

Section 89

File No: 29-113 Delegation: JPK Communication

Date: 10/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
10143	4/15/77	mem memo to Dir LHM	2	0	b7cD 62-109060-7726 previously processed
10142	4/15/77	mem memo to Dir	3	0	" 62-109060-7726
10141	4/13/77	KX memo to Dir	1	1	b7c
10140	4/7/77	WD 300 BLANCHE PRESTON	3	3	b7c REFER CIA 62-109060-7740
10139	4/8/77	RD airtel to Dir RENE	2	0	Previously processed REFER CIA 62-109060-7740
10138	4/8/77	WD 300 "Blanche" <sup>RENE</sup>	2	0	" REFER CIA 62-109060-7721
10137	4/13/77	Dir airtel to Dir (Jany Wherry)	2	0	" ADDITIONAL MATERIAL RELEASED BASED ON APPEAL REVIEW 11-81
10136	4/16/77	WD 300 of individual	23	23	" 62-109060-7726 APPEAL REVIEW 11-81
10135	4/11/77	WD 300 of individual	4	0	" b7c REFER CIA 62-109060-7734
10134	4/16/77	RD airtel to Dir	2	0	" REFER CIA 62-109060-7727
10133	4/14/77	RD airtel to Dir	3	0	" REFER CIA 62-109060-7711
10132	4/13/77	very teletype to Dir, AS per	6	0	" 62-109060-7711

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 4/6/77

(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED]

A copy was subsequently made of this tape which contained the following transcription:

Oltmans (O) - I think it is a very important story and I think you might as well have it on tape. And it is for me a kind of extra carefulness, I will be even more precise if I do it on tape than when I just talk with a friend. I feel better protected.

I tell you what happened. I appeared for the Committee of Assassinations on the 11th of February at the request of the, the Committee who had heard that I had done for NOS (phonetic) television a lot of research on the Kennedy assassination and done a lot of television films with Jim Garrison and Loren Hall and DeMohrenschildt and all these people. So I came on the 11th of February and I listened more to them for an hour. In the chair was Deputy Chief Counsel Robert Tannenbaum with four others along with Ken Klein and some others.

Question (Q) - Sprague was not there?

O - No, Sprague was not there.

Q - Over in the old FBI Fingerprint Building?

O - No, it was in annex two.

Yes that's the old FBI building.

O - Oh, I didn't know.

It was to be the FBI Fingerprint.

O - Oh, I had no idea where I was.

Interviewed on 4/31/77

at Washington, D. C.

DL #89-43

File # 62-109060

(b)(7)(c)  
by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Date dictated 4/6/77

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89-43-10136

I sort of felt my way. What is this committee and what do they want to know and I didn't want to tell them too much. I was on my way to Dallas, anyway and I had the feeling something was going to happen there. So I shut up a little bit. And I came to Dallas on the 23rd of February to address the Mary Craig class, that's one of those classy ladies' clubs, in the woman's club, and it was a repeat performance. And I called the lawyer of Mr. George DeMohrenschildt. George S. DeMohrenschildt, you'll find him in the Warren Report, 250 pages, a Russian count and petroleum engineer immigrated to the U. S. before the war, became a citizen in '49, worked with all the big oil companies and was Lee Harvey Oswald's closest friend.

Q - A friend of Marina, too?

O - A friend of Marina too.

Q - A member of the Dallas Russian Community?

O - Right, exactly, that guy.

Q - What's the name of the Quaker woman Mrs. Ah?

O - Not Ruth Stapleton but it is something like that.

Q - I didn't say Ruth. I was in Dallas when the President got killed. I was in the room when Oswald was killed.

O - You were there?

O - So I'll tell you what happened. In 1966, I went to talk to the Mary Craig class in Dallas and flew from Kennedy to Dallas on an American Airlines plane and who was on the flight - Margaret Oswald, the mother. So I said to her, I went to her and said "May I sit with you" and she said "how do you know who I am," I said, "The whole world knows you," and so that started nicely and I talked for two and a half hours during the flight with her. And that set me off on, well then maybe Oswald was not alone. It started something because I'm a foreign journalist, of 20 years working with United Nations Headquarters. I went to the Kennedy funeral, I thought it was a very sad affair but I accepted more or less the Warren Report and I'm not in that kind of reporting at all. But Margaret Oswald planted with me a seed of maybe something is going. So I went to Dallas, I scouted around and I hit George DeMohrenschildt. And this George DeMohrenschildt acts so, I found very strange, why would this guy be so close to Lee Harvey Oswald. So I called DeMohrenschildt at request of NOS Dutch television, national Dutch television, the big one. National Dutch television is the official one and they

asked me to call DeMohrenschildt and I did and he said okay, in two weeks, this was in '66, "in two weeks I will give you an interview I have to go to a Mexican oil conference so call me in two weeks." Then my head of my Dutch television said Carl Enkelaar, he said, he's still on the job, I had him on the phone this morning, he said, "I think George DeMohrenschildt is a strange guy, you have approached him, you might have entered into the inner circle of the Kennedy assassination. Why don't you go to Robert Kennedy in your New York Office, Senate's office on 46th Street and tell him about it. So I went to see Tim Hogan, his press officer, and Tim said, "I'll tell the Senator the story, George DeMohrenschildt, we think he has something to do with it, and I'm going to phone him and I will need protection." My television station wants me to report it to the FBI, and maybe Bobby has an idea.

