

David B. Perry

4601 Ainsworth Circle

Grapevine, Texas 76051

March 21, 1993

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Dear Harold,

Hope you and Lil are doing OK and Livingstone isn't creating too much havoc. I am enclosing some material with which I hope you can give me some help.

In the endnotes of DiEugenio's Destiny Betrayed, he makes reference to a Navy Department document that purports to show Ruth Hyde Paine was requesting information on the Oswald family in 1957. Of course, DiEugenio has never made copies of this document available for review, at least to the best of my knowledge.

A similar story surfaced in somewhat different fashion in the Summer 1992 issue of Back Channels. In that publication it is a specific record in the hands of the Department of Justice/FBI. I applied for the document (# 105-9987) and received a response from Kevin O'Brien's office. As you can see they have no record of the item. Before I appeal I wonder if you can tell me if the file number is legitimate? Does the prefix reference a specific FBI location?



Dave



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C. 20535

MAR 10 1993

Mr. David B. Perry
4601 Ainsworth Circle
Grapevine, TX 76051

Request No. 368,575

Dear Mr. Perry:

This is in further reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request concerning a memo dated December 17, 1963 pertaining to the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Based upon the information you furnished, a search of the indices to our central records system files at FBI Headquarters revealed no record responsive to your FOIA request.

Although no record responsive to your request was located, we are required to inform you that you are entitled to file an administrative appeal if you so desire. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Department of Justice, Washington D.C. 20535, within thirty days receipt of this letter. The envelope and letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal". Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely yours,

J. Kevin O'Brien

J. Kevin O'Brien, Chief
Freedom of Information-
Privacy Acts Section
Information Management
Division

BACK CHANNELS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF HISTORICAL & MODERN ESPIONAGE,
ASSASSINATIONS & CONSPIRACIES

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A U.S. Dept. of Justice-FBI memo dated December 17, 1963, sheds new light on the relationship between Ruth Paine and Lee Harvey Oswald. In the summer of 1957, Ruth Paine, then known as Ruth Hyde, took a summer class at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She studied Russian and later became a member of a group called the Young Friends Movement which sought the relaxing of tensions between East and West. According to the report (Field Office File #105-9987) a confidential informant wrote "and as a result got into contact with LEE HARVEY OSWALD family through personal activity." This proves a much earlier contact between Paine & Oswald than has previously been accepted.

* * * * *

In his updated version of the book *The Kennedy's: Dynasty and Disaster*, author John Davis points out a possible link between Lee Oswald and Carlos Marcello. Davis writes that an undercover FBI agent who infiltrated Marcello's New Orleans empire, was told by Marcello that he knew Oswald's family and that Oswald was a runner in his (Marcello's) bookmaking scheme during 1963.

* * * * *

Newly released files from the old Soviet Union tell of a continuing Soviet financing of terrorist organizations throughout the world. Over \$200 million went to such groups as the radical *Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine* which targeted both US and Israeli groups, and other organizations. The documents tell of Soviet funding of over 100 terrorist groups in 70 countries.

* * * * *

In June, a French court handed down a life sentence to the famous terrorist Ilyich Ramirez Sanchez, aka Carlos the Jackal. Carlos killed two French policemen who tried to arrest him in a 1975 Paris shoot out. Carlos is wanted for a string of terrorist attacks in the 1970's.

* * * * *

A suspect has been arrested in the 1978 murder of actor Bob Crane. Crane, the star of the show *Hogan's*

Heroes which ran from 1965-1971, was found dead in his Scottsdale, Arizona home with a broken skull. The suspect in the Crane murder is 64 year old John Henry Carpenter, a friend of Crane's.

* * * * *

A report in the *Washington Times* newspaper had disclosed the existence of a top-secret nuclear fallout shelter to be used by government leaders in case of nuclear war. The shelter which was built under the Greenbrier country club-resort in West Virginia, could hold up to 800 people and was totally self-sufficient. With the cold war now over, lawmakers want to close the facility.

* * * * *

The United States Army has decided to reconsider the 1865 complicity charge against Dr. Samuel Mudd (see article in this issue) who set the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth. Booth came to Dr. Mudd's home in Virginia after killing President Abraham Lincoln in April, 1865. The current petition was brought by Dr. Richard Mudd, the 90 year old grandson of Dr. Samuel Mudd.

* * * * *

In the early 1960's, a Soviet Colonel in Military Intelligence named Oleg Penkovsky offered his help in securing secret documents concerning Soviet missile and other important information for the West. Penkovsky worked for both the CIA and the British M.I.6. In order to feel truly welcome in his new role, Penkovsky asked that he be allowed to be given the rank of Colonel in both the British and American armies. A photo-session in which he modeled his new uniforms was held. Penkovsky was later caught and executed by the Soviets.

