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Date 11/1/78

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Wilcott Allegation

The HSCA investigated the allegation of former CIA employee James Wilcott who claimed that shortly after the assassination of President Kennedy, Wilcott was advised by fellow employees at the CIA's [redacted] Station that Lee Harvey Oswald was a CIA agent who had received financial disbursements under an assigned cryptonym.

James Wilcott first advised the HSCA of this allegation during an interview ^{on} January 28, 1978 which he later confirmed in testimony before the committee. (HSCA Staff Interview of James Wilcott, 1/28/78, TFK ID# 64446; HSCA Executive Session Testimony of James Wilcott, 3/27/78, ^{Executive Session} HSCA ID# 64446; HSCA Executive Session Testimony of James Wilcott, 3/27/78, p. 4.) Wilcott explained that he had been employed by the CIA as a finance officer from 1957 until his resignation from the Agency in 1966. (HSCA Staff Interview of James Wilcott, 1/28/78, TFK ID# 64446; HSCA Executive Session Testimony of James Wilcott, 3/27/78, p. 4.)

He served as a fiscal account assistant on the Support Staff at the [redacted] Station from June of 1960 to June 1964. (Ibid., p. 5; Classified Staff Summary of Review of CIA Activity, p. 141B303, 4.V.1.p.)

Wilcott advised that, in addition to his regular responsibilities there, he had

served security duty on the off-hours in order to supplement his income. (Staff Interview of James Wilcott, 1/28/78, p. 4; TFK ID# 64446; HSCA Executive Session Testimony of James Wilcott, 3/27/78, p. 25-29.)

This additional job put him in contact with other employees of the [redacted] Station.

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who would come by the office and engage in informal conversations regarding [redacted] and [redacted]. (HSCA Staff Interview of James Wilcott, 1/28/78, p. 5; TFK ID# 64446;)

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Wilcott told the HSCA that on the day after President Kennedy's assassination, he was informed by a CIA case officer that Lee Harvey Oswald was a CIA agent. (Exhibit 3, sub-bibliography of Testimony) Wilcott further advised that he was informed that Oswald had been assigned a cryptonym and that Wilcott himself had disbursed payments for Oswald's project using that cryptonym. (Ibid., p. 11-13) Although Wilcott was unable to identify the specific case officers who had initially informed him of Oswald's Agency relationship, he named several employees of the [] whom he believed he had subsequently discussed the allegations. (Ibid., p. 6-10.)

Wilcott advised the committee during his interview that after learning of the alleged Oswald connection to the CIA, he had never reviewed the []

Station [] disbursement records for evidence of the Oswald project. (HSCA Staff Interview, James Wilcott, 1/28/75, p. 44, TJK doc. #4416) [* Add Insert on next page.]

He explained that this was because, at that point in time, he viewed

the information as mere shop talk and gave it little credence. (HSCA Staff Interview, James Wilcott, 1/28/75, p. 44, TJK doc. #4416)

Neither did he report the allegations to any formal investigative bodies following the assassination as he considered the information to be hearsay.

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[Note: Kilcott stated ^{in Executive} ~~before~~ Session testimony that while he may have casually reviewed his personal advance book to see if any money had been distributed to Oswald, he never checked the Agency's official cash disbursement records. [HSCA Executive Session Testimony of James Kilcott, 3/23/75, pp. 13-19.]

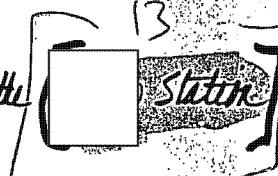
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which would not serve to further any investigative purposes. Third,

In an attempt to ascertain the truth regarding Elliott's allegations concerning Lee Harvey Oswald's relationship with the CIA, the HSCA interviewed several present and former CIA employees who were selected on the basis of the position each held with the CIA during the years 1954-1964.

Among those persons interviewed were individuals whose responsibilities covered a broad spectrum of areas within the [redacted] Station during this period, including the Chief and Deputy Chief of Station as well as officers in finance, registry, the [redacted]



(HSCA Staff Summary of
Interviews of CIA Em-
ployees, p. III 0717-0718,
H. Leo.)

The interviews were designed to elicit information regarding the following areas of concern: 1) Did the person ever see any written documentation which indicate that Lee Harvey Oswald was an intelligence agent or a source of information utilized by CIA? ; 2) Has the person ever advised that Oswald orally fit either of these categories? 3) Did the person ever overhear or participate

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in any conversation in which allegations were made that Lee Harvey Oswald

was a CIA agent or an intelligence source for any government service? 4) Was

the person in a position in which he or she would have known if Oswald had

been recruited as a CIA ^{agent} during his military tour of duty in []? 5) What

was the person's initial awareness of the allegation that Oswald may have

been a CIA agent? 6) Did the person know the ^{James Wilett} ~~Wilett~~ ^{while} stationed

in [] (Ibid., p. 11110718-0719).

In summary, the results of the interviews were as follows. During

the course of employment in the [] Station [] none of the individuals

questioned had ever seen any documents or heard any information indica-

(Ibid., p. 11110719).

ting that Lee Harvey Oswald was a CIA agent. This allegation was not known

to anyone until the time of publication of House Commission critical literature

or until the Garrison investigation in the late 1960's. Some of the individuals,

including the chief of [] within the [] Branch in [] (Ibid.)

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expressed the belief that it was possible that Lee Harvey Oswald had been

recruited by the KGB during his military tour of duty in [] as the CIA's

[] Station 13 had identified a KGB program aimed at recruiting U.S. military personnel in [] during the period that Oswald was stationed there. (Ibid.)

An intelligence analyst whom Wilcott had specifically named as having

been involved in conversation regarding the Oswald-CIA agent allegation

following the assassination told the HSCA that he was not in the [] 13

[] Station 13 following the JFK assassination. A review of this individual's

CIA Office of Personnel file indicates that she was, in fact, transferred from

[] 13 the [] Station to the United States in 1962. (HSCA Staff Summary of CIA File Review, p. 1110719, Harold Leop.).

Almost all those persons interviewed who worked in the Soviet Russia Branch

stated that they would have known if Lee Harvey Oswald had, in fact,

been recruited as a CIA agent when he was in [], as they were in posi-

tions either to have handled him or at least to have had knowledge

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of the recruitment. (NSA Staff Summary of Interviews of CIA Employees, CIA P. 1110777, H. Berg).

These persons expressed the opinion that had Oswald been recruited without their knowledge, it would have been a rare exception contrary

to the working policy and guidelines of [the] (3)
Station (Unit)

Appx.

Addendum - 1/23/79 - Wolf indicates that Chief of Station ⁽¹⁹⁶¹⁻⁶⁴⁾ was indicated that he definitely would have known had LHO been an agent. - Goldsmith 3/13/79.

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