

Genzman #
5-4-78

Russell August Langelle

SECRET

Robert Genzman and Harold Seap interviewed Russell August Langelle at CIA headquarters on May 4, 1978. The interview yielded the following information:

Langelle joined the CIA in September 1950, and worked mainly in SR9 of the Soviet Russia Division. In November 1955 he resigned from the Agency [on the pretext that he was disgruntled with his assignments. His CIA files would have reflected this termination of employment. The only document to the contrary would have been a memorandum from the Director of Central Intelligence Allan Dulles, stating that Langelle would retain all rights and benefits when he returned to the CIA.] (at present this document would probably be in his personnel file.)

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[Approximately fifteen people knew that Langelle was still with the CIA after his resignation in 1955. These included John Mawry (SE), [redacted] (SR9), [redacted] (Chief of Operations), George Kisovalsky, [redacted]

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03

[REDACTED]

At the time of his resignation, Langelle applied for employment with the State Department. In the interim he worked at the Hecht Company. In March 1956 he started to work at the State Department as a Security Officer. In September 1956 he was sent to [REDACTED] where he earned a reputation for being a strict Security Officer at the Embassy. [REDACTED] He was deliberately tough on CIA personnel who breached security, in order to build his cover as a non-CIA foreign service officer. His salary was paid by the State Department.

32

27 [REDACTED] The CIA Chief of Station [REDACTED] and the Ambassador knew he was with the CIA. [REDACTED] 11112575

Langelle served as the Security Officer at the Moscow Embassy from December 1957 to September 1959. [REDACTED] In addition, he was the senior CIA officer there. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[redacted]

[Langelie handled CIA
communications in Moscow.]

[redacted]

In 1959 the Soviets declared Langelie persona non grata as a result of his involvement with P. S. Popov. [Langelie was the case officer of] Popov, who worked for the GRU, Soviet military intelligence. [While making a contact with Popov] Langelie was detained by the KGB and was questioned for two and a half hours. The KGB attempted to recruit him, and then released him. The State

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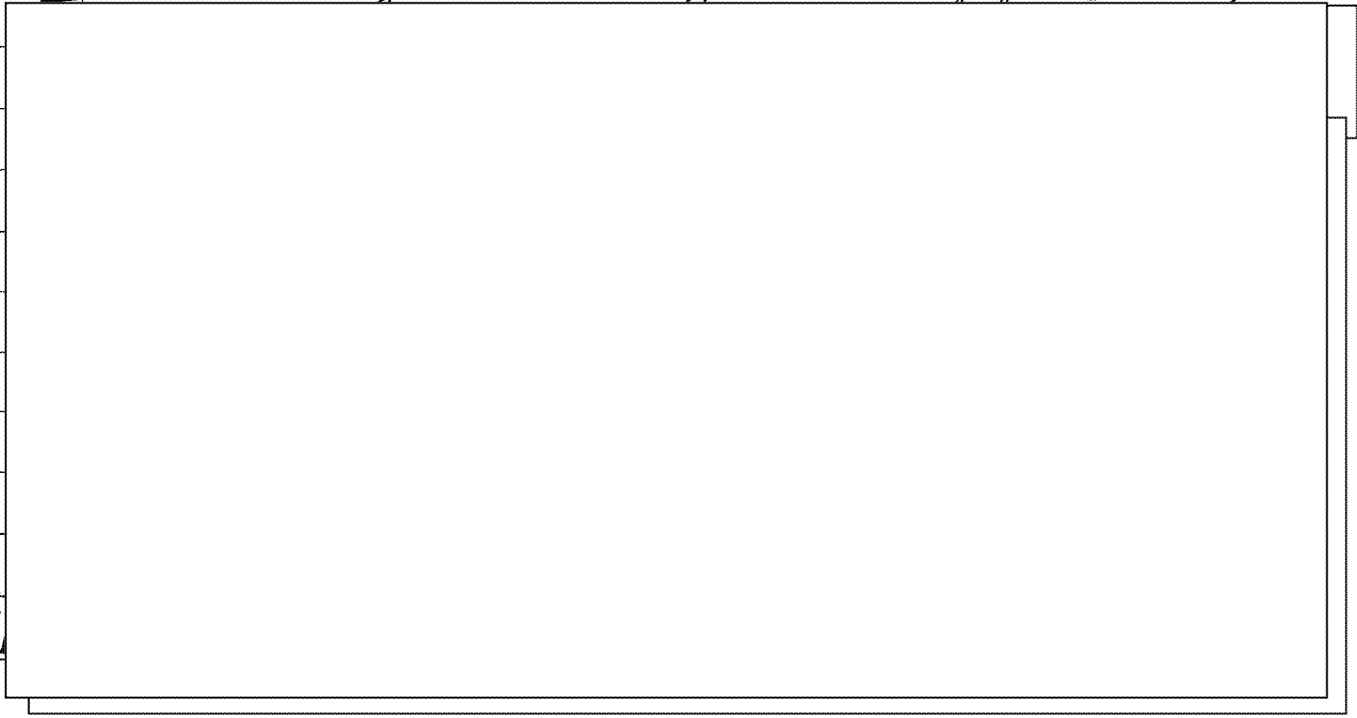
SECRET

Department filed a formal protest, but Langelle was told to leave the Soviet Union within three days. He left the Soviet Union in early October 1959.

Langelle first became aware of Lee Harvey Oswald when he heard in a conversation that a Marine had contacted the American consular office in Moscow to renounce his citizenship. He later heard that this individual had changed his mind and was returning to the United States. He does not recall the details of these conversations, but he believes they took place in the United States.

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Langelle characterized Oswald's defection as a consular case to be handled by consular officers, rather than an intelligence case involving intelligence officers,



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[Redacted]

Fangelle stated that the military intelligence people at the Embassy probably would have been contacted about Oswald's defection. The military intelligence personnel included [Geo Dulacki (Marines), Paul Adams (Navy), John Munson (Navy), and Ted Hollman (Army)].

[Redacted]

Fangelle stated that when Oswald left the Soviet Union, he was the responsibility of the State Department, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the FBI.

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When Fangelle left ~~the~~ ~~Embassy~~ Moscow in 1959

[Redacted]

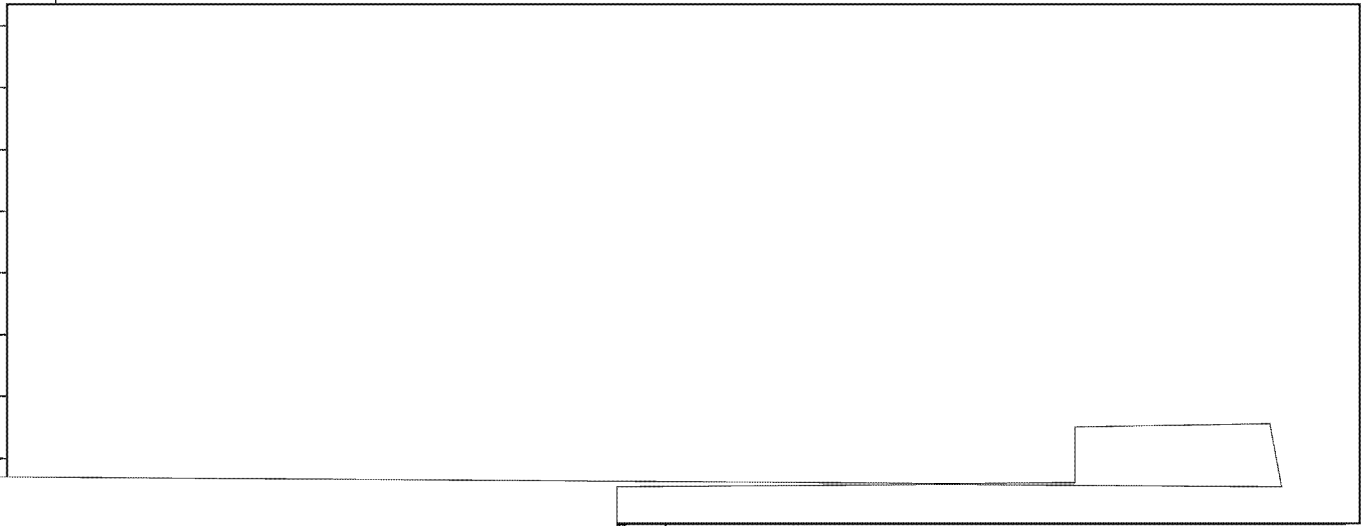
Fangelle's replacement as Embassy Security Officer was John Abidian [who was not with the CIA. Abidian was later replaced by

[Redacted]

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At headquarters the chief of the Soviet Russia Division was John Mawry, followed by Howard Osborne and then David E. Murphy.

With regard to American journalists in Moscow, Langelle had no contacts with R. F. Korengold, or Aline Mosby, did not know A. J. Goldberg, and was contacted by Priscilla Johnson for an interview after he was declared persona non grata.

