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Dear Professor Melanson,

Paul Koch has sent me a copy of your Nation 3/26/83 article on the CIA and local police. A source I may not disclose, who was in a local police force that got CIA training, told me that the Zapruder film was used in it. He would not tell me how.

Several things of which you wrote interest me. One is the assignment of a CIA liaison to Montgomery County, Md. The other is the records on Bud and his CTIA, because I am in those records.

I lived in and did all my early work in Montgomery County, near Hyattstown, at its upper end. For a number of reasons I'd be interested in any Montgomery County information you may have.

When Bud got copies of his records from the CIA he let me have copies of them. When I got the CIA's records on me - and they are incomplete - it did disclose one or two of the records it had already disclosed to Bud but it obliterated everything on them except my name.

In fact I never had any connection with the CTIA and specifically, was never its investigator, which those records state.

I used the phones of several of the Washingtonians who were under DC police surveillances, including electronic. So, I'd be quite interested in any records pertaining to its associations with the CIA. Of course I also visited them often and was undoubtedly observed by informers.

My source who'd had CIA training had nothing to do with record keeping. He was a detective assigned to criminal investigations - and a rather unscrupulous one at that.

Paul also sent me Jonathan Marshall's notes on political importance of secret societies, if you have it. On pp. 11 ff he refers to the late Herman Kinsey as CIA chief of research and analysis under Dulles. From what I know of Kinsey's life and career I very much doubt this. He had no background for it at all and from my knowledge of R & A going back to OSS he was anything but the type for that job. They went in for heavily-accredited scholars, like Bill Langor. However, if you have anything pertinent, I am interested in Kinsey largely because of the McDonald fakery, of which I know much going back to the two earlier versions. I was quite surprised that Len Davidov, whose name was thinly disguised in all but the final version of Appointment in Dallas, would lend himself to such a project because of his and his family's close relationship with Kinsey. After the CIA fired Kinsey he actually lived in Davidov's offices, which then were in an old apartment house in Washington, the Chasleton. He worked for Davidov's Security Associates, sometimes as a guard. If you recognize the name, Security Associates, or a group by that name that may not be identical, was part of a well-publicized fiction of just before the appearance of McDonald's book in which it claimed to have solved the assassination for a client. Marshall is correct on Kinsey's intense interest in the Romanovs. He is wrong on McDonald's coauthor (p. 14), who was not Robin Moore. M. may have been thinking of Jack Youngblood. McD. used Geoffrey Bocca. I met b, McD, his agent and his publisher, who is a scoundrel. Also Davidov and his wife and a lady friend of Kinsey's. Once when Davidov took this lady, his and my wife and me to dinner, I suspect trying to learn what I knew of McD's fakery, he told me that he was a vice president in charge of security for the larger corporation that owns the People's Drug chain, as I recall it was named Oak. McDonald is the most accomplished con man I've ever met and a real rascal.

Thanks and best wishes, Harold Weisberg

Jonathan Marshall
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Brief Notes on the Political Importance of Secret Societies

Most Western political scientists, following in the traditions of Marx or Weber, scorn the study of secret and occult societies as irrelevant to understanding the politics of the age. In their view, politics can best be understood as the working out, in the public arena, of bureaucratic, interest group, or class struggles. The study of secret societies smacks instead of pursuing discredited "conspiracy" theories of history. In part, this attitude stems from a general ignorance of the existence and power of such groups. But they do exist: "modernization" has not made them a thing of the past. Their importance derives both from the quality and influence of the members as individuals and, equally important, from the tight bonds that unite the members into a cohesive organization. These bonds are formed by the rituals, initiation rights, and occult ideologies that make such societies more exclusive and committed than social clubs or political parties. For that reason, secret societies can wield an influence far beyond what their limited membership might suggest. What follows, in rebuttal to the conventional wisdom, is a brief overview of the role played by a handful of secret and semi-secret societies in four major Western countries: Spain, France, Italy, and the United States.