* * * * *

One of history's greatest mysteries may finally be solved. Scientists in a Serbian city have positively identified the bodies of Russia's last Czar Nicholas II and his wife, Alexandra. Their bodies were found in a pit in Yekaterinburg. Using computer enhanced images

28. Summers, p. 231.
29. *Ibid.*
30. *Dallas Morning News*, June 15, 1978.
31. Summers, p. 231; Melanson, p. 83.

Chapter 6: The Regicide Succeeds

1. See generally, on the "second Oswalds": Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 141-146; Melanson, pp. 105-115; and Summers, pp. 393-418.
2. Melanson, p. 106.
3. Popkin, *The Second Oswald*, p. 74.
4. Melanson, p. 106. See also, WR, pp. 321-324; HSCR, pp. 137-39; Summers, pp. 411-418; Meagher, *Accessories*, pp. 376-387.
5. Popkin, *The Second Oswald*, p. 86; Meagher, *Accessories*, pp. 370-372.
6. Popkin, *The Second Oswald*, p. 86; Meagher, *Accessories*, pp. 370-372.
7. Meagher, *Accessories*, p. 367; Morrow, *Betrayal*, p. 181.
8. Meagher, *Accessories*, p. 367; Popkin, *The Second Oswald*, p. 83.
9. Beilin, p. 1; Kantor, p. 34.
10. Melanson, p. 106; Popkin, *The Second Oswald*, p. 65; WR, p. 324.
11. Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 270; Meagher, *Accessories*, p. 352; Thompson, pp. 243, 247-248.
12. On the motorcade route, see Hepburn, pp. 351-352, Groden and Livingstone, pp. 152, 155, 236.
13. Epstein, *Legend*, p. 185. DeMohrenschildt was suspected of being a Nazi spy during the war. If so, he may have been working for Gehlen; Evica, p. 292.
14. Epstein, *Legend*, p. 206.
15. Joesten, *Marina*, p. 72 n.
16. *Ibid.*, p. 87.
17. *Ibid.*
18. Scott, *The Dallas Conspiracy*, p. IV-4; Hepburn, Appendix 1, No. 687. See Garrison, *On the Trail*, p. 63, for a discussion of the classified Paine documents.
19. Quoted in Joesten, *Marina*, p. 91.
20. *Ibid.*, p. 140.
21. Joesten, *Oswald: The Truth*, p. 67.
22. *Ibid.* The Paines have never been adequately investigated or questioned. As Ruth Paine befriended Marina, her estranged husband befriended Lee. He accompanied him to various functions, including an ACLU meeting. Melanson, pp. 55-56. The day of the assassination, when detectives came to her house, she greeted them with, "I've been expecting you to come out. Come right in." She added, "just as soon as I heard the shooting happened I knew there would be someone out." WCT VII, p. 229. When she discovered they had no search warrant, she said one would not be necessary and they could search the house anytime they wanted. See Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 81; and WCT VII, p. 193. Once they were inside, she suggested they look in the garage where the blanket containing Oswald's rifle was located. When the detectives returned the next day, she and her now reconciled husband Michael voluntarily showed them more of Oswald's effects. The couple then left to go shopping, leaving the police with the run of the house for more than two hours. Weisberg, *ibid.*; and WCT VII, p. 209.

- The Paines, like most of the "Marxist" Oswald's friends, were members of Dallas's rabidly anticommunist White Russian community. The faction had ties to both the Tolstoy Foundation and the Russian Orthodox Church, which were both backed by the CIA. Melanson, p. 79. Michael Paine's brother was employed by the Agency for International Development (AID), an organization with extensive CIA links. Ruth Paine's father was a retired AID employee. Melanson, p. 80.
- On November 23, in a phone conversation with his "estranged" wife, Michael Paine stated that although he felt sure Oswald had shot Kennedy, he did not feel Oswald was responsible. He then added, "We both know who is responsible." Summers, pp. 132-133.
- There are two more provocative Ruth Paine statements. At her Warren Commission appearance, she said that when she first heard about the assassination on television, she immediately told Marina that it occurred right outside the depository where Lee worked. Yet she thought he worked at the warehouse, which is blocks away from Dealey Plaza. WCT I, p. 74; WCT III, p. 36. Finally, although she and George DeMohrenschildt testified that she met Oswald in 1963, Researcher Michael Levy has unearthed a Navy Department document which reports that Ruth Paine was requesting information about the family of Lee Harvey Oswald in 1957.
23. A comprehensive look at Jack Ruby's gunrunning is in Jim Marrs, *Crossfire*, pp. 399-401.
 24. Kantor, p. 138.
 25. Hurt, pp. 401-5.
 26. Kantor, p. 15.
 27. See Hurt, p. 404. Harvey also headed ZR/RIFLE, a part of Operation MONGOOSE. See Chapter 14, note 11.
 28. Ruby was allegedly always in debt to the mob. Those connections are discussed in Marrs, pp. 391-400; and Carl Ogelsby's afterword to Garrison, *On the Trail*.
 29. On Nancy Perrin Rich, see Meagher, *Accessories*, pp. 385-386.
 30. WCT XIV, p. 349.
 31. Kantor, Chapter 8, *passim*.
 32. *Ibid.*, p. 139. Kantor believes Ruby was in Havana for the gunrunning purposes that Rich's testimony indicated.
 33. *Ibid.*
 34. Pannonde, p. 167.
 35. Morrow, *Betrayal*, p. 181.
 36. The Warren Report says L. Day of the Dallas Police Department got a partial palmprint, identified as Oswald's, from the underside of the rifle's barrel just before it was sent to the FBI. But the FBI found no trace of the print when the rifle arrived. A week later, there was a report of a palmprint. (As JFK suggests, this could have been lifted from Oswald's corpse.) Moreover, nitrate/paraffin tests showed negative for Oswald's cheek (positive would have indicated a rifle shot), though positive for his hands (which could, however, come from urine, bleach, matches, even playing cards). The Commission found the tests inconclusive. WCT III, p. 395.
 37. WR, p. 29.
 38. WCT X, pp. 370-371.