.

Davis said the committee already has interviewed author Edward Jay Epstein about allegations in his book, "Legend: The Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald," published in March by Reader's Digest Press and McGraw-Hill.

Quoting Angleton at length, See BREACH—Page 4, Col. 1



William E. Cobby



James J. Angleton



Richard M. Helms

...to be called for questioning by Senate Intelligence Committee

The Morning News

A Gannett newspaper, Wilmington, Del., Wednesday, June 7, 1978

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Weather

Cloudy and warm with a chance of morning or afternoon thunderstorms; high near 80. Showers and thunder showers likely tonight; low near 70. Details, Page 17.

Breach of CIA security target of Senate unit probe

Continued from Page One

Epstein recounts the story of the Soviet KGB agent who defected to the United States after the assassination and insisted during repeated interrogation that Oswald had never been involved with the KGB.

Angleton said he was convinced that the Russian, Yuri Ivanovich Nosenko, was a double agent sent to the United States to feed misinformation to the CIA. Angleton was overruled on this point by his superiors. Nosenko eventually was given a new identity and a \$35,000-a-year job as a CIA consultant.

Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del., questioned in a hallway of the Federal Building in Wilmington, declined to discuss any aspect of the investigation or even confirm that it was being conducted.

But when reporters told him that the committee staff was looking into whether a Soviet-sponsored "mole" had been planted in the highest levels of the CIA hierarchy and that Helms, Colby and Angleton are being questioned, Biden said: "You know a lot."

Biden is chairman of the intelligence committee's secrecy subcommittee.

Davir, the press spokesman for the committee, said Chairman Birch Bayh, D-Ind., would not be available to discuss the subject.

Sources next to the closely guarded investigation said the only members of the committee with full knowledge of the probe are Bayh, Biden and Sen. Walter Huddleston, D-Ky. Huddleston did not return reporters' telephone calls.

While the Senate committee is

opened its own investigation into Angleton's handling of more than a dozen KGB agents, including Nosenko, who came to the CIA claiming to be defectors.

Another source and a high official of the CIA, clandestine services division said the review is being conducted by Cleveland Cram, former chief of the CIA station in Ottawa.

Those sources said Cram was brought out of retirement because of his experience in helping to expose large-scale Soviet spy rings in Canada during the

early 1970s.

The Canadian government, it was learned from CIA sources, is conducting its own probe into the possibility that a "mole" had been operating at a high level with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Intelligence Service, Canada's counterpart of the American CIA.

The RCMP spokesman in Ottawa said a royal commission is looking into questions raised by Angleton about the activities of James Bennett, a one-time high official of the Canadian intelligence service. Canada

does not identify civilian intelligence officials by job title.

Bennett has been called back from Australia to testify in secret before the so-called McDonnald Commission. Bennett has been living in Australia since he was forced to retire from the RCMP intelligence agency in 1972 following the disclosure that agents of the KGB's dread Department V — the department of murder, terrorism and sabotage — had been allowed to operate freely in Canada.

The RCMP spokesman said

the latest phase of the McDonnald Commission inquiry was triggered in part by a novel called "Portrait of a Spy." Its main character, the police spokesman said, is a thinly disguised version of James Bennett.

The American inquiry upset Angleton. "I never have taken the position that you accuse anyone of being a penetration agent," he told a reporter, "because that is the way to kill off counter-intelligence. That's the Joseph McCarthy method." Joseph Colby, away from his home

near Washington on a lecture tour, was unavailable for comment.

From his Arlington home, Angleton said the Epstein book, as well as a magazine article dealing with Soviet double agents, prompted the investigation. He said congressional investigators contacted him and advised him he would be asked to testify.

Angleton condemned an earlier probe of intelligence agencies by a select committee on intelligence headed by Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho.