

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : SSCIA
RECORD NUMBER : 157-10011-10119

RECORDS SERIES :

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM : ELDER, WALTER, REVIEW STAFF
TO : BADER, WILLIAM

TITLE :
REQUEST FOR INFO RE ~~WILEY, CHARLES W.~~

DATE : 10/28/75
PAGES : 15

SUBJECTS :
DOCUMENTS RE ~~WILEY, CHARLES W.~~
~~ABASCAL, ENRIQUE EUGENIO (Y BERENGUER)~~
ARLINGTON HOUSE, PUBLISHERS

[R]

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : S
RESTRICTIONS : REFERRED
CURRENT STATUS : P
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 09/29/93

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS :
SSCI Box 221, Folder 10

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

~~SECRET~~
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

R1697

Rec 10/28/75

Record Number 157-10011-10119

INVENTORIED:
ON 3/17/77
BY J

Review Staff: 75-3097/1
28 October 1975

~~SSC In Box 221 Folder 10~~

Mr. William Bader
Select Committee To Study Governmental
Operations With Respect To Intelligence
Activities
Washington, D.C.

Attn: Mr. B. Wides

Dear Mr. Bader:

Reference is made to Mr. Jeffrey Kayden's recent review of the Office of Security file on ~~Charles W. Wiley~~ and to Mr. Kayden's request for ~~Wiley~~ documents which were forwarded to the SSC via Review Staff letter dated 2 October 1975.

Prior to Mr. Kayden's review of the ~~Wiley~~ file, the Office of Security sent a memorandum to the DCI highlighting several controversial items in that file. This memo was reviewed by the DCI and he requested that the attached ~~Wiley~~ reports plus the Office of Security's assessment and processing thereof be forwarded to the Senate Select Committee.

Sincerely,

Walter Elder
Walter Elder
Review Staff

Attachments:
As Stated

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DOCUMENT CONTAINS
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Authority: 25 CFR 1.101 (b), (c), (d)
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R1697

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1. Reference is made to a memorandum, captioned as above, dated 30 September 1975 forwarding copies of certain documents from the Office of Security files concerning Charles W. Wiley. These documents were requested by Mr. Jeffrey Kayden, Senate Select Committee Staff, who commenced a review of the Wiley files on 29 September 1975.

2. The Office of Security has concluded a separate review of the Wiley files and has highlighted certain contents thereof to the DCI. The DCI has requested that materials concerning the following items be provided to the Senate Select Committee independent of any Senate Select Committee Staff requests, to wit:

Lee Harvey Oswald

The files contain a raw, unevaluated report from Wiley containing his reporting of an allegation that Lee Harvey Oswald was in New York City in the Winter of 1962, having contact with a Cuban.

(Attached to instant memorandum, Tab A, is a copy of Wiley's original report, and attendant comments, suggesting receipt of the report circa 20 December 1963.)

Readily available public and Office of Security information concerning Oswald makes no reference to the possibility of his being in New York City in the Winter of 1962. The Warren Commission did not pursue such a line of inquiry.

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There is no evidence in the Wiley files or the file of the source, Enrique Eugenio Abascal (67 Berenguer), #730643, that this information was processed out of the Office of Security/Security Research Staff, to which Wiley reported the information. However, as Wiley states in the report: "I urged Abascal to go to the FBI with the information, and offered to arrange a meeting. He promised to tell them the story, and made contact through an agent (O'Brien) whom he knew because of past activities."

Regarding Abascal, his Office of Security file contains the following concerning his veracity:

Office of Security/Security Research Staff memorandum dated 15 August 1966:
"Abascal has for several years furnished information to SRS source which has been proven to be utterly worthless and usually fictitious."

Office of Security/Security Research Staff memorandum dated 19 May 1965:
"Abascal has furnished source with intelligence information which appears to be complete fabrication."

FBI letterhead memorandum dated 30 September 1963 captioned "Movimiento Democrata Cristiano (MDC)" contains the following statements about Abascal by FBI sources: "One would only have to know Enrique Abascal to know that this (a Life magazine article) was nothing but a publicity stunt on his part and that he has no importance whatsoever in the anti-Castro Movement." "Sometimes in dealing with Abascal, one does not know whether or not he should pity him or try to afford him some kind of medical assistance." "Abascal is merely a publicity seeker."

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It is apparent the Office of Security/ Security Research Staff had reason to question the veracity of Abascal precluding further dissemination of the information; and that there was a reason to believe that Abascal would report the information to the FBI for their action.

Arlington House, Publishers

The files contain a raw, unevaluated report from Wiley containing his reporting of an allegation that CIA had partial control of, and once attempted full control of, Arlington House, Publishers.

(Attached to instant memorandum, Tab B, is a copy of Wiley's original report as well as copies of attendant documents. The files contain no further clarification of the information.)