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When Langelle returned to the United States, he continued working for the State Department. He resumed [his] CIA duties on a part-time basis in 1961. He dealt with communications

[redacted]
In September 1961 he resumed [his] CIA duties on a full-time basis at headquarters. He worked mainly in the Soviet Russia Division, External Operations, Africa and Europe. At present he is still with the CIA

[redacted] but he plans to retire soon.

SECRET

Langelle

Langelle was born on October 7, 1922.

His social security number is [redacted]

He is married, with three children. 30

Langelle
~~Langelle~~

He joined the CIA in September, 1950, and worked mainly in the ^{SR9} Soviet Russian Division. In November 1955 he

resigned from the Agency [redacted] on the pretext that he was disgruntled with his assignments. His CIA files ~~would have~~ ^{would have} reflected ~~the~~ ^{this} termination of employment.

The only document to the contrary would have been a memorandum from the Director of Central Intelligence Allan Dulles, stating that Langelle would

retain all rights and benefits when he returned to the CIA. ^(This document at present, this document) Approximately

fifteen people knew that he was still with the CIA after his resignation in 1955. These included John Maury

(CSE) [redacted] (SR9), Quentin Johnson (Chief of Operations), George Kisevaloch (sp), [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

~~Aug. 1955~~ At the time of his resignation Langelle applied for employment with the State Department.

would probably be in his personnel file.)

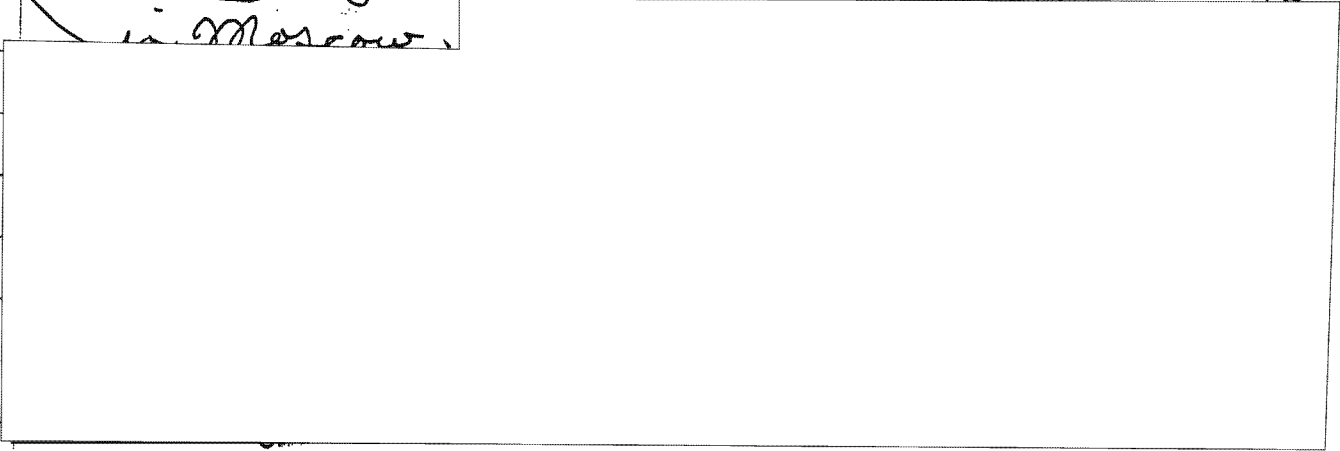
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4/20

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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← [Langelle handled CIA communications
in Moscow.]



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SECRET

2

[deliberately tough on CIA personnel for security breaches in order to ~~build~~ build his cover as a non-CIA foreign service officer.]

3

[redacted]

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In the interim he worked at the Wecht Company. In March 1956 he ~~began~~ started to work at the State Department as a Security Officer. ~~His salary was paid by the State Dept.~~ He was sent to

[redacted]

in September 1956. In September 1956 he was sent to [redacted] where he

~~developed~~ ^{earned} the reputation for being a strict Security Officer. [redacted] ^{at the Embassy. He was} the CIA 27 Chief of Station] ~~and the~~ [redacted] and

the Ambassador knew "he was with the CIA." He served as the Security

Officer at the Moscow Embassy from December 1957 to September 1959.

[In addition, he was the senior CIA Officer there.]

[redacted]

[insert]

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11112582

In 1959 ~~the~~ the Soviets declared L'Angeli persona non grata as a result of ~~his~~ his involvement with P.S. Popov.