Spain - Founded in 1928 by the lawyer-turned-priest Jose Maria Escriva de Balaguer, the Sacerdotal Society of the Holy Cross and Opus Dei has become one of the most powerful, and politically committed, of Catholic lay societies. Opus Dei brings together faithful Catholics--businessmen, financiers, military officers, and government officials--who seek sanctity in the exercise of their professions; in practice, it promotes the technocratic, authoritarian organization of society reminiscent of the ^(early)Vichy period in France. In 1950, Opus Dei ideologist Rafael Calvo Serer called organized Catholicism "a potential force such as [the Vatican] has not had since the Council of Trent." As for Spain, she "must throw herself into the construction of international action that will prepare the future: the International of Elites" to challenge International Communism and the International of the Dollar.

Opus Dei was slow to gain recognition and power. In Spain it received official recognition from the Bishop of Madrid only in 1941; the Vatican accepted it as a secular order in 1950. Thereafter its influence spread rapidly, particularly during the late Franco period. By the end of the 1960s, the "three Lopez's"--Lopez Rodo, Franco's Minister of Economic Planning, Lopez Bravo, Minister of Industry and later Foreign Minister, and Lopez Letona, Minister of Commerce and later of Finance--all belonged to Opus Dei. In 1969 a total of 18 government ministers belonged to or sympathized with the order. Today, Opus Dei controls the votes of about one-fifth of Spain's parliamentary deputies, as well as the capital of numerous banks, conglomerates, and construction firms. Its influence has spread to the Vatican, where Pope John Paul II recently recognized it as a "personal prelature"; to Latin America generally, where Archbishop Lopez Trujillo, an Opus Dei ally, is now president of the Latin American Conference of Bishops; to Chile, where the Opus Dei magazine Que Pasa conspired against the regime of Salvador Allende; and to the United States, where David Kennedy, president of

¹ Fried's Landry, Spain, in Washington, 1981.

Continental Illinois Bank, is said to be "a conspicuous friend of the new power brokers in the Order of the Opus Dei."

In France, Opus Dei has had a particularly notable influence, going back as far as 1938. It became strong in the army and among ex-Vichyites and right wing Catholic intelligents. It was said to have influenced Robert Schumann, Antoine Pinay, and Paul Baudouin, former president of the Banque de l'Indochine and Vichy foreign minister. Above all, however, Opus Dei made inroads through Baudouin's protegee Edmond Giscard, who shared a variety of colonial enterprises with the BIC group. Edmond, father of Valery, was president of the Banque des Interets Francais (BIF), of which minority control rested with Opus Dei's Banco popular espanol.

Another Opus Dei connection was forged through the treasurer of Valery Giscard d'Estaing's Independent Republican party, the Prince Jean de Broglie. De Broglie was president of a Luxembourg firm, Sotetex S. A., an affiliate of the Spanish textile firm Hacesa, which was at the center of an enormous Opus Dei-linked financial scandal that rocked the Spanish government in the late 1960s. There is evidence that the Opus Dei-Hacesa network siphoned off money for the campaigns of Giscard, who shared their technocratic, anti-political prejudices. (Hacesa also allegedly donated \$10,000 to the campaign of Richard Nixon for U. S. president in 1968.) These connections between Opus Dei, Giscard, and De Broglie have been raised as a possible motive for the assassination of the prince in December 1976.

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London Times, 12 January 1981; New Times (USSR), 13-82; High Times (US), August 1980; Jesus Ynfante, Un Crime sous Giscard (Paris: Francois Maspéro, 1981).

Italy - Opus Dei's tentacles also reach into Italy, where the organization has lobbied hard in the Vatican against the Jesuit order, in particular by exposing the links between certain Jesuits and freemasonry.³

The Catholic Church, of course, has long been hostile to anti-clerical freemasonry, with the exception of a brief period of liberalization in the late 1970s that was promoted quietly by such leading Jesuits as Father Giovanni Caprile, the official historian of the Vatican. But then, in March 1981, the Holy See reminded the faithful that Catholics "are forbidden under pain of excommunication from joining Masonic or similar associations." The fiasco of the proclamation, which caught many by surprise, was no accident: the Church hierarchy had advance knowledge of, and was disclaiming any responsibility for, the forthcoming scandal over Italy's notorious P2 masonic lodge.⁴

The existence of the lodge had long been known by close observers of the Italian political scene; its name had been raised repeatedly in connection with official investigations of neofascist outrages during the 1970s. But in May 1981 Italian authorities released a list of 963 members—a list that ^{shook} the nation and led to the collapse of the government and the wholesale replacement of military, intelligence, and civil service personnel.

