

MEXICO CITY COVERAGE OF OSWALD VISIT



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~~gate to the Soviet Embassy was on the northwest corner of the~~
~~Soviet compound and the LIMITED site was diagonally across~~
~~double lined street on the southeast corner of that block (See~~
~~attached diagram). LIMITED was the first photographic base and opera-~~
~~ted strictly on an experimental basis in the early stages. This~~
~~base however, was closed when the Station learned that the~~
~~photograph of the "hand that shot" was being reviewed by the~~
~~Warren Commission. LILYBIC was an off-camera photographic base.~~
~~It was located in an upper story of an apartment building on the~~
~~same side of the street as the LIMITED site in the middle of~~
~~the block. It had a panoramic view of the front yard of the~~
~~Soviet Embassy. LICALA, the third photographic site, was located~~
~~in one of a row of four houses on the south side of the Soviet~~
~~Embassy compound. This site overlooked the back garden of the~~
~~Soviet Embassy compound. The purpose of this operation was to get~~
~~good identification photographs of Soviet personnel. The three~~
~~photographic sites were managed by a recruited agent who was a~~
~~Mexican citizen, the son of an American mother and Mexican father~~
~~(deceased). This agent collected the film from the LIMITED and~~
~~LILYBIC sites three times a week. The film was then developed and~~
~~printed into 9 x 10 contact print strips. LICALA film was ori-~~
~~ginally processed in the Station laboratory in early 1963, due to the~~
~~resignation of a technician, this film like that of LIMITED and~~
~~LILYBIC was processed on the outside by a recruited agent.~~

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which became known as LIENVOY, was run by a Mexican officer.

The listening post had 30 lines connected at one time. The

transcription was staffed by Mexican Army Officers. In

1951 because of mismanagement by the Mexican principals,

the Station Chief, himself, became the project base officer.

A Station officer assisted him in the daily supervision of the

listening post and in picking up the transcripts and the tapes.

There was also an American technician inside the listening post.

3. Signal Coverage.

In mid 1962, a Mexican officer in charge of LIENVOY

(the joint operation) asked the American officer at the

LIENVOY listening post for the telephone numbers of the Soviet,

Cuban and Satellite Embassies in anticipation of possible cover-

age. The Station immediately disconnected all of the unilatera-

te telephones on these Embassies so that they would not be dis-

covered when the Mexicans hooked up their taps. The Mexicans

soon thereafter connected five Cuban lines, five Soviet lines,

three Czech lines, two Polish lines, and one Yugoslav line. At

the listening post, five monitors made short summaries of con-

versations of interest which were then included in a daily re-

sume for the Chief of Station. Later when a reel was completely

recorded, full transcripts were typed and passed to the Station;

however, there was usually a time lag of a day or two. Reels

which contained Russian or a language other than Spanish or

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English were taken to another location for translation and typing. Mr. Boris Paraseff did the Russian translations but because of the volume of Russian conversations, the translations were about a week behind the date of the conversation. All transcripts were made in either Spanish or English since the Chief of Station could read only those two languages and because he personally reviewed the transcripts for operational reads.

Soon as the station learned that an American identifying himself as Lee Oswald phoned the Soviet Embassy, Miss Ann Goodpasture of the Station started screening all photographs. However, here again there was a backlog because the photographs were picked up three times a week, but those picked up were usually for dates a few days before since the technician who was processing the film did not work night time hours. Further, photographs were not made initially until a complete roll of film was used. Later this was changed and the operator cleared the camera at the end of each day regardless of amount of unused film remaining. The instructions were to cover the entire work day (office hours) and to photograph all Soviets, their families, all foreigners, and cars with foreign license plates. Human error did occur but generally the agents were conscientious. The Cuban Embassy cover area had more sophisticated equipment using a pulse camera which frequently developed mechanical difficulties.

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