[L'Angeli was the case officer for Popov, who worked for the ~~Soviet~~ GRU,

Soviet military intelligence. L'Angeli

~~had been contacting Popov.]~~ While

71W

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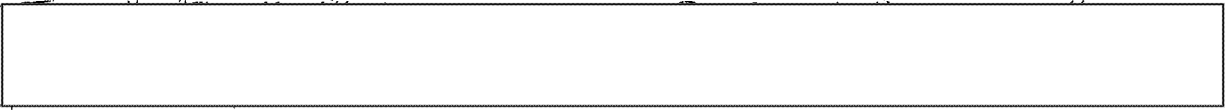
~~after~~ [making a contact with Popov] Langelle was detained by the KGB and was questioned for two and a half hours. The KGB attempted to recruit him, ^{and} then released him, ~~and~~. The State Department filed a formal protest, but Langelle was forced to leave the Soviet Union within three days.

Langelle first became aware of Lee Harvey Oswald when he heard in a conversation that a ~~former~~ Marine had contacted the American consular office in Moscow to renounce his citizenship. He later heard that this individual had changed his mind and was returning to the United States. He does not recall the details of these conversations, but he believes they took place in the United States.

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Langelle characterized Oswald's defection as a consular case to be handled by consular officers [rather than an intelligence case ~~which~~ involving intelligence officers]

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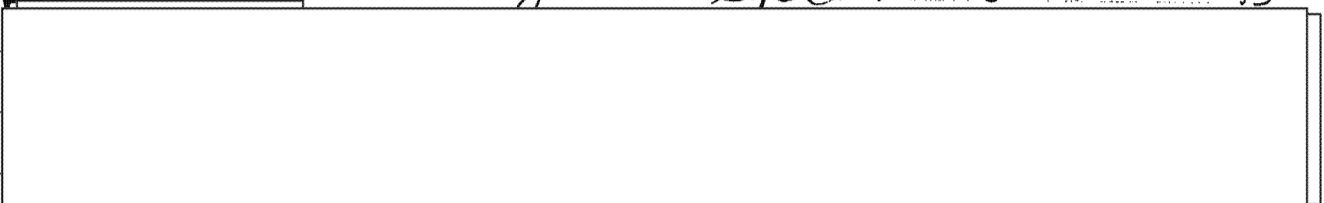
[He stated that Oswald, when he returned



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left the Soviet Union, was the responsibility of the State Department, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the FBI.

When Langelle left Moscow in 1959,



Langelle's replacement as Embassy Security Officer was John Abidian [who was not with the CIA. Abidian was later replaced by



~~Military intelligence personnel in Moscow included [Paul Adams (Navy) Attache (Navy), Ted Hoffmann (Army)]~~

At Headquarters, the chief of the Soviet Russia Division was John Mawry, followed by Howard Osborne and then David E. Murphy.

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When Longelle returned to the United States, he continued working for the State Department. He resumed [his] CIA duties on a part-time basis in 1961. [He dealt with communications]

In September 1961 he resumed [his] CIA duties on a full-time basis at Headquarters. He worked mainly in the Soviet Russia Division, External Operations, Africa and Europe. ~~He is present~~ at present he is still with the CIA.

[redacted] but he plans to retire soon.

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UN

Russell August ~~Langelli~~ ^{Langelli}

SECRET

Genzman
5-4-78

10-7-22

[495-18-8808]³⁰

M 3 ch.

CIA Sept 50 SR Div. (SR9) Language, operational + mil. experience, reliab., stabil. word-disgruntled

Nov 55 Resigned from agency - Sec. Off.

inter in job at Hecht Co.

[memo from director all rights + benefits when returns (Dulles)]

[redacted] 24 [redacted] building COS Kendler (dialed only) status + amb.

Moscow - Dec 57

started State

15 knew (SR 9 - internal ops) gms. component + couple of officers in Division

Sept 59

Mar 56

Sept 56

SE John Nauwer

SR? [redacted] 03

Ch. of Ops Quentin Johnson

George ~~W~~ (sp.) Kisebalter

[redacted]

11112586

Reports + Requirements

Leonard McCoy

[redacted]

DOS - Office of Security

[redacted] stepba not aware

Moscow

[redacted]

