

JFK 22
Folder 3
#1

In a review of its own files on March 15, 1978, the CIA noted that,

Veciana had contacted the Agency three times - in December 1960, July, 1962 and April 1966 - for assistance in plots against Castro. (Veciana file ~~file review~~ ~~file~~ ^{Classified} file 201-312966 & Dir. 1885-31 - 3/15/78 - 78 0421219). According to the CIA: "Officers listened to Veciana, expressed no interest, offered no encouragement and never recontacted him on this matter. There has been no Agency relationship with Veciana."

The Committee's review of the Agency's file basically confirmed the ^{stated} results of the meetings with Veciana in 1960 and 1966.

However, a review of files dated July 7, 1962 revealed that contact with Veciana had been made by an asset, SKewer-1 and that SKewer-1 had given Veciana \$500 for operational activity. (Classified file IN 24738, 7/7/62)

DO NOT REPRODUCE
RETURN TO CIA

Insert for VECIANA

fonzi

McCone insert

205
206

On August 17, 1978, the Committee deposed John A. McCone, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency from October, 1961 until April 30th, 1965. ⁽²⁰⁵⁾ (Classified Top Secret testimony, 8/17/78, p.4)

During the course of the deposition, the following questions and answers were recorded: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Q: Do you know or did you know Maurice Bishop?

A: Yes.

Q: Was he an agency employee?

A: I believe so.

Q: Do you know what his duties were in 1963?

A: No.

... Q: For instance, do you know whether Maurice Bishop worked in the Western Hemisphere Division or whether he worked in some other division of the CIA?

A: I do not know. I do not recall. I knew at that time but I do not recall.

Q: Do you know whether Maurice Bishop used any pseudonyms?

A: No, I do not know that. ⁽²⁰⁶⁾ (Ibid, pp. 45,46)

fonzi

(DAVID PHILLIPS)

182
1
189

Insert into VECIANA

David Atlee Phillips testified before the Committee in Executive Session on April 25, 1978. He said he never used the name ~~of~~ Maurice Bishop. He said he did not know of anyone in the CIA who used the name ~~of~~ Maurice Bishop. He said he had seen Antonio Veciana only twice in his life, the second time ~~that~~^{the} very morning of his hearing before the Committee when Veciana, who had testified earlier, emerged from the hearing room while he, Phillips, was in the hallway. Phillips said the first time he met Veciana was at a meeting of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers in Reston. He said that Veciana was brought to that meeting by an investigator from Senator Schweiker's office but, said Phillips, Veciana was not introduced to him by name but only as "the driver." He said Veciana asked him some questions in Spanish but at the time, ~~because~~ he didn't know who Veciana was or why Senator Schweiker's office had sent him to the meeting.

Phillips also testified that he had never used the name ~~of~~ Frigault and had never used a Belgian passport.

Phillips was shown the sketch of Maurice Bishop but could not identify it as anyone he knew. He said, however, "It looks like me."

footnotes for VECIANA - Phillips section

of DAVID ALICE PHILLIPS, Hearings Before the House
Select Committee ON ASSASSINATIONS

182. Executive Session[^], classified testimony, 4/25/78,[^]p.89.
183. Ibid.
184. Ibid., p. 86.
185. Ibid.
186. Ibid.
187. Ibid., p. 95.
188. Ibid., p. 88.
189. Ibid., p. 90.

insert Veciana write up

170

1

181

insert GUPTON

The Committee staff interviewed Doug Gupton on August 22nd, 1978 at CIA headquarters. ⁽¹⁷⁰⁾ ~~(Staff interview, 8/20/78, JFY # [redacted] 002101)~~ Gupton said he worked for the CIA from December, 1951, until his retirement in June, 1978, much of that time on the Covert Action Guidance Staff. ⁽¹⁷¹⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ Gupton confirmed that he was in charge of propaganda operations at the Miami JM/WAVE station and that his immediate superior was David Phillips. ⁽¹⁷²⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ Gupton acknowledged that Ross Crozier was a case officer who worked for him and that he saw Crozier on a daily basis. ⁽¹⁷³⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ Gupton said he does not recall whether E. Howard Hunt or David Phillips ever used the name of "Knight." ⁽¹⁷⁴⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ He said he does not recall Phillips ever using the name of Maurice Bishop. ⁽¹⁷⁵⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ When told about Crozier's recollection of him referring to Phillips as "Mr. Bishop," Gupton said: "Well, maybe I did. I don't remember." ⁽¹⁷⁶⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ He also said, however, that he never heard the name of Bishop while he was stationed in Miami. ⁽¹⁷⁷⁾ ~~(Staff)~~ When shown the sketch of Bishop, he said it did not look like anyone he knew. ⁽¹⁷⁸⁾ ~~(Staff)~~

