

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

7/28/96

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INTERVIEW AND MEETING SUMMARY

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SUBJECTS :
INTERVIEW WITH [REDACTED]
SUBJ: ASSASSINATION INQUIRY

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BOX 438-12

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

TOP SECRET

INTERVIEW WITH:

[Redacted Name]

SSCI

438-12

REGARDING: Assassination Inquiry

10246

DATE-TIME-LOCATION: July 25, 1975; 608 Carroll Arms

PRESENT: Messrs. WALLACH and DiGenova

HAS OR SHOULD BE DIGESTED: _____

FOLLOW UP REQUIRED: _____

MATERIAL SUBMITTED BY INTERVIEWEE(S): _____

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Yes No

TOP SECRET

FILE:

This morning, Joe and I met with [redacted] at the Carroll Arms for approximately two hours. George Clarke from the CIA's General Counsel's staff was present for the last fifteen minutes of the interview.

Background:

- 1948-51 - Assistant to the [redacted] - [redacted]
- 1951-54 - Chief Rumanian Desk
- 1954-58 - Chief of Operations Against Communist Areas (Eastern Bloc) - (Operations from [redacted] 5-16 [redacted] - stationed in [redacted] 15-16)
- 1958-61 - [redacted]
- 1961-62 - Special Assistant to Helms
- 1962-63 - National War College (June 1962 - July 1963)
- 1963-64 - Helms' Special Assistant
- 1965-66 - [redacted] 15-6
- 1966-69 - [redacted] 12-21
- 1969-73 - Chief of Operational Services - Chief of Staff in DDP. (Director Clandestine Services)
- 1973 - Chief Career Management Personnel
- 1973-74 - Chief Plans & Programs for Directorate

Interview Summary:

Bissell "out of the blue" asked [redacted] to read and comment upon Zoogby's Cuban operations paper. [redacted] told Bissell that the paper/proposals "stunk" (. . . "much like another Bay of Pigs"). Apparently, Helms also read and liked [redacted] comments. After Bissell "left", Helms requested that [redacted] come on board as his staff assistant.

[redacted] stressed that he was not in the operational line of command -- "I provided an interface for intelligence information." A typical day in [redacted] life:

- Screening cable traffic (7 - 9 a.m.). Primarily cables relating to positive intelligence, to prepare Helms for his daily 9 a.m. hour-long meeting with DCI McCone.

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(1)(A)
(1)(B)
(1)(C)

TOP SECRET

FILE:

-- Prepared a daily briefing for the White House on Cuban intelligence.

-- Preparing review of books such as "The Invisible Government" and damage reports (i.e., reports setting forth what sensitive information exposed by book).

[] stressed that he was "out of touch with the day-to-day operations of Task Force W". However, he believes that Harvey kept Helms fully briefed.

Harvey, in [] own words, was "not an ordinary man", . . . "egocentric", "bombastic", "one of the strongest proponents of compartmentalization and need to know". In addition, Harvey had a law degree and a successful FBI stint prior to joining the Agency.

[] noted Harvey's intense loyalty to "his people" (including Helms and []). However, [] is sure that even with these people, Harvey was likely to have been extremely close-mouthed.