The lodge was headed by Licio Gelli, a wealthy businessman who had fought with the Falange in Spain and then for the fascist Republic of Salo in the last days of Nazi rule in Italy. Gelli's purposes were revealed by his declaration in 1976 that "masonry hates communism because it is contrary to the idea of the dignity of personal individualism, destroyer of fundamental rights, which are the divine inheritance of all men, and enemy of the fundamental masonic principle

³ Il Mondo, 26 June 1981

⁴ Sunday Times (London), 29 May 1981

to have faith in God."⁵ Judging by the membership of the Lodge, Gelli intended to organize nothing less than a counterrevolutionary cell, either to overthrow the democratic state (as several P2 members had attempted in the early 1970s), or to prevent a Communist takeover. The members included three cabinet ministers from the Arnaldo Forlani government; the heads of Italy's three main intelligence services; the chiefs of staff of the army, navy, and defense ministry; the heads of the carabinieri and the paramilitary customs police; 18 members of parliament. 21 judges, top corporate executives, influential journalists, and foreign political and business figures, especially from Latin America. ⁶ Ironically, the Lodge also included the notorious swindler Michele Sindona, banker to the Vatican whose influential American collaborator, David Kennedy, is close to the antimasonic Opus Dei.

Gelli swore his initiates to secrecy and made them take an oath "to aid, comfort, and defend my brothers in the order, even at the risk of my life." An official investigation summed up the significance of Gelli's "state within a state": "Lodge P2 is a secret sect that has combined business and politics with the intention of destroying the constitutional order of the country."⁷

France - One of the many secret dossiers found in Gelli's possession was entitled "Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem." According to the Communist newspaper La Marseillaise, Gelli had direct dealings with the French branch of the Templars. One of the French Templar initiates was Jacques Massie, former leader of the Gaullist Service d'Action Civique (SAC) in the south of France, who was found murdered with his entire family at Auriol on the outskirts of Marseilles. Massie had allegedly been involved in the traffic in arms from

⁵ Il Mondo, op. cit.

⁶ Attenzione, December 1981

⁷ Time, 8 June 1981

Turkey to the Italian Red Brigades and to right-wing hit teams in Spain and Italy. He was accused of diverting more than Frs. 2 million in proceeds from one such deal in March 1981 to finance Glacard d'Estaing's presidential fund, against the wishes of his Gaullist superiors in SAC and the Templars--for which crime he may have paid with his life.⁸ Gelli himself was said to have met in Marseilles with the French Templars, and to have stayed at a villa frequented by extreme right Italians close to SAC and the fascist Ordre Nouveau.⁹

The Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem is the 19th century incarnation of the original Templars who fought to secure routes to the Holy Land for pilgrims during the era of the Crusades. In 1307 Philippe Le Bel, King of France, crushed them and confiscated some of their enormous holdings, ostensibly because they had begun to propagate heretical religious views. Templar Grand Master Jacques de Molay was burned at the stake on March 19, 1314.

Modern Templars, somewhat wishfully, trace their origins all the way back to the 14th century. Members of the Knights Templar did indeed survive the first Inquisition in Portugal and Scotland, where according to tradition they founded the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and the Rosicrucian sect.¹⁰

⁸ New York Times, 17 November 1981; Searchlight, October 1981

⁹ Panorama (Milan), 10 August 1981

¹⁰ French masons, part of a so-called "propaganda" cell, conspired against Louis XVI in the name of the memory of Jacques de Molay. (Michael Balguy, et. al., Holy Blood, Holy Grail (New York: Delacorte Press, 1982), pp. 32-53.) Here it should be mentioned that masonry in France is still of political significance. It is split into several rival organizations. The French Grand Orient is politically liberal, and has sharply attacked the Nouvelle Ecole school in its journal Humanisme (March 1981). The more conservative, pro-British Grande Loge Nationale Franciscaine is based in Neuilly-sur-Seine, and enjoys the support of fellow mason General Lyman Lemnitzer, who inaugurated its new temple in 1964 when he was NATO commander-in-chief. The newer, anti-British faction of the Grand Lodge, called Opéra, includes the occultist and Nouvelle Ecole doyen Louis Pauwels. (Alain Guichard, Les Francs-maçons (Paris: Bernard Grasset, 1969), p. 278; Le Ceyronilliot, February 1981.)