Robert Kennedy came at 1:00 o'clock in the Caroline from Albany, made a speech there, Tim Hogan told him. Robert Kennedy picked up the phone and called Edgar J. Hoover. Who put the chief of the Criminal Division on the job. At 4:00 o'clock that same afternoon that Monday the 3rd of April, 1968, three months before the Kennedy assassination, then the FBI came to my house at 7 Island. They stayed for two hours asking questions and I played dumb and said, ask my boss in the Netherlands, I'm only a messenger boy. They said you are from now on under surveillance 24 hours. The next evening I drive on West Side Drive and I have never had an automobile accident and I drive and a car is next to me and at a certain moment I had the wrong reflex, the car cut me off and I hit the island, my car was totally demolished. I went to the hospital. It's a long story, I leave the country. I said this is not kosher, I'm going, the day after I asked the FBI. So I went away, after a year I filmed George DeMohrenschildt, 45 minutes in Dallas, this is live for NOS television. It was half a year later, it was October 15, 1968. And then in 1969 I liked him, but then I knew instinctively he was full of shit. So in 1969 I went again to Dallas and I taped in the CBS studio in Dallas nine hours Mr. and Mrs. DeMohrenschildt on the entire Oswald affair from beginning to end. One of the nine tapes is now with the Commission; they sent for it and I gave it to them. I also gave them a complete television film reel from all the films I did on the Kennedy assassination for NOS television. It was delivered there and they signed for it. Over the years till this year I have visited DeMohrenschildt at least twice or three times a year. Stayed with them and ah

Q - How old is he?

Q - Sixty-five, I became very, very pleasant friends they became with me. And I have a correspondence of some hundred letters in long hand written between DeMohrenschildt and me over to Holland and back. I left Dallas in November of last year, 1976, coming from the West coast and I called routinely to the DeMohrenschildts'. I wasn't planning to stay but I got his wife on the phone and she said "George is in the hospital, already several months. He's very, very ill, you can't see him. I would love to talk to you" but I said the wife drinks too much, I don't want to bother you too much, so I called the lawyer. The lawyer of DeMohrenschildt is called Pat S. Russell, do you want his telephone number? He said well it was very serious. George is suffering from a persecution complex. He has been four months already in a mental hospital. He has had the heaviest shock treatment anybody can get, but I said "Pat, how is this possible, this man, I've know him for ten years. Winning all the tennis cups in Dallas, jogging every day three miles always something, how could this happen. How can this man from one day to the next go into a mental hospital?" He said well that's a very strange story, we don't know exactly what happened but suddenly he was crazy. Now I became worried but this is what happened. George DeMohrenschildt started to write a book about the Oswald affair and the book was ready the first week of June of last year, 1976. He wrote me in January, 1976, that he was writing the book and making two pages about me and he sent me the pages and he asked that I agree to the pages. I sent him ten pages back because I said your pages are very bad and there is so much more on it and here is the whole story. And he wrote me back. I am amazed that you write so well and that I would be included in the book. In June the book was ready.

Q - Who published it?

O - The manuscript was ready. His wife read it and hit the ceiling, if you publish this book you'll go to jail because it linked into the assassination apparently. He mentioned names of CIA and FBI people from beginning. This book is apparently something that is very unpleasant for a number of people. So he now says that the moment that book was finished, his wife read it and one day he felt terrible, and he was sure he was drugged. After a few weeks he was absolutely sure that he was drugged with LSD or God knows what, he was drugged and he became incoherent and then was brought to a mental hospital. There he stayed for three months. He was treated by a doctor called Mendoza. Now I don't know and I was in the process of working on it but the hospital wasn't open, he has disappeared from the U. S. in the meantime so I couldn't get the story complete.

So he was in November in the hospital and I came on the 23rd of February to Dallas for the Mary Craig class. Called ? and he said George is out of the hospital, his wife left him for good, he's in California. He is getting one hour a day French at Bishop College again in Dallas, if you want telephone numbers I can get them all from Bishop College, and he is still y, very nervous but he's more or less all right. I said can I have lunch with you? And he said yes, we will have lunch at 12:30 at the at the Sepango (ph) Club on the 23rd of February, and I'll try to see whether George wants to join us. And damnit, I came there and there was George, Mr. Russell, a friend of Mr. Russell and me. Now, when I saw this guy I simply couldn't believe my eyes. From one year to the other he was a totally different person. He was a scared, frightened, strange man. I was absolutely - it was unbelievable. And he said to me in French during the lunch, he whispered, he talked very slowly, softly that he had been waiting for me to show up and that he needed to talk to me immediately. Now the lawyer apparently wasn't too anxious for me to take off with George. I don't know why. Where the lawyer exactly stands in this affair is still an enigma to me, he does not speak foreign. Anyway, he had set it up so I would as his friend sightseeing at the zoo in Dallas, or some idiotic thing, and I didn't give a damn, so I went with George because for 11 years I trailed the guy, knowing he was lying, at least keeping it for possible that his story about Oswald loving Kennedy and he would have never shot Kennedy and Oswald was a bright guy. I always listened to him. I never wrote in those 11 years a single line. I kept working. I shut up, a few articles, but mostly one or two at the most. I said no, I waited. I waited, I waited. And damnit, he dragged me to Bishop College on the afternoon of the 23rd of February and we sat down in the library. And the opening statement was the following: "Willem, how would it hit the media if I came out and said that I feel responsible for Oswald's behavior?" I said, in other words, what Oswald did? And I said shot or not shot but he was involved in the shooting or not shooting, you, that links you to the shooting of the President of the United States. He said, I realize that and I don't want to incriminate myself directly. But I am convinced and I know that Oswald denied this, what Oswald finally set up we completely agreed upon. I said, but you were in Haiti at the day of the assassination. He said, yes, and he laughed about that. And then we talked for about one and a half hours. I was asking questions but he was - you see, here was a guy very cleverly saying look, of course Oswald, I knew exactly what Oswald was going to do and I have approved of it. I said, but how - well, because, we both shit on America. This society is going down, Kennedy was a symbol of disgusting - I have other letters of DeMohrenschildt

