

SECRET

LTIV HARDWAY

Substitute Alias for TRUE NAME.

28 MAR 1978

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0256 #13

Interview of Frank Estancona, 3/28/78, by Sam Hardway.

Mr. Estancona acknowledges that he had seen a copy of the release letter and understood it.

Mr. Estancona said that his assignment in Mexico had ended in February, 1962. He said that he had been involved in technical operations and saw the unilateral telephone taps. He said that, in addition to the liaison taps, the Mexico Station had extensive unilateral telephone coverage on the Soviet and Cuban Embassies.

Mr. Estancona said that Tom Haslett had overall responsibility for planning and directing Cuban Operations when Estancona was there. At that time Harry Mahoney ran the photo operations.

Mr. Estancona said that there was only one photo base on the Cuban Embassy. He was

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Mr. Estancona said that the main thing to remember about the Mexico station was that it was very busy and active, and was almost entirely concerned with counter-intelligence.

Estancona said that Islen Widden was "a major cog" in the technical operations in Mexico. He worked outside as a supply and fix-it man. He was involved in all the technical operations.

Estancona was not sure but he thought that ~~Ramon Alvarez~~ was David Wilsted's brother-in-law. He also thought that ~~Alvarez~~ had been involved in some kind of surveillance operation.

David Wilsted was an outside Contract Agent who was involved, as a technician, on all the listening posts. He ~~was~~ also had a lot

to do with all the technical surveillance on the Cuban Embassy.

Estancona said that Win Scott was a "great manager" who was "hyper-dedicated and very demanding." He said that Win Scott's files were probably better than anything I had heard about them. He said that Scott had a very efficient registry system for the files. He said that the files were easy to work with and were extensive. He said that Scott would not tolerate incompetence or lack of thoroughness.

Estancona said that Anne Goodpasture was a "gal who did everything" she was a hard worker, very competent, who helped everyone.

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Estancona said that ~~Herb~~ ~~Mane~~ ~~SECRET~~ was the Soviet

Operations officer but that [Harry Mahoney] did most of the technical/operational work [Name] got the product of [Mahoney's] operations [Estancona] believes that [Mahoney] left Mexico in 1961 [Name] does not remember who replaced him.

[Estancona] believes that Dave Phillips replaced Tom Hallett as chief of Cuban Ops sometime after [Estancona] had left Mexico. In 1962 Robert Shaw was the chief of [the Nogales base].

[Estancona] said that George Munro was an ex-FBI man that Scott picked up. He couldn't remember exactly what he did but remembered that he was involved, in some way, with the Bar of Pigs.