There is no Office of Security subject file in the name of Arlington House or Arlington House, Publishers.

From other sources, it would appear that Arlington House, Publishers is connected with the conservative causes of William F. Buckley and the National Review. Buckley is a former Agency employee and his close connections with former Agency employee E. Howard Hunt have recently received extensive publicity. It is believed that numerous former Agency employees are linked with Buckley's causes, and this could be the foundation for the rumored Agency involvement in Arlington House.

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3. Your attention is again directed to the concerns of the Office of Security, as expressed in the referenced memorandum, that the ~~Wiley~~ file documents and all statements contained therein, even though not classified as such, be carefully and prudently handled to protect the individuals identified therein.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	<i>15115</i>	<i>12-20-63</i>	<i>[initials]</i>
2			
3	<i>Kenneth</i>	<i>12/24</i>	<i>[initials]</i>
4	<i>[signature]</i>		
5			
6			

<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECT REPLY	<input type="checkbox"/>	PREPARE REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	DISPATCH	<input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMENDATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	FILE	<input type="checkbox"/>	RETURN
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

*→ PFG - Gene [] material
per my request.*

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DATE

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[signature] 14-Dec 93

Information from Barigüe Abascal (II).

Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Abascal met Oswald last winter in Greenwich Village, New York City at the "Fat Black Pussy Cat" (which was much less expensive than it is now, with fewer tourists). Abascal saw him there several times with extreme leftist, peacenik types. He seemed to be a "loner", but did associate with a couple in their early thirties. (See below.)

The last time that Abascal saw Oswald he got into a conversation with him, and it almost ended in a fight. Abascal lost his temper and wanted to hit Oswald because of his strong communist position. He was very anti-U.S.A., pro-Castro and pro-Chinese Reds (but not pro-Soviet Union).

What interested Abascal most was that Oswald had no job but still had sufficient money.

The couple Oswald associated with were quiet, but during political discussions the man would feed Oswald key words or bits of information when he was backed into a corner.

(Note. I urged Abascal to go to the FBI with the information, and offered to arrange a meeting. He promised to tell them the story, and made contact through an agent (O'Brien) whom he knew because of past activities.)

Sources from inside Cuba have reported that HERBERT MATTHEWS and two Russians met with Fidel Castro several months ago and tried to convince him to step down in favor of a coalition gov't. that Khrushchev and Kennedy had agreed on. Castro refused to consider it. (Some Cubans think that Castro is behind the Kennedy assassination - that he was acting to block this deal which was to take effect before the 1964 election.)

In early Dec. (see memo on my telephoned report for exact date) Abascal reported that CARLOS FRANKE of the Castro publication "Revolution" was at Idlewild Airport. He had arrived on flight 509 of BOAC from Paris & London. Franke had just finished a trip behind the Iron Curtain.

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7) Source of info on
source who may be
based in NY.

8) Stanley Ross & Roth
news paper man in
Long Island - who
is he (Covers Franke
case)

9) Does Chas know
any of LBJ's new
boys Ruddy, GEORGE;
MAYERS, Bill D; JENKINS,
Walter; CARTER, Cliff M.;
PERRY, Arthur (at).

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12 April 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT : **WILEY, Charles W.**
#343 589

A memorandum dated 12 March 1970 seems to pinpoint the time period during which **WILEY** first made available to this office a copy of Howard HUNT's manuscript, "Give Us This Day," as being early March 1970. The memorandum from [redacted] to C/SRS advised that **WILEY** had telephoned from home that afternoon and had asked if we had received the copy of ^{the} "Hunt Ms." [redacted] told **WILEY** that it had come in and **WILEY** asked whether he should attempt to determine any more details concerning the origin of it. [redacted] suggested that **WILEY** do nothing until we advised him. (Although [redacted] referred to it as the "Hunt Ms." in his memorandum, it would seem that **WILEY** was not aware of the true authorship, at this point). **WILEY** expressed concern for his friend in the publishing house, who had "filched" the Ms., as he allegedly had informed **WILEY** to be very careful with it. [redacted] advised that he informed **WILEY** that in all probability no decision would be made on this for another three or four weeks.

Louis W. Vasaly
Louis W. Vasaly

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In Jan 1967, WALLEY prepared a memorandum concerning Arlington House Publishers which, based on hearsay, indicated that a fight was going on for control of the company. One rumor was that CIA wanted to take over control. Apparently this memo. was again brought to the attention of C/SRS in April 1970 with the comment by [redacted] "In going through some of WALLEY'S old reports, I found this. Possibly of interest in view of HUNT'S manuscript." The buck slip was ~~1/14/71~~ marked "Noted PFG"

See - INSERT # 1.