Today the Templar order has branches in numerous Western countries. In the United States it is called the Priory of St. George and includes "many people of good social position."¹¹ In France, its members include key government officials, bankers, and other dignitaries, including Charles de Gaulle's close associate General Zdrojewski, a Resistance hero who headed the order in France. His assistant, Colonel Horeau, had ties to SDECE, the French foreign intelligence service.

Leading Gaullists, most notably Pierre Lemarchand, saw the potential of controlling the Templars to gain occult political influence and intelligence. He ordered a former ranking member of SAC, Charles Lascorz, to infiltrate and take over the Templars. Through fraud and strong arm tactics--methods that came naturally to Lascorz, who was as proficient at blackmail as he was at gold and arms smuggling--Lascorz did take control and staff key offices of the Templars with trusted associates from SAC. Its influence should not be underestimated: as one Lascorz associate observed, "On trouve des templiers à tous les posts chef de la police, de l'armée, de la radio, de la télévision, et des différents ministères. Jamais le SAC n'est parvenu à un tel degré d'organisation et de puissance."¹²

As one authority has noted, "Templars are a veritable industry in France." This holds true both in terms of the endless outpouring of books and articles on the history of the Templars and the Cathars in the Languedoc region (including speculation on the fate of the legendary Templar fortune and the Holy Grail), but also in terms of the proliferation of secret societies. Several societies in France besides the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem harken back to Templar origins. One of these, the monarchist Prieuré de Sion, has recently attracted much attention.¹³ Another even more mysterious "Templar" group was briefly exposed in 1960. It was said to be a secret society with a core group of about 30 members. Like Opus Dei, it was close to Catholic intelligentsia and frangulate circles, with

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Lt. Col. Gayre, The Knightly Twilight (Tulsa, n.d.), 76-79.

¹² S. Ferrand & G. Lecavelier, Aux Ordres du SAC (Albin Michel, 1982).

¹³ Michael Baigent, et. al., Holy Blood, Holy Grail.

connections in Spain and Germany. Its members, supported by OAS cells in Algeria, were said to be extreme monarchists, antimasonic, and anticommunist.¹⁴

One of the leaders of this Templar group was Constantin Meinik, a technical counselor to prime minister Michel Debre. His job was to coordinate the various French police and intelligence services (SDECE, DST, Surete, RG).^{*} It was rumored that he was associated with Radio Free Europe (a CIA project) and was the U. S. Air Force's thinktank, Rand Corporation. Meinik had joined the Rassemblement des Gauches Republicanes whose secretary general, Jean-Louis David, was founder of the CIA-backed Paix et Liberté.

But Meink's family background is in some ways even more interesting. He was born in France of White Russian parents. His grandfather on his mother's side was Eugene Botkin, personal physician to Czar Nicholas II and the imperial family. Botkin was killed by the Bolsheviks, allegedly along with Nicholas and the rest of his family. Botkin's daughter married Constantin Meink Sr. in 1918, and fled to France via the Balkans. Her son, also Constantin, was born in 1927.

Mrs. Meink, along with her brother Gleb Botkin, became a staunch defender of the claims of Anna Anderson to be Anastasia, one of the Czar's daughters whom history recorded as having died with the rest of her family.¹⁵ Her claim does rest upon a substantial body of convincing evidence.¹⁶ Thus we can see that Meink's background would have conditioned him to the sort of conspiratorial, right-wing politics characteristic of emigre White Russian communities.

United States - Anna Anderson was not the only Anastasia claimant; her chief rival in the United States was Mrs. Eugenia Smith. Smith's claims, although considered shaky by the best scholars, were powerfully supported by the testimony of one Michael K. Collinsowski, who hailed from Poland yet claimed to have known Anastasia personally as a child.

¹⁴ Les Documents politiques, diplomatiques, et financiers, April 1960.

¹⁵ Guy Richards, Hunt for the Czar, pp. 142-143. Les Documents, August 1960.

¹⁶ Anthony Summers, The File on the Tsar.

* Meink wrote the introduction to the French edition of the CIA prepared Penkovsky Report.