Explaining his working relationship with David Phillips, Gupton said he was in contact with him regularly in Washington by telephone and cable and that Phillips visited Miami "quite

(179)
often." ~~(b)(1)~~ Gupton said, however, that there were two sets of operations. His set of operations was run out of Miami and he kept Phillips informed of them. Phillips ran another set of operations personally out of Washington and, Gupton said, Phillips did not keep him briefed about them. (180) ~~(b)(1)~~ Gupton also said he knew that Phillips used many of his old contacts from Havana in his personal operations. (181) ~~(b)(1)~~

footnotes for VECIANA - Gupton section

of Doug Gupton, House Select Committee on
ASSASSINATIONS,

170. Staff interview, 8/28/78, JFK Document No. 002101
171. Ibid.
172. Ibid.
173. Ibid.
174. Ibid., p. 2.
175. Ibid.
176. Ibid.
177. Ibid.
178. Ibid.
179. Ibid.
180. Ibid.
181. Ibid.

fonzi

insert for VECIANA.....

B.H. insert

194
1
204

On August 10, 1978, B.H. (Balmes Nives Hidalgo Jr.), a former covert operative of the CIA, was interviewed by the Committee in a special closed session. ⁽¹⁹⁴⁾ ~~SECRET~~

~~Secret closed session, 8/10/78~~ B.H. was a CIA agent from 1952 to 1970. ⁽¹⁹⁵⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~ Between 1960 and 1964 he was assigned to Cuban operations. ⁽¹⁹⁶⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~

As such, he testified, he was involved in "day-to-day" operations with David Atlee Phillips. He characterized Phillips as "an excellent intelligence officer" and "a personal friend." ⁽¹⁹⁷⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~

When asked if he knew an individual named Maurice Bishop, B.H. said:

"Again, Mr. Bishop was in the organization but I had no personal day-to-day open relationship with him. Phillips, yes; Bishop, no. I knew them both..." ⁽¹⁹⁸⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~

Although he couldn't describe Bishop's physical characteristics, B.H. said he had seen him "two or three times" ⁽¹⁹⁹⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~ in the "hallways or cafeteria" ⁽²⁰⁰⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~, ~~p. 22~~ at CIA headquarters in Langley. B.H. said he thought Bishop worked in the Western Hemisphere Division ⁽²⁰¹⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~ and that he had a position "higher than me." ⁽²⁰²⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~

He could not be more specific. The two or three times he saw Bishop, he said, was between 1960 and 1964 when he himself was in Cuban operations, although, he said, he didn't know if Bishop worked in that area also. ⁽²⁰³⁾ ~~(b)(1)~~

2, B.H. insert

Asked how, if he didn't personally know Bishop, he knew the person he saw at CIA headquarters was Maurice Bishop, B.H. said: "Someone might have said, 'That is Maurice Bishop,' and it was different from Dave Phillips or Hal Swenson, guys that I know." ⁽²⁰⁴⁾ ~~████████████████████~~.

However, When shown the sketch of Maurice Bishop, ↓
B.H. could not identify it as anyone he recognized.

footnotes for VECIANA -- B.H. section

Comm. Hee Interview of Balmes Nives Hidalgo, Jr.,

- 194. [^] ~~Classified~~ Top Secret closed session, 8/10/78, House Select Committee on ASSASSINATIONS.
- 195. Ibid, p. 6.
- 196. Ibid, p. 8.
- 197. Ibid, p. 29.
- 198. Ibid, p. 30.
- 199. Ibid, p. 31.
- 200. Ibid, p. 33.
- 201. Ibid, p. 31.
- 202. Ibid, p. 32.
- 203. Ibid, p. 35.
- 204. Ibid, p. 33.

Typed

~~On August 10th, 1978, in a closed session of the Committee. ~~As follows:~~~~

On August 10th, 1978, [Balmer Nives Hidalgo Jr.] a former covert operative of the CIA, was interviewed by the Committee in a special closed session.