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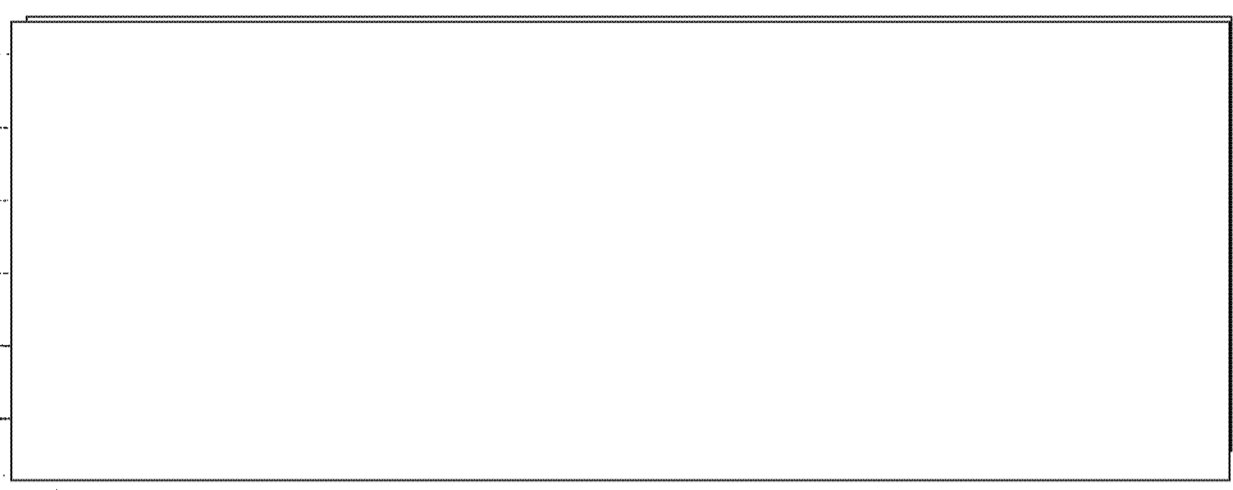
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2

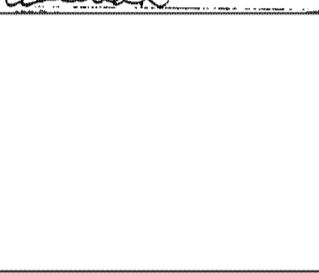
Jangelle
~~Dezard~~

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Gonzman
5-4-78

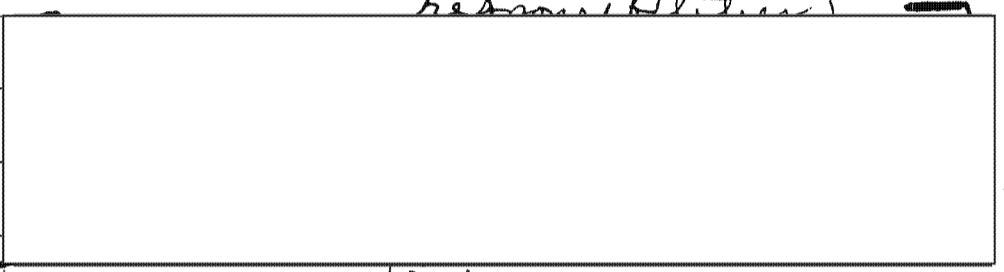


Abidjan



left in 59

John Abidjan (State Sec. Officer
took over State
responsibilities)



PNG
~~turned~~

[agency operation
penetration on BRtl-mil. intell.
Pytor S. Popov agent
1st was case off.
case compromised
got approval from G. Bush.
to kidnap - as stepped
off a bus]
tried to recruit
released after 2 1/2 hrs.
said they would get in touch
State protested

PNG

11112587

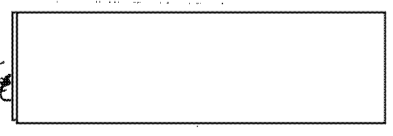
Back to US



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[+ agency functions]

[Resumed] CIA parttime '61, Sept. 61 HQ at



B/R

Sangelle
~~Sangete~~

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5-4-78

(Penkovsky)

cut-out-Brit. wife

SR9 Sept. 61 - 62

[moved back] to CIA

on full-time basis Sept. 61

(Dec. 58 - Sept. 59)

[⁰³Malony] GSA officer

[Communicat.]

SR9 Jack Maury

LHO,

in conversation a consular officer said Malone
renounced citizenship

walk-ins

consular off. would bring it to your attention

in Berlin, handled [Popov] while

in

[- handled Penkovsky
- maybe Rosenko]

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VPV

Sangelle
~~L'Angeli~~

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mil. intell. Paul Adams Nav.

Ted Hoffman Arm

~~Murson~~
Mundsen Nav.