In his Polish identity, Goliniewski was, verifiably, perhaps the most important official from an East Bloc Intelligence agency ever to defect into the arms of the CIA. Goliniewski joined the Soviet Intelligence apparatus in Poland at the end of World War II, and by 1955 reached the rank of colonel and deputy chief of Glowny Zarzad Informacji, the Polish intelligence agency. His responsibilities included counterintelligence and foreign technical espionage. In April 1958 he contacted the Americans and began passing top secret information to the West. At Christmas, 1960, fearing that his cover was blown, Goliniewski defected to the United States. In all, he transmitted or brought with him more than five thousand pages of documents on Soviet, East German, and Polish intelligence.

His most important contribution was in the field of counterintelligence, the murky world of plugging leaks and catching "moles" who work secretly for foreign services. According to his admirers, Goliniewski's leads and information led to the capture of a small army of Soviet moles in Britain, Sweden, West Germany, Israel, Denmark, and France. His most important catch was the high ranking MI6 official George Blake, whose unmaking led in turn to the exposure of Kim Philby, the most famous mole of all time.

Most disturbing of all, however, for the CIA was Goliniewski's claim that East Bloc Intelligence services were receiving timely information from a source or sources within the CIA itself. According to one CIA counterintelligence officer, Goliniewski was "the first and primary source on a mole" in the Agency. In short, if Goliniewski could be believed, the CIA was as penetrated by Russian agents as the British services had been. His accusations led to a controversy that has raged for more than twenty years over the reliability of U. S. Intelligence. The CIA's counterintelligence chief, James Angleton, was convinced that Goliniewski was a KGB plant or provocation agent, and distanced the Agency from the Polish defector. Nonetheless, Angleton came to accept the claim of a later defector, Anatoli

Golitsin, who confirmed that the CIA had indeed been penetrated.¹⁷

Among the Americans identified by Goliniewski as Soviet agents was none other than Henry Kissinger, whom Goliniewski claimed had been recruited shortly after World War II while working in the army's counterintelligence corps in Germany.

This claim--supported by former army intelligence agent Frank A. Capelli--naturally undermined Goliniewski's credibility in some circles. More damaging, however, was Goliniewski's claim not to be Polish at all, but rather the true heir to the Russian throne, the Czarevitch, son of Nicholas II. According to Goliniewski, he escaped with his father and the entire Imperial family; the execution was merely a politically-contrived cover story.

Goliniewski's announcement immediately made his position at the CIA all the more untenable, yet he was not without influential supporters. His most highly placed admirer was Herman E. Kinsley, a former army intelligence officer who served as the CIA's chief of Research and Analysis from 1954 to 1962. As Allen Dulles's right-hand-man, Kinsley was also said to have been in charge of recruiting assassins for the Agency. Forced out of the CIA with Allen Dulles following the Bay of Pigs fiasco, Kinsley later asserted publicly that Goliniewski had been tested by CIA experts for fingerprints, blood diseases, dental work, and other characteristics and had been confirmed as the Czarevitch.

Others who supported Goliniewski's lineage included the John Birch Society (through its journal American Opinion), the Philadelphia-based lay Catholic Order of the Carmelites (an anti-communist organization), the conservative journalist Guy Richards, the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, and the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta.

¹⁷ David Martin, Wilderness of Mirrors (New York: Harper & Row, 1981), p. 103.

In 1981 the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, the religious arm of the White Russian community, canonized the Imperial family as martyrs to the Bolsheviks. In short, they do not now recognize Goliniewski's claim that the family survived. In 1964, however, the Synod married him in an Orthodox ceremony under the name Alexei Nikolawich Romanov. 18 The Synod's later change of heart may reflect the fact that a major source of its funding, the Tolstoy Foundation, was a leading conduit of funds from the CIA, which had lost faith in, and was trying to discredit, Goliniewski.

Goliniewski's more constant defender was the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta (SOJ) based in Shickahany, Pennsylvania, which asserted a rightful lineage back to the original Knights of St. John of Jerusalem who rivaled the Templars as leaders of armed Christendom in the early Middle Ages. The order claimed its legitimacy from protection granted it by Czar Peter I of Russia in 1798 following Napoleon's seizure of Malta, then the home base of the Knights. Peter I was also the alleged founder of the Secret Circle, a group of Church and Army leaders who pledged to protect God and Country. This clandestine patriotic organization, to which Goliniewski said he belonged, supposedly infiltrated its modern followers into almost every intelligence agency in Europe in order to battle the Bolshevik menace. 19