In June 1970 when I was assigned to the [redacted] SRS, there was a copy of HUNT'S manuscript on the Bay of Pigs being retained in a safe in the C/[redacted]'s office. Some time later I learned that WALLEY had apparently obtained it through a contact and it had forwarded to this office...as an item of probable interest. The Agency was able to ascertain the identity of the author, who turned out to be Howard HUNT. HUNT was, I believe, at that time employed by the Agency with DOD. In any case, he was approached under some guise and was convinced that it would be inappropriate for him to have the book published at that time. HUNT'S file probably contains details which do not appear in old SRS records re WALLEY. I believe some time later, C/SRS ~~1/14/71~~ took the copy from [redacted]. I do not know what disposition he made of it. It is my impression that this was an extra copy and that the copy that had been loaned to WALLEY and through WALLEY to SRS had been returned much earlier as it was an accountable item for WALLEY'S contact. The publisher may have been Arlington Publishers although this is only a vague recollection that C/SRS may have indicated that at some time.

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Amemo. dated 2 Sept. 1970 ~~1/14/71~~ for Chief, Exec. and Planning Staff from C/SRS-Subject: Significant Accomplishments-NY 1970 states under Section (B) Agency Integrity-Sub para. (3)-"During the reporting period, an asset of this staff alerted the Agency to a manuscript written by an Agency employee which was circulating among some N.Y. Publishers. As a result of this alert, Agency officials were able to

In a memo. dated 12 March 1970 to C/SRS, [redacted] advised that WILEY had telephoned from home that afternoon and had asked if we had received the copy of the Hunt Ms. [redacted] had told him it had come in. WILEY asked whether he should attempt to determine any more details concerning the origin of it, and [redacted] suggested that WILEY do nothing until we advised him. WILEY expressed concern for his friend in the publishing house, who had "filched" the Ms., as he allegedly had informed WILEY to be very careful with it. [redacted] informed WILEY that in all probability no decision would be made on this for another three or four weeks.

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caution the author to retrieve all copies of the Manuscript and withdraw it from the publishers' market". A supporting memo. identifies the manuscript as Howard HUNT's "Give Us This Day".

On 19 June 1973, ~~WILEY~~ called to say that he had in his hands a copy of Howard HUNT's manuscript "Give Us This Day". I advised ~~WILEY~~ that he had probably forgotten but that we had had access to it several years ago when HUNT submitted it to a different publisher. (~~WILEY~~ reportedly had made it available at that time). ~~WILEY~~ said that he believed that this publisher was going to take advantage of the recent publicity (meaning WATERGATE apparently) and, of course, bring it out under HUNT's true name. I told him I was sure that we had no interest in his copy and that he could return it to the contact who made it available to him. There was no further discussion on the matter and the memo. recording the conversation was routed, as was the custom, to the C/SRS, who merely initialed it and sent it back to me. I do not know if he took any other action or reported it elsewhere.

L.W.Vasaly

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
		21 Apr. 1970
TO: Mr. Wainor		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
<p>In going through some of [redacted] old reports, I found this. Possibly of interest in view of Hunt's manuscript.</p> <p><i>Full bank in reports</i></p>		
FROM: [redacted]		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

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FORM NO. 241 FEB 53 REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. (47)

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	C/SRS		
2	Muscardina	2/3/67	
3	Ed Sayler	2-3-67	
4	Taylor		
5			
6			
ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
Remarks:			
Attached FYI from			
[Redacted]			
To 2. I believe we should verify this statement (para 2) from [Redacted] including further detail on [Redacted] is involved, and then pass info on to CIA, Walter, etc. I believe [Redacted] [Redacted] Barrett is ours because I asked him in 1965 for info, & Barrett at that time had been broadcasting his CIA affiliation: [Redacted]			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
[Redacted]			2/3/67
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17 Dec 93
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FORM NO. 2-61 237

Use previous editions

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Re: Arlington House Publishers.

Jan. 1967

For many months there has been a fight going on for control of Arlington House. Forces led by Randy Richardson are involved in trying to take over from Neil McCaffrey.

According to Mrs. Herbert (Pat) Romerstein, one of the factors in the fight is that CIA wants to take over full control - and that it is necessary for CIA to push McCaffrey out of the picture. Randy Richardson, because of his association with the Richardson Foundation and Frank Barnett, is considered by some to be involved with CIA activity.

Frank Meyer has attempted to rally the Arlington House authors - those who have received contracts to write books - behind McCaffrey. He sent out a letter to all of the authors suggesting that they take the stand that their contracts are with McCaffrey personally, not with Arlington House as a company. This has ~~been~~ met with much opposition, primarily because the authors feel that they would become liable to return any money advanced to them by Arlington House. James Burnham's name was listed in Meyer's letter as supporting his position. However, later Burnham sent out his own letter stating that he considered his contract to be with Arlington House, not McCaffrey.

(Note: I have many contacts who are involved in this situation in one way or another. It would not be difficult to get additional information if necessary.)

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