to prove that this is what he wrote me for ten years how he feels about this society and this country. I knew that all along. But I said, George, do you want to come out and make the statement on television? He said, yes, but never in America. I am being followed, I am being searched, my house is - I find my house all the time searched.

Q - Is he a citizen?

O - He's a citizen, U. S. citizen, American possible. He became a citizen in '49. So I am scared to death. Then I first have to get out of the country. And I said well, it's very simple, listen. I took a dime and went to a telephone booth in the building of the library and I called collect to the head of Dutch television that I mentioned before, Mr. Enkelaar, I said Carlo, it took 11 years but he starts talking. What shall I do? He's very nervous, he's off his rocker. But even crazy people have clear moments, you know. At least it sounded to me for the first time that this nervous situation was much more genuine. I thought as if I saw the real DeMohrenschildt for the first time cutting all the shit out. But he was dancing because he realized what his lawyer told him about. His lawyer told me, Willem, be careful because George will go straight to jail if he says anything like that. I don't know what the man knows. It's a very fish affair anyway because, he must have been under hypnosis in that hospital. He must have been under drugs or maybe he spilled the whole goddamned thing, God knows what came out of that.

Q - Does he drink too?

O - He doesn't drink, he doesn't smoke, oh a pipe. He's never drunk. I've never seen him. His wife is the one.

Q - Is his wife Russian also?

O - Yes. She's born of Russian parents in China. He worked on railways in China something like that. So, Mr. O'Leary, I called the Dutch chief, and he said Willem, this is very interesting, this could be a breakthrough. Bring the guy to Holland. I said, that seems simple, said but that will be quite an operation. Do anything you want, get the guy to Holland. So those were my orders and that is what I worked on. For three days we would go to the Cliff Oak Bank in Dallas and he would empty his entire account in checks to leave for Holland and then he would go to the Dallas bank for his other account to empty and he would stand on the steps of the bank and walk back to the car and say I can't do it. This went on for three days and I got fed up and said George, goodbye, solve your own crisis, I think you're off your rocker. But in the meantime I think it's very important what you

have to say because you have to come out this truth because you will go crazy. For 15 years you bullshitted about it. So he said yes. I want to, I want to. They injected me the "indecision drug," things like that. Then I left for Houston. I continued my trip. Then from Houston I called him and he said, well, I would still like to talk very much to you. I won't go to Holland. I still want to talk to you very much. So I called Dutch television and I said I have to go back it's a waste of time, but . . . go back. So I flew back on the 27th of February to Dallas and checked into the Daily Plaza Hotel . . . and George called on the morning of the 28th and said "Willem, I want to talk to you." He had a meeting in the morning or at 3:00 o'clock and after that meeting at Bishop College he would come to my house, my hotel. He came and we talked for two hours and he said, yes, yes, I want to go, I want to tell the story as previous, but I'm afraid and I have a miserable feeling about it, it's such a state because I hadn't seen him for ten years. So I had dinner with his lawyer, Bob . . . then at 11:00 o'clock comes the call, Willem, are you in bed? I was in bed but I didn't say it. I said no. Can I come over? I said sure. So I cleaned the bed and he came over at 11:15 and said, we are now going to Holland. I said George, it's a little late, I want to have a nice sleep and we'll go tomorrow morning. If you have decided, we can go tomorrow. We'll go now because otherwise I will never go.

I have bought my paintings at the Bishop College and a girl, her boyfriend, a Negro, student of 41, and my apartment is empty. I've packed and we'll go now to Bishop and we dragged my car to Houston to KLM plane. I said okay, if I can drive because I don't trust you driving, you are so nervous. So we drove in his car to Bishop College at 1:15, picked up the luggage, drove all night to Houston, checked into the Holiday Inn. I called Holland for the tickets and we flew on Eastern Airlines first class at noon to Kennedy. Bought the damn tickets, something was mixed up. I got so mad I checked into the Waldorf Astoria. We stayed there for the night and he changed very much the moment we left Dallas and he became like the man I had known him. He relaxed. He became, we went out with friends of mine in New York for dinner and flew the next morning at 10:00 o'clock Pan Am Jumbo jet at London. We arrived at 9:00 in the evening and stayed at the Britania Hotel, we had dinner with friends of mine. He relaxed more and we arrived in Amsterdam on March 3 at 1:30 in the afternoon. In the evening we had the first meeting, he stayed at my house in Amsterdam. In the evening of the 3rd of March we had the first meeting with the head of Dutch television Carl Enkellar and he confirmed that he would like to tell the whole story of Oswald and his relationship to Oswald and how he felt that led to the assassination of President Kennedy. We agreed