Dulacki Mar.]

would have been contacted

Korenfeld - no contacts

Johnson - asked for interview after his PNG

Mosby - no contacts

Goldberg - didn't know

[Davison - doesn't know if agency
not involved in Pent. to his knowledge]

Provocations

[Harmstone]

~~Red~~

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Naval aviator

Atsugi - 53-55

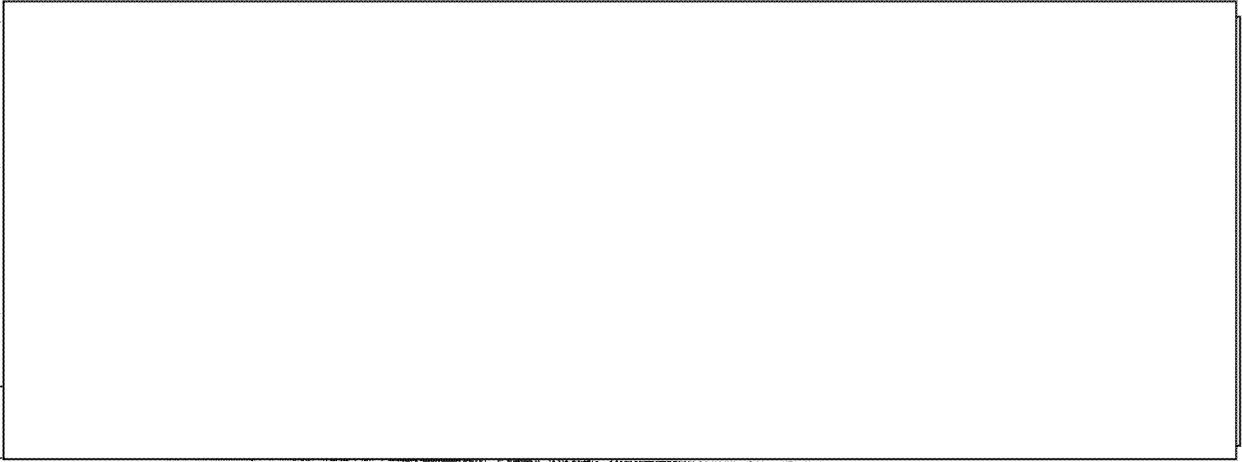
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Langelle
L. Angeli

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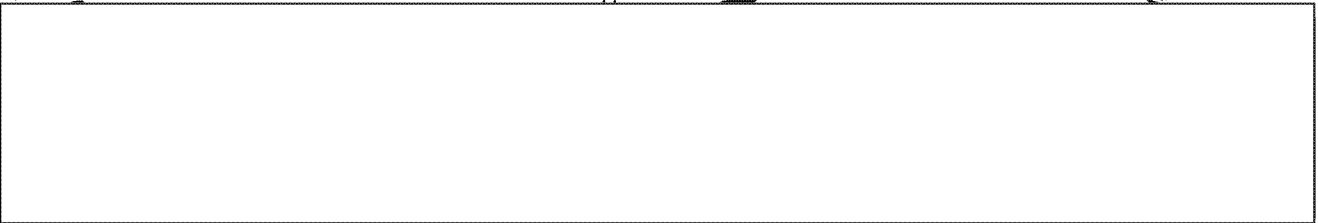
Benzman
5-4-78

62

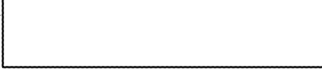


No common source register with mel. + Moscow

63 - SR, Chief of External Ops.
~~SR~~ Africa + Eur.



David E. Murphy - Chief of SR Div. @ 64-65

CoS  during
Popov operation while
L'A in Moscow]

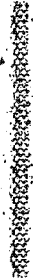
then Maury

followed by Howard Osborne
" " Murphy

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5.



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He believed that the military intelligence people at the Embassy would have been contacted about Oswald's defection. The military intelligence personnel included ~~Paul Hoffman~~ ^{Paul Adams} (Navy), Dulacki (Marines), Paul Adams (Navy), Munson (Navy) and Ted Hoffman (Army).

Langelle did not know ^{whether} Alexis Davison (Navy) ~~was an intelligence officer of whether he was involved in the Penkovsky case or whether~~ ~~Davison~~

With regard to American journalists in Moscow, Langelle had no contacts with R. G. Korengold or Aline Mosby, did not know A. I. Goldberg, and was contacted by Priscilla Johnson ~~after her~~ ~~expulsion~~ for an interview after he was declared persona non grata.

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