H. was a CIA agent from 1952 to 1970. (A) Between 1960 and 1964 he was assigned to Cuban operations. (B) When asked if he ever knew an individual named Maurice Bishop, he said:

INSERT

"Again, Mr. Bishop was in the organization but I had no personal day-to-day open relationship with him. Phillips, yes; Bishop, no. I knew them both..." (Ibid. p. 30)

Although he couldn't describe Bishop, H. said he had seen him "two or three times" in the "hallways or cafeteria" (Ibid. p. 30) at CIA headquarters in Langley. H. said he thought Bishop worked in the Western Hemisphere Division (p. 31) and that he had a position "higher than mine." (p. 32) He could not be more specific. He said he saw Bishop the two or three times he saw Bishop, he said, was between 1960 and 1964 when he was in Cuban operations, although, he said, he didn't know if Bishop worked in that area also (p. 35)

Asked, if he didn't personally know Bishop, how he knew that the person he saw at CIA →

(A) Closed session hearings, 8/10/78, p. 6

(B) Ibid, p. 8.

(2)

(P5)
(insert)

As such, he testified, he was involved, ~~the same~~ ~~in operations with which David Phillips~~ ~~was involved.~~ ~~He~~
 → in "day-to-day" operations with David Phillips. He characterized Phillips as "an excellent intelligence officer" and "a personal friend." (Ibid p. 29)

→ Headquarters was Maurice Bishop, Lt. said:
 "Someone might have said, 'That is Maurice Bishop,' and it was different from Dave Phillips or Hal Swenson, guys that I know." (Ibid. p. 33).

However, when shown the sketch of Maurice Bishop, Lt. could not identify it as anyone he recognized. (p 33)

VECIANA INSERT

3 footnotes

In a review of its own files on March 15, 1978, the CIA noted that Veciana had contacted the Agency three times -- in December, 1960; July, 1962; and April, 1966 -- for assistance in plots against Castro. ^{Footnote} (Classified file 201-312966. Dir. 188531, 3/15/78, 78 0421219) According to the CIA: "Officers listened to Veciana, expressed no interest, offered no encouragement and never recontacted him on this matter. There has been no Agency relationship with Veciana." ^{Footnote (IBD)}

The Committee's own review of the Agency's files basically confirmed the stated conclusions about the meetings with Veciana in 1960 and 1966. ~~However,~~ ^{however,} A review of files dated July 7, 1962, revealed that contact with Veciana had been made by an asset, SKEWER-1, and that SKEWER-1 had given Veciana \$500 for operational activity. (Classified file IN 24738, 7/7/62) ^{Footnote}

Fouzi - 8/26/79

- re Vitale - Cuban Intelligence Service - ^{Had Financier's} computer program

Dec 60 - Aug 61

~~He~~ recommended for agent handler

Hicks ^{Pr. Jan.} - 1963 chief PM section Miami Op ^{IN WASH.}
branch of DDP/SAS ^(Cuban task force) (Special Affairs Staff)

- didn't speak Spanish before 1965?

1966 back to HQ; Colombia desk (Prior to '60 in Pakistan)

Oct '60 into Cuban staff - headquarters - PM op.

Jan

15
FONZI 4/25/78

①

Guy VITALE - DOB 16 Oct. 1917

- retired 28 Feb 1969

13 Dec 1965: Reassigned from WH/C - Miami

Operations Branch, PM Section to Wash DC

12 Dec 1962 - Promoted - IN Task Force W FI/CI
BRANCH

12 March 1962 - Reassignment and transfer to
DDP/WH
voucher funds (Branch 4, FI/CI)

12 June 1960. Reassignment from [] STATION,
Op Staff, Records Integration Section
to CS/CS Development Complement, E6 DIV.

1967 - working on intelligence assistance maintenance
project & agent 201 files for the Branch's PM program

11 May 1960 - memo from chief, Central Cover Division to
chief, records & service division - effective
1 April 1960 requesting records be blocked
to deny Agency employment.

FITNESS REPORTS:

- 11 Nov. 1960 - Casually (temporarily) assigned German
Branch, E6 section as intelligence asst.
- 12 Feb 1962 - DDP/WH 4 - "His ability to function as
an agent handler is extremely commendable.
- 21 Aug. 1962. Recommendation for promotion from
supervisor [] (Doing mostly
records work)
- 1963-1968 - Records indicate a headquarters support

12

to IM/WAVE type of record keeping
and briefing duties. Comment on
11 July 1966: "Mr. Vitale's principal
qualification is his background knowledge
of the operational history of Cuban
paramilitary operations." Refers to his
knowledge & experience of handling
records re headquarters support of
WH/Cuba paramilitary case officers.
- Pre 1960 - appears to have been involved
with Eastern European Div. Ins. Off.

~~4/1/61~~ 4/10/61 - TDY to Vieques Island, Puerto Rico.