that the next day we would have a meeting with another financier of the whole project, the president director of Stringho Publishing Company, our nations biggest publishing house, and that took place from three in the afternoon to seven that evening and George agreed that Tuesday he would be presented with proper contracts for movies, for books, for the whole damn thing. He stay at a hotel nearby for four to six weeks at the expense of the publishing house and he would have a staff of people to work this whole thing out in six weeks. Now, he surely didn't plan all these things to say, the same things he had said already. We called that Friday afternoon the fourth of March, the lawyer in Dallas and he taped the conversation and said Pat, George says the manuscript is in your office. Yes, he said, it's true. I have it. It is in the DeMohrenschildt file. I said if we come to Dallas can we pick it up because George needs it. And he said we will discuss it. So apparently his wife has rights on it or something. Anyway, so George was very upset that he didn't have the manuscript. He said they took everything away while I was in a mental hospital. I have nothing left and I'm going crazy. Good. On Saturday, I said, George, we have to wait until Tuesday, you studied in Belgium, shall we drive to Brussels, you haven't been there in 20 years. I wanted to keep him - and in the meantime I was trying to get more information by talking about the . . . but all the time I tried to get more. We go to Brussels and we meet a friend of mine at the Metropole Hotel at 1:30 and he says, well you talk with him. I'll go for a walk and in an hour I'll come back and we'll have lunch. I said fine, go ahead. He never returned from that walk.

Q - Where did he go?

O - You tell me.

Q - You mean you never seen him since?

O - We reported on Monday that he had disappeared. On the 7th of March we had reported in the evening to the U. S. Embassy in The Hague that the guy was missing.

Q - He disappeared in Brussels?

O - He disappeared in Brussels. God knows where he is.

Q - You reported it to the U. S. Embassy?

O - U. S. Embassy on Monday, yes, on Monday evening. I had dinner with my television and publishing people March 7, and we decided we better call the Embassy, the guy is gone.

Q - Last week?

O - Yes.

Q - Did you see McClosky, Ambassador McClosky?

O - Yeah, his press officer, McClosky, yes, I have left him a - but I made the call in the evening. I called David Gillespie, the press officer, who told McClosky immediately. And he was put on the list of missing persons. And David Gillespie, Jake Gillespie, knew DeMohrenschildt, exactly who he was and everything because his brother was a professor at Stanford or something like that, the brother of DeMohrenschildt use to be. And Gillespie had - the brother of DeMohrenschildt, so he knew exactly who we were talking about and they were very excited. On that Monday evening when we returned from dinner at 11:00 o'clock I got a call from Brussels from a man saying his name was Genta. And he said Mr. Oltmans, DeMohrenschildt has left for the United States. He has asked me to go to Amsterdam to pick up his belongings, because everything George had in the . . . from Bishop College was at my house. And then I drove back, he only had his attache case with his checks and his passport which he always carried. And I'm drove back to Amsterdam from Brussels and I said, the bastard, he must have planned it all along. When I come into the bedroom he couldn't take his suitcases, but he has taken his toothbrush.

Well he has it planned because his pipe was on the bed. His change, his keys, everything was on the bed. And all of his stuff including his toothbrush. He must have changed his mind on the spur of the moment. Well in that nervous strain he takes very strange positions. So I told Mr. Genta to go and screw himself. I don't know and I wasn't interested, I was so mad anyway, I don't know, he spoke bad English. I have no idea. Everybody is looking for him now in Europe . . . magazine and the AP. I didn't know him from Adam who he was and I didn't want the call so I said Mr. Genta, it is very kind of you to call. I have nothing to do with you, Mr. DeMohrenschildt wants his stuff, he just calls me. Goodbye, goodnight. It was stupid. I should have tried to get an address or something.

Q - Did you go to Dallas to see if he ever showed up?

O - Of course. I'll tell you why, I have built in some ways to check immediately where he shows up. His car driven up to Houston - my friend David Russell, very close friend of mine who lives in Houston. So I said to George, don't worry, David will take your car and look for it. So he was not that mad. At the Holiday Inn he made David Russell sign a statement which he had written out in longhand that he would look out for it that he

was responsible, and that he would insure it, and David signed it. I'm going for the weekend to Galveston with my friend David to the beach in George DeMohrenschildt's car. I'm flying this afternoon to Houston. That's David's joke over the phone . . .

Q - Is David Russell any relation to Pat Russell?

O - No, no, that's just the name Johnson, you know. Even one newspaper wanted to call David to know if he was really driving DeMohrenschildt's car. You want his telephone number and you can check it. One moment . . . . . Dave's address in Texas is 713-528-7484.

So I now go to David because that's where I stopped.

Q - What does David do?

O - He works for Lady Birds television station, he has a degree in communications and now he's working to make a hell of a lot of money, he managed hotel, Courtland's Restuarant in Houston. He has started a wine business. I think it's best he should stay in this profession, you know that's how I knew him, he was working for television. But he is 26 and you know how these kids are. He can get \$1800 a month in the Courtland's Restaurant and he has a wine business and he wants to go to Europe again so he's dying to make some fast money. He's one of the most intelligent guys I've ever met. Now this is David.

