

CIA HIDES DATA, SAYS DA'S AIDE

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Documents Held Vital to Assassination Probe

A former London schoolteacher, now an aide to District Attorney Jim Garrison, said Saturday that the Central Intelligence Agency has concealed 51 official documents vital to an investigation of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

Tom Bethell, hired by Garrison to check into the National Archives in Washington, D. C., said from the list of hidden information it is apparent that the CIA knew "a great deal" about Lee Harvey Oswald before the assassination.

"There are 1,555 Commission documents listed in the archives," said Bethell. "Of these, only about 1,200 are unclassified and available to the public."

Originally coming to New Orleans to study jazz, Bethell became interested in the Garrison probe and asked if he could work for the district attorney. He was hired and sent to Washington.

ACCESS TO FILES?

Bethell feels there are 29 commission documents which should be of special interest to Garrison. Among the most significant, he said, were documents whose titles indicated that the CIA had extensive information on Oswald before the

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To support his statement that the CIA knew about Oswald prior to the assassination, which occurred Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas, Tex., Bethell cited a paragraph from one of the unclassified files. It was a notarized statement by State Department Officer James D. Crowley, which read:

"The first time I remember learning of Oswald's existence was when I received copies of a telegraphic message, dated Oct. 10, 1963, from the Central Intelligence Agency, which contained information pertaining to his current activities."

Added Bethell in his memorandum to Garrison:

"The contents of this message apparently did not reach the Warren Commission because there are no commission documents originating from the CIA dated prior to the assassination, so we cannot request this information by document number, but it would be interesting to know what the CIA knew about Oswald six weeks before the assassination."

UNAVAILABLE TO PUBLIC

According to Bethell, some of the classified documents are labeled "S" for "secret" and "TS" for "Top Secret," but he does not know what the difference might be. Bethell said there must be some degree of secrecy to all the classified documents since they remain unavailable to the public.

Following is the Bethell list of titles of 29 classified commission documents from the CIA, all of which he thinks have some bearing on Garrison's investigation. (Each is preceded by its commission document number):

—CD 931: Oswald's access to information about the U-2. (S).

—CD 1054: Information on Jack Ruby and associates. (S).

—CD 674: Information given to the Secret Service but not yet given to the Warren Commission. (S).

—CD 871: Photos of Oswald
—CD 321: Chronology of Oswald in USSR. (S).

—CD 680: Appendix to CD 321. (S).

—CD 691: Appendix A to CD 321.

—CD 818: Revisions of CD 321.

—CD 692: Reproduction of official CIA dossier on Oswald.

—CD 1216: Memo from Helms (CIA director Richard Helms) entitled "Lee Harvey Oswald." (S).

—CD 1273: Memo from Helms re apparent inconsistencies in information provided by CIA (S).

—CD 935: Role of Cuban Intelligence Service in processing visa application. (TS).

—CD 1551: Conversations between Cuban president and ambassador. (TS).

OSWALD IN MEXICO

—CD 347: Activity of Oswald in Mexico City. (S).

—CD 384: Activity of Oswald in Mexico City.

—CD 528: Re allegations Oswald interviewed by CIA in Mexico City.

—CD 426: Interrogation of Silvia Duran in Mexico City.

—CD 1000: Mexican interrogation of Gilberto Alvaredo. (S).

—CD 1287: Re Oswald and affidavit concerning cropped picture. (S).

—CD 698: Reports of travel and activities of Oswald and Marina.

—CD 631: Re CIA dissemination of information on Oswald.

—CD 708: Reply to questions posed by State Department.

—CD 1012: George and Jeanne DeMohrenschildt. (S).

—CD 1222: Statements of George DeMohrenschildt re assassination. (S).

—CD 943: Allegations of PFC Eugene Dinkin re assassination plot (S).

—CD 971: Telephone calls to U. S. Embassy, Canberra, Australia, re planned assassination. (S).

—CD 1089: Letter re assassination sent to Costa Rican embassy. (S).

—CD 1041: Allegations regarding Intelligence Training School in Minsk (USSR). (S).

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GARRISON PROBE

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assassination, that Oswald may have had access to secret U-2 aircraft files, that the CIA knew more about Jack Ruby (the man who shot Oswald) than it revealed publicly, and that the CIA failed to turn over some information to the Warren Commission.