The SOJ rests upon an ecclesiastical alliance of Roman Catholics, traditionalist Old Roman Catholics, and Russian Orthodox believers. Its members refer to the New Mass as an "unspeakable abomination" and take violent exception to the "infidel marauders" who have corrupted the Vatican in recent years. The order's former grand master, Col. ^(Haworth) Pichel, said that the foundations of Christianity were "about ready to face destruction" from the "world menace of Marxism and Moscow" unless the Catholic Traditionalist Movement and the SOJ could turn the tide. 20

18 Peter Kolyptina letter to author, October 10, 1981; Guy Richards, Imperial Agent (New York: Devin Adams, 1966), p. 247.
19 Richards, pp. 91-93.
20 Col. Thourct Pichel, History of the Hereditary Government of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta (Shickahany, Pa., 1970)

Another spokesman refers to the SOJ as "the army of the Catholic Church," and boasts that as an army the SOJ devised a tunnel finder device for use by American troops in Vietnam. 21

The SOJ's membership reads like a who's who of military and intelligence veterans. Its two "associate chiefs of international intelligence" in 1970 were Herman Kinsey and a former army intelligence officer, Kyrl de Shismarev. Shismarev, whose father had commanded a regiment in Russia's prewar Imperial Guard, had known Alexei Romanov as a youth and vouched for Goliniewski. 22 On the order's "military affairs committee" sat, among others, Maj. General Charles A. Willoughby, Douglas MacArthur's chief of G-2 in the Pacific Theater, and a renowned right winger; Lt. General P. A. del Valle, a member of the neo-Nazi Liberty Lobby and the racist National States Rights Party; 23 Admiral Charles M. Cooke, former commander of the Far Eastern Fleet and an unofficial adviser in 1950 to the armed forces of the Republic of China; and Lt. Colonel Phillip Corso, a 20-year veteran of army intelligence who went to work for Senator Strom Thurmond (R-SC) and once sued liberal columnist Drew Pearson for defamation. 25

21 James Nathan, In the Order of St. John Masonic? (Rockford, Ill.: Tan Books, 1973).
22 Shismarev helped Goliniewski track down the remnants of the Czar's fortune. One of Shismarev's contacts was his "old friend and retired banker" Rudolph Iselin of Basle, whose (son?) Felix was an IG Farben agent before and during World War II.
23 Del Valle has charged--in the spirit of Goliniewski and Frank Capell--that "the conspiracy headed by Dr. Kissinger is clothed in pseudo legality through our surrender . . . of our armed forces." (Washington Observer, 1 May 1971)

24 Guy Richards calls Corso "one of the most remarkable men in Washington." Corso, he writes, "has made personal friends in the CIA, FBI, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency, Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps whose loyalty to him transcends bureaucratic boundaries whenever they believe the interests of the country are at stake." (Imperial Agent, p. 24)
25 Drew Pearson also happened to be one of Goliniewski's detractors, thanks to CIA leaks. Corso was a leading Goliniewski defender. (Imperial Agent, 267)

Finally, the Honorary Grand Admiral of the SOJ is Admiral Sir Barry Domville, a former British Intelligence chief who was interned during World War II as a fascist sympathizer.²⁶

Golinswski's leading defenders in the SOJ have a curious but important relationship to the unfinished investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. For example, the army intelligence officer Philip Corso identified Lee Harvey Oswald as a CIA "asset" and named the alleged CIA officials whom Oswald allegedly contacted in Moscow during his "defection" to the Soviet Union. The CIA's Herman Kimsey, righthand man to Allen Dulles who later served on the Warren Commission, allegedly had first hand information implicating the KGB in the assassination. In this scenario, Oswald thought he was working for U. S. intelligence when the KGB duped him into joining the plot as a patsy.

Kimsey, now dead, has a spokesman in Hugh McDonald, former chief of detectives of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's department, who says he also served as an army intelligence officer and CIA contract agent. In the fall of 1964, Kimsey, having retired from the CIA with Dulles, was working for McDonald, then chief of security for Republican presidential candidate Barry Goldwater. Kimsey allegedly told McDonald at that time details of the plot to kill Kennedy. The actual assassin, Kimsey maintained, was a contract killer sometimes employed by Kimsey on behalf of the CIA. In his book Appointment in Dallas (1975), McDonald says he tracked this killer down in London and learned from him that the paymaster for the hit, codenamed "Trot," set Oswald up as a patsy.