So I arrange for David, David's car had been crashed by his roommate, so it came out very handy that George DeMohrenschildt left . . . I don't know, I don't know immediately because if George ever comes back on our tickets because I gave him the ticket back to Houston. I handed him a return ticket, Houston to Amsterdam, he'll go back to Houston and pick up his car or else he'll have to walk to Dallas. So stay easy, the moment he comes to pick up his car I get a phone call. So that's one way to find out. In the meantime, I brought all his possessions in the bank, Amsterdam - Rotterdam Bank in Amsterdam. I sent the receipt to his lawyer in Dallas and said now if he wants his damn stuff back, I didn't want it in my house, and I'm not in Amsterdam, so he can get his stuff in the Amsterdam bank himself and nobody else. So I have built in some things to know. There is one more if I can think of it, another trick to find out when he surfaces. Now when he surfaces of course. So then I called the Committee in Washington and said while I was there the 11th of February, I didn't say much, I know, but now I have an interesting story. And I'm glad I shut up then because now I would like to tell you something else. So I came to the Committee on Tuesday from 10:00 to 12:00 this week and there was Tannenbaum with four investigators. And I told them, of course, with adventure, but I told them also a lot of quotations of statements that DeMohrenschildt made and replies that he made to questions cause I have pressed them but how can you be responsible.

Side 2

Oswald sent a letter to Hunt. Of course Oswald should know what the hell

Q - That's the so-called Penn Howard letter?

O - Well there must be more because

Q - The FBI told me that the authenticity of the letter was not good but

O - But they are also saying - anyway - DeMohrenschildt said Hunt had been his friend for 20 years. He went to all the Hunt parties; he was very close with him. He laughed a little bit, insinuating, he didn't seem strange. But Oswald wasn't just contacting Hunt by coincidence, that he had also engineered that.

Q - It would be perfectly logical for DeMohrenschildt to know but would be strange for Oswald to know?

O - But DeMohrenschildt put Oswald on the Hunt trail for the money. Now when I asked DeMohrenschildt that Oswald then for organizing this crossfire on Daily Plaza at the direction of George DeMohrenschildt, which I don't think is impossible, but I don't know. And DeMohrenschildt laughed and said that he wasn't around long enough to cash it. So I asked him did he know Ruby? Yes. Have you been at Ruby's? Yes, sure.

Q - I knew Ruby too. For three days.

O - Frankly, a guy like you could probably get ten times more out of this damn DeMohrenschildt than I because apparently I didn't know it but the enthusiasm with which you brought this whole plan, I had the feeling, and I didn't ask a soul. I said let me try to contact this man because maybe he's interested in getting this DeMohrenschildt story. That's all I'm trying to do there.

Q - I looked for DeMohrenschildt in Dallas in 1963 but I only stayed 12 days and then I came back to Washington, but I did find Ruth Padgett. The Secret Service had Marina off in a motel somewhere. I did find Oswald's landlady. Of course I talked to Ruby before he shot - but I thought he was just a police station hanger on. He could have shot Oswald any one of ten times before he did. They kept bringing Oswald out, you know, every hour or so and Ruby was always there and I never understood why he waited until Sunday morning when he could have killed him on Friday night, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon or Saturday night. Oswald was in and out of that cell where we were and Ruby was always there. I didn't like Ruby. I thought he was just a sleazy hang around. He gave me his card. I put it in my pocket. Then when I saw him at this distance shoot.

O - You were there?

Q - Yes I was in the basement. Most of the reporters stayed in bed that day but I got up. And I saw - I'm on the film, half of the NBC film is me coming out the door, looking around and taking a position off camera. But why does DeMorenschildt figure he was responsible for Oswald's conduct?

O - He is not only figuring it he says it as if, maybe I don't understand English well enough, but he isn't saying he's figuring it, he is saying it in a sense of that they together cooked it up.

Q - In so many words?

O - In so many words.

Q - What was his objection to Kennedy? What are his politics?

O - It's in many letters.

Q - Is it an emotional thing or what?

O - No, the system.

Q - He came here as a refugee?

O - Yes, but he fled from the Communists. It is very strange because I think that at heart DeMohrenschildt is, well I would say Nazi, but at heart DeMohrenschildt makes upon me, I never thought he, you see he drove with McGovern stickers on his car and I never believed it. I always saw him - no matter what he told me and no matter what he posed at as a poor college professor, I think he is as right wing and as anti-communist as anybody can be and that he simply played this game with Oswald. Oswald coming from the Soviet Union being critical about certain Union meetings in his factory in Minsk, all the time that I was talking with the DeMohrenschildts' in those ten years about assassination and also on the tapes, they would switch to Russian to coordinate their replies and things like that. I have never thought they were honest about it.

Q - Do you speak Russian?

O - Not a word. So you could imagine they could do anything they wanted. So, it is very fishy.

Q - Did you meet Oswald through Marina?

O - No, not at all. It is on the tape. I had it given to the Committee yesterday.

Q - It was a Russian community?

Yes, it was a Russian Committee. But in the Russian community he heard about Oswald and Marina and he drove to Fort Worth with a Soviet, a Russian Colonel Orlov (ph). I don't know who he is but he mentions him on the tape. It's all for the Committee to find out and ask questions about. And they went to look for Oswald - his friend Orlov and he and that is how they met looking for Oswald.

Q - When?

Well it's all on the tape. I couldn't say by heart. It must be '61.

Q - Sometime after Oswald left New Orleans and came . . .

O - No, Yeah, but he was living in Fort Worth.

Q - And Oswald was living in Irving?

O - Don't ask me, I would have to check. You know so much more about this. I cannot compare with you.

Q - But he also had a room with Mrs. Powers.

O - As a matter of fact, when I drove him to the Oak Cliff Bank to get the money, George said, last week, two weeks ago, "This is also where I used to live." That's true.

Q - He had two houses and nobody knows why. Nobody knows why he took a room downtown when he already had a room with Ruth Padget.

O - Now I have told you everything which is traceable. What, I think myself is . . . . .

Q - Except DeMohrenschildt is not traceable himself.

O - But he's playing a game. But he's coming closer.

Q - What's your feeling? Is he hiding or has somebody done him in?

O - Look, I tell you now what my own ideas are but I will never put them in writing, I will never write anything, or tell it on television or nothing. But, I think, summing it up; (A) He might really have been kidnaped, he might really have been put

away by people who don't want him to talk to you. He is in the process of putting on a contract. Probably if he has really been followed, if his phone calls have been listened to etc. etc. - in my house in Holland too - by the Secret Service, then they knew exactly what was going to happen and they wanted him away before. He did it.

Q - Or someone?

O - Okay, that could be one. Second, he's crazy and he simply changed his mind once more and he's in hiding and in two or three weeks he will surface when he gets another crazy attack the other way around. Can be tomorrow, can be in two or three weeks, can be two months. So he has one member in the family, he has one aunt left who is a Russian Princess, or a Countess or something like that or a Dutchess in high society, who visited DeMoghrenschildt two years ago in Texas from the Soviet Union and who lives in the Soviet part of Poland. He talked to me a lot about going to the Soviet Union. I have no idea whether in his fear and in his . . . . that they are chasing him, fled to the goddamned aunt in Soviet Poland. It's a possibility. There are all things possible but I'm not even going to go into it. I don't know. My number one guess is in two or three weeks there will be a telephone call: George picked up his car in Houston. Or there will be a telephone call in Netherlands saying he comes to fetch his luggage and he will be another miserable wreck and Willem what have you done. How could you say all these things you promised not to say. And I will say, look you told all the Dutch publishers and television people you agreed with this setup. And let's try it - that's how we left. And in the middle of the meeting he said, that everybody was present, "Willem, I hate you. I am going to shoot you. You are a devil. You get everything out of me." Everybody was present there.

Q - Is he out of contact with his wife?

O - Completely, he hates her now. He says all his misery is because of her and his lawyer.

Q - Where does she live?

O - I don't know she's in California somewhere.

Q - Are they divorced or just separated?

O - They are completely divorced.

Q - What is her first name?

Jeanne - with two N's and an E.

Q - She's Russian also?

Report.

O - Russian born, yes, in China. It's in the Warren

Q - She's a white Russian?

O - Something like that.

Q - Somewhere in California?

O - She's supposed to be with her brother.

Q - Whose name could be different?

O - Exactly.

Q - Divorced or separated?

O - Divorced, but the divorce is illegal now because after they got the divorce two or three years ago, they started living together again. There is something in the Texas law. There is some hitch to it, that divorce, because she took all his credit cards. Oh, it is interesting for you to know, after he came out of the hospital, they both bought new cars and the lawyer told me, Pat Russell, that they have been untruthful with me because they have always impressed they had no money, no nothing. And then suddenly they came out and bought new cars. So there must have been some money stacked away.

Q - What does he live in, in Dallas, a house?

O - In a very small apartment - 2 1/2 room apartment. Like paupers, they live you see. Like real paupers.

Q - Did you say he was in oil?

O - Until the Kennedy assassination. After the Kennedy assassination they were put out by everybody, turned their back to us.

Q - He drew all his money out of the bank. Did you ever get an idea what he was worth?

O - No idea, he said he had saved \$20,000.

Q - Small.

O - Small, yes.

Q - Strange

The hour that he went to the Oak, you want to check my story, DeMohrenschildt said that his father worked for the Nobel Factories - The Nobel Prize - and the USSR Ambassador in Canada used to be a worker in the Nobel Factories and so he knew his father, so then DeMohrenschildt . . . the Soviet Ambassador came and met him and so I said, well professor you'll be delighted to hear his story. So, we went to that hotel for the luncheon with Kutsnisov.

Q - The three of you?

O - Well, I went with DeMohrenschildt to the hotel and I had lunch.

Q - Did you introduce them?

O - Yes, because Kutsnisov came a half an hour early. So we met at the newsstand. First DeMohrenschildt went to the desk, the reception, and changed money. I don't know how much. Around 1:30 he changed money, and we were just buying postcards and I said shouldn't you write a postcard to your lawyer in Dallas and he said, the son-of-a-bitch, the bastard, he's my bitterest enemy.

Q - The lawyer?

O - The lawyer. Because he and his wife and my wife cooked the whole damned thing - I am in the trouble I am in because of him and my wife, so that's what he said.

Q - But you all went to sit down to lunch . . .?

O - I was about to and I turned around and there was Mr. Kutsnisov a half hour early, he was suppose to be there. So they met about two minutes, talked about the . . . in Russian - talked about the Governor - Ambassador in Caracas of course, because Kutsnisov didn't know who the Ambassador was and didn't know who DeMohrenschildt was.

Q - Was DeMohrenschildt at ease?

O - Very, he was fine. But then he left.

Q - Where did he say he was going?

O - He went for a walk for an hour and back, then you two start to talk and then we have lunch together. So when he wasn't back in an hour Kutsnisov and I sat down in the restaurant and started ordering and I was thinking he lost his way, he'll

show up. But he wasn't there by three. We had almost finished dinner and had told Kutsnisov by that time the whole story you know, and thought Oh my God, what a time, what a story.