Who was Trot? McDonald "reveals" in his later book, LBJ and the JFK Conspiracy, that the KGB planned the assassination between 1961 and 1963. Interestingly enough, McDonald's co-author, Robin Moore, produced the film Hecarthur with funds from the Unification Church of Sun Myung Moon, whose New

²⁶ Col. Pichel, History, op. cit.

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York newspaper News World has accepted Golinswski as the Carevitch.) The John Birch society organ American Opinion, which also backs Golinswski, buys the McDonald thesis and suggests that Trot was none other than George de Mohrenschildt, a White Russian petroleum geologist with strong connections to French and American intelligence who became Oswald's patron in Texas in 1962 and 1963. American Opinion acknowledges as the source of this hypothesis the veteran army intelligence officer Frank Capell, who succeeded Col. Pichel as head of the Shickashiny order and who, as we have seen, defended Golinswski's assertion that Kinsinger was a Soviet agent.²⁷

But Capell was not the first to finger de Mohrenschildt. In 1967, according to an FBI memo, McDonald himself and his friend Leonard Davdov, a fellow CIA contract agent, friend of Kimsey, and Goldwater security staffer sought information about de Mohrenschildt's involvement in the assassination from I. Irving Davidson, a CIA-connected Washington lobbyist for Haiti, a country where de Mohrenschildt was actively pursuing business deals and intelligence missions.²⁸

In short, the McDonald/Kimsey/Capell network appears to have been a disinformation clique centered around the SOJ, and aiming to smear the Soviets (and Goldwater opponent Lyndon Johnson) with responsibility for one of the great political crimes in American history. But there is a special relevance here for the Golinswski case. Following the JFK assassination a Soviet defector^{U.S. Nozko} claimed in his CIA debriefings to have had access to the Oswald file in the Soviet Union, and to know that Oswald was never recruited or even questioned by the KGB during his stay in that country. Rosenko's story fell down on numerous points, and the CIA's counterintelligence branch concluded that he was a provocation agent, a KGB

²⁷ American Opinion, March and February 1976 on Golinswski and the JFK assassination.

²⁸ House Select Committee on Assassination, appendix, pp. 57-59.

agent meant, among other things, to mislead the United States about Oswald's relationship with Soviet intelligence. This interpretation of Nosenko's defection has been adopted by the journalist Edward Epstein, who concludes in his book Legend that Oswald did shoot the president and that both he and de Mohrenschildt had worked for the KGB. Epstein is now an avid defender of Goliński, whom he refers to as Romanov.²⁹ The fact that Nosenko was ultimately rehabilitated within the CIA, and the counterintelligence bureau decimated in a purge that culminated in late 1974 with the firing of James Angelton, suggests to Epstein that Goliński was right: The CIA has been penetrated at the top by one or more Soviet "moles" who protected Nosenko at the expense of loyal agency officials. Thus the Epstein/McDonald/Kimsey scenario for the JFK assassination is implicitly supported by their position on the Goliński/mole question.

The stakes are high in this controversy: nothing short of blaming the KGB for the assassination and exposing leading CIA officials as traitors. But the matter goes farther than that. In a recent issue of Commentary magazine, Epstein argues that the United States should shun arms control negotiations with the Soviet Union because the CIA's ability to verify such an agreement has been neutralized through "disinformation" and double agents within the agency. Although Epstein does not cite the Goliński case directly, his argument is a direct outgrowth of his conclusions reached through conversations with that defector and with veterans of CIA counterintelligence. Thus the twenty-year dispute over Goliński's bona fides continues to impinge on the highest levels of national policy.³⁰

²⁹ Howton Post, 30 May 1981.
³⁰ Commentary, July 1982.

A note on SMOM - The SOU is not recognized by most historians as the legitimate successor to the crusading Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. The "true" organization is, instead, generally accepted to be the papal order, Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The 10,000 members of this order, scattered throughout the globe, are pledged to defend the Church and to carry on the hospitalier tradition of the original knights. According to Steven Birmingham, "The Knights of Malta comprise what is perhaps the most exclusive club on earth. They are more than the Catholic aristocracy; they are the nobility, royalty. While the Knights of Columbus are associated with lodge meetings and bingo, the Knights of Malta can pick up a telephone and chat with the Pope." A total of forty countries recognize SMOM's sovereignty and accredit its ambassadors.* SMOM also issues passports and stamps that are valid in some countries, particularly in Latin America.