Q - Did you have a room in the Metropole?

O - No, I drove there by car. We were going back through Liege because he had studied in Liege. We were going to drive back in the afternoon that's all.

Q - And he had his case with him?

O - That's all - his attache case. And then he did something else crazy. He has a raincoat from Neiman Marcus. I have a raincoat Saks Fifth Avenue. Now mine was clean and his was dirty. So, in the morning I was walking the dog outside. I had my dog with me. I was very impatient because the guy took so long. I was in the street and he came out and had a very clean raincoat and I didn't realize it was mine. So five days later I went to the United States and I packed my raincoat in my suitcase and examined my raincoat was getting very dirty. I should have cleaned it. In New York, I needed it and it fitted me exactly perfect, it was so perfect, and I feel in the pocket and what do I find - his Neiman Marcus raincoat. In the Publishing House on the 4th of March in the private studio we showed him the movie "Executive Action" with Burt Lancaster, he hadn't seen it . . . . . It seemed to be the handwriting of DeMohrenschildt . . . . . this was written in the studio in the presence of two or three witnesses and, and we asked him, Mr. DeMohrenschildt, do you want to see this movie? I said no. Do you like to see it? Yes, that would be interesting. So we moved into the studio. I sat next to him there and watched his face. He asked do many people favor when the movie started. Okay, he was writing a book, so he wanted to have ideas and these are the notes . . . . . I have no idea whether to look at it. This is his handwriting.

Q - The Lyndon B. Johnson material was deleted and a conspiracy took place.

O - What is this? And then he talks about Diem and then he talked about a gun and Oswald.

Q - (reads notes) . . . Madman kills Presidents; conspiracy in Banana Republic; no nuclear . . . by Russians, radar . . . by LHM - who is LHM? L. H. Hunt, Jr., Russian language, . . . discharge at for me Albert Schweitzer, whose name he misspells, college, visit U. S. Embassy January, 1960, Minsk,

Waterford met him as Lee arrived USA - this must be about the movie - I haven't seen the movie. Lee's wife wants Mexico City for visa. That's correct. President Diem and Budist Monks burning themselves immolations 1965. I can't make head or tail, the Mannlicher - Carcano.

O - The Committee took a photostatic copy because it proves that he was looking to be precise and he knows it.

Q - . . . . .

O - I got it because he mixed up the raincoat.

Q - I'll be damned, you still got his raincoat?

O - Yes . . . . .

Q - Has he been reported missing in Dallas?

No, only at the U. S. Embassy in The Hague and he was taken off after I called and somebody said he had gone to the U. S.

Q - No other relatives besides his aunt?

O - No.

Q - Does his lawyer know that he's disappeared?

O - Yes, sure, I called him, I wrote him. I called his lawyer here from Washington.

Q - Is Pat the man's name or Patrick?

O - Pat, and Pat says when I told Pat that he really disappeared and he left everything he had then Pat said that is strange, that is very, very strange. . . . . He repeated that four or five times.

Q - What was the name of the book?

O - "I Am a Patay, I Am a Patsy."

Q - Twice?

O - Twice.

Q - Have you read the manuscript?

O - No, he has sent me the pages about me in the book.

Q - Just the pages about you?

O - I haven't read it but the lawyer confirmed on the phone that the book was in his file in DeMohrenschildt's file.

Q - What kind of a college is Bishop College?

O - A black college.

Q - And he's a professor there?

O - Yes, he told me, "I will be discharged from Bishop in June. I'm 65. My wife ran away. Look, I'm at the end of the line." And then he would say, for instance, in those three days, Yes, No, Yes, No, going to Europe. He would say the next day he would come into my room and say, "Let's face it. I only made up the story because everybody makes a million dollars off the Kennedy assassination and I haven't made anything. So, now it's my time. So you and I know that. I have always . . . . I said of course George, I know and then three hours later or two hours later . . . . I can't live with myself anymore."

Q - What does he look like?

O - Oh, a very aristocratic guy. I said George just . . . . . 300 people he'll live with . . . . . They're all blood. He has filled death. I said George you have very strong eyes because anybody . . . . . you have also received . . . . .

Q - You know it could be awfully significant, horribly significant or it could be utterly insignificant.

O - The Warren Commission has done 240 pages investigating. All directing over the time of him you know. They came to the conclusion that they had never cross examined this man.

Q - Are these FBI interviews?

O - I don't know he would share thought . . . . .

Q - The trouble with the Warren Commission Report is that it's not indexed. I'm in there, I remember, in three places. I had to read all 26 books of it in order to find my own question 18 because I was an eye witness to Oswald. . . . .

O - But I don't know anything about this. I just by instinct, by intuition hit you. But whether it is very forceful or very innocent, it's a story. The best friend of Oswald, he spoke to me because he trusts me. He doesn't trust any man. He says all FBI, or Jewish, the Jewish Mafia, he talks about, is after him because he make pro-Nazi remarks . . . . . and help the Nazis get out of Poland and now he's got the . . . . . on the black list of the Jews and . . . . . anyway. The guy, you see in the eleven years that I knew him, or ten years rather, not eleven years, he was a perfectly normal nice guy. I said there must be something to it, he was working for the French Intelligence during the war. I now know for the first time that his oil contracts with Cuba and Yugoslavia were U. S. Government contracts. Or in other words he . . . . . and in the meantime he was fined and he's confided in me this. I mean this man has had such strange things in his life. He worked for the State Department Intelligence Unit during the war. Anyway he was a very mysterious guy.

Q - When did he come to U. S. the first time?

O - Just before the war because he took a class at Texas University in 1944, as a petroleum Engineer. He graduated in 1945. He became a U. S. citizen in 1949.

Q - And came here before Pearl Harbor?

O - Yes, I think so but it is in the Warren Report you can get his story. But I think it should be told immediately, this story. . . . .

Q - Do you have a picture of him?

O - Yes, but not with me. . . . . If you want it send a telex to the Associated Press in Amsterdam and you'll have it immediately . . . . .

Q - We can get it from Associated Press with one phone call.

O - All over in Holland, it was headlines. So CBS ran an interview with me Wednesday morning at 7:00 o'clock news, 8:00 o'clock news, 8:30 o'clock, four times, something like that . . . . .

Then they took me Wednesday afternoon for an hour and ten minutes in CBS studio here like we did on telephone. They sent it to the Cronkite show and they started cutting like mad, and they came to the conclusion, to do this story justice, you can't rush an object like that so McManus invited me, he said, "I invite you to call me every two days from now on from wherever you are."

Q - Probably thinking about Sixty Minutes.

O - Well they are working on something.

Q - Sixty Minutes or Who's Who.

Yes, they . . . . .

Q - Did you watch James Earl Ray the other night on Dan Rather had him on Tuesday night. You can run almost 20 - 25 minutes, which you can't do on the . . . . .

O - Well it would be nice if "The Star" listen to us you know.

Q - I have to do some checking of course.

O - What telephone numbers do you want?

Q - Oh, I don't need phone numbers. I can get them easily enough.

O - No, but it is faster.

Q - Like Russell in Dallas.

O - Yes, who thinks he is completely off his rocker but who also said, there is something to it you know. I think I have but Russell of course will try to kill the story . . . . .

Q - Tannenbaum I know.

O - Do you have the number?

Q - Yes.

O - I have it.

Q - What Tannenbaum's . . . I have that.

O - Let's check it so that it goes quicker.

Q - 225

O - Yes, that's exactly 225 and then the rest 2396

Q - 4624 is another one . . . . .

O - O.K. now Russell is in Dallas, Pat Russell is in Dallas 522-9230 area code 214. You can tell Pat because Pat warned me to be careful if I told the story to, so if you do it perhaps, but don't omit anything.

Q - He has the manuscript no doubt?

O - Pat has the manuscript.

Q - He has read it no doubt?

O - No, he said he didn't read it. He says on my papers he hasn't read it. He doesn't know I taped it. So he, be careful with him.

Q - He has it in a safety deposit box?

O - No, he said "I have it in DeMohrenschildt's file" so that's that. Pat said "Willem do what you think is right but don't make a story . . . Don't omit that he has been in a mental hospital or that he has a persecution complex. So I tell you the complete story. It's still very interesting that I was in the process of finding out. He was treated by Dr. Mendoza which is very easy to find out where he is, I am stupid. I didn't know the guy was going to flee. I was in the middle of taping all these pieces together.

Q - Well, when you work on things like this people have abrupt changes of mind.

O - Sure, he's really a very nervous case. He's crazy sometimes. But look, I said to CBS Penkouski was in a Soviet mental hospital for seven years . . . . . to invite him into the White House . . . . . So why should I not talk with the guy. . . . . and these people are rational at times too, and I know. You see he is different than anyone else in the world. I know him for 11 years.

Q - Did Ovid Demaris talk to him before he wrote his book?

O - Who?

Q - Ovid Demaris?

O - I don't know anything about . . . . . never heard the name.

Q - How about Mark Lane? Did he ever talk to him?

O - No, no, maybe. Everybody tried to get to him. He wouldn't see anyone. He saw me because I was Dutch.

Q - I tried to look for him too but I didn't find him.

O - He saw me because I'm foreign. I have a Russian grandfather who was a Jew from Poland who also fled of the Soviets and some family in Romania . . . . . So that's why he saw me but that is that. Now who else do you want? We had dinner in New York with a guy called Ken . . . . . Well anyway the guy who had the car is most interesting for you, who's driving his car.

Q - David Russell?

O - Yes, I told David that he might get some calls from the newspapers.

Q - He is in Galveston or Houston?

No, we are going there for the weekend, he's in Houston. You have the number? It is area code 713-528-7484. The head of Dutch television at the moment is in the Netherlands but if you want to talk a representative of Dutch television he has all the film in New York Enkelaar. His name is Ben Von Meerendonk, his office is 212-875-2105 . . . Ben Von Meerendonk. He ought to know, he talks all the time to Enkelaar. He knows the story. We did Dutch television . . . . 25 extra programs on Wednesday night with a complete interview with me and some film with we did on of DeMohrenschildt . . . . It was a hit, the Germans immediately did it too, Deil Stern called me here, they are really on it in Europe but in America I have only talked to McManus and Bill Shioka, something like that yesterday afternoon and he's working for the Fort Worth Ledger and you. Now I have a request, only one request, if you write about it could you send the whole thing, two copies to this address of mine in Amsterdam because I'm driving, traveling in the U. S. . . . . that's Emaerbol.

Q - Post Office box?

O - No, it's my home address.

Q - That's your address?

Yes.