SMOM's membership suggests an occult political significance rivaling that of Italy's P2 lodge. Indeed, there was considerable overlap between the two, even though staunch Catholics like those in SMOM have long been barred away from freemasonry. One of Licio Gelli's closest collaborators was the SMOM ambassador to Montevideo, Umberto Ortolani, who gave Gelli refuge after his flight from Italy. Ortolani was also the Uruguayan representative of the recently failed Banco Ambrosiano in Italy. Other joint members of SMOM and P2 included Admiral Giovanni Torrisi, chief of staff for defense; General Giulio Grassini, head of the internal intelligence agency Sisdic; General Giuseppe Santovito, head of military espionage and counterintelligence; Sime; General Giovanni Allavena, an officer in the old intelligence agency Sifar; and Giovanni Galdi, president of the Banco di Roma. Altogether at least three presidents of the Republic, three prime ministers, and five chiefs of staff were members of SMOM.

In the United States, the list is no less impressive. Leading businessmen, politicians, and professionals have eagerly joined its ranks: Frank Sinatra even *The Vatican recently upgraded its relations with SMOM to ambassadorial level (AP 1-11-83)

turned to his mafia contacts in an unsuccessful bid to become a member. But a significant number of intelligence veterans are also members. These include William Casey, currently director of the CIA; John McCone, former director of the CIA; and Clare Booth Luce, a member of President Reagan's foreign intelligence advisory board. Two of the highest honors bestowed by the Italian branch of SHOM were awarded in 1946 and 1948 respectively to James Angleton, then a young ^(who would later take charge of the Vatican desk at CIA) veteran of OSS and Reinhard Gehlen, the Nazi spy who oversaw the postwar reconstruction of German intelligence under CIA auspices. ³¹

The Angleton connection to SHOM is suggestive in view of his opposition to the SOJ-backed Michael Goliniewski. ³² The existence of so many intelligence veterans in both Knights of Malta organizations, and their polarization around the Goliniewski issue, may point to the existence of powerful cliques within the American intelligence community. We have other evidence of just such a phenomenon. Former CIA officer David Atlee Phillips ^{was} ^{of} "that small circle of well-bred, highly educated adventurers who were known to some in the CIA as the 'Knights Templar'--Allen Dulles, Frank Wisner, Kermit Roosevelt, Tracy Barnes, Dick Bissell, and kindred spirits." ³³ Other CIA veterans have confirmed the existence of similar associations within the agency, with names like the "Century Group" and the "Gold Key Group." Further research is obviously needed to uncover the membership and significance of these secret societies within the intelligence agencies themselves.

³¹ Kevin Coogan, "The Men Behind the Counterrevolution," Parapolitics/USA, VI: L'Espresso, 28 June 1981.

³² Angleton did, however, have an obscure connection to SOJ through his early literary mentor, Ezra Pound. Pound refers in his later cantos to P. A. del Valle, a member of the SOJ military affairs committee. And Mary Pound de Rachewilz met her husband Boris at a picnic with the Princess Troubetskoi, whose husband is one of the leaders of the Fichtel order.

³³D. A. Phillips, Marble March (New York: Atheneum, 1977), 123.

These examples of the role of secret societies in Western society are hardly exhaustive. One could mention the fascist-inspired Ordre de Jacques Cartier which ruled the province of Quebec for thirty years and still exercises ^(The Grand Tale group is British and the Communist Party, saw this as enormous influence) the powerful Brotherhood in South Africa; or, leaving the West, the Triads and other societies that organize the social and political fabric of overseas Chinese communities.

Even with these few examples, however, it should be clear that secret societies continue to proliferate in the "modern" world and, in some specialized spheres at least, can influence or even decide important policy debates. Their methods, needless to say, are non- or antidemocratic, which explains the authoritarian character of so many of them. Essentially secret societies like those described here are instruments designed to covertly seize state power. Because they rely so heavily on secrecy as a modus operandi, it would seem that, as in Italy, exposure is the best means to dismantle them. This article is a call for further work in exactly that direction.

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