

Agency Information

AGENCY : HSCA
RECORD NUMBER : 180-10110-10003
RECORD SERIES : SECURITY CLASSIFIED TESTIMONY
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 014717

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 54756 Date:
10-31-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : HSCA
FROM : [Restricted]
TO :
TITLE : [Restricted]
DATE : 10/10/1978
PAGES : 85
SUBJECTS :
CIA, FILES
[Restricted]
OSWALD, LEE, RUSSIAN PERIOD
CIA, METHODOLOGY
DOCUMENT TYPE : TRANSCRIPT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 3
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/01/2003
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : Two duplicates enclosed.Box 1.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

- - -

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1978

- - -

House of Representatives,
Select Committee on Assassinations,
Washington, D.C.

The parties to the deposition met at 2:35 p.m., in Room 3370, House Office Building Annex No. 2, Second and D Streets, Washington, D.C.

Present: Robert W. Genzman, Staff Counsel; Charles M. Berk, Staff Counsel; Betsy Wolf, Researcher.

Deponent: Melbourne Paul Hartman.

- - -

The deponent, Melbourne Paul Hartman, was sworn by Shirley B. Dempsey, a Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia.

- - -

Mr. Genzman. My name is Robert Genzman, I am staff counsel to the House Select Committee on Assassinations. I have been designated counsel empowered to take statements under oath pursuant to House Resolution 222 and Select Committee Rule 4.

Mr. Hartman, would you state your full name for the record?

Mr. Hartman. My full name is Melbourne, M-e-l-b-o-u-r-n-e, Paul Hartman, H-a-r-t-m-a-n.

1 Mr. Genzman. Have you been given a copy of the Select
2 Committee's rules and pertinent House resolutions?

3 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I have.

4 Mr. Genzman. Have you read Committee Rule 4?

5 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I have.

6 Mr. Genzman. Do you understand it?

7 Mr. Hartman. I believe so.

8 Mr. Genzman. Is it true that you are not under subpoena
9 for this deposition?

10 Mr. Hartman. Correct.

11 Mr. Genzman. Are you testifying voluntarily?

12 Mr. Hartman. Of course.

13 Mr. Genzman. Do you understand you have the right to have
14 counsel present?

15 Mr. Hartman. Yes.

16 Mr. Genzman. Do you desire to have counsel present?

17 Mr. Hartman. No.

18 Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hartman, a copy of the transcript of this
19 deposition will be sent to you to sign and verify. If, when you
20 receive a copy to sign and verify you desire to make any changes
21 for any reasons, you should contact me and I will make the
22 necessary arrangements to have you make any changes you desire
23 to make.

24 According to Select Committee rules, a witness is entitled
25 to a copy of the corrected transcript; however, because this

1 deposition will involve classified information, it has been
2 our policy to ask the witness to waive his right to a copy.

3 Would you agree to that?

4 Mr. Hartman. No problem.

5 Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hartman, have you ever worked for the
6 Central Intelligence Agency?

7 Mr. Hartman. Yes.

8 Mr. Genzman. Would you give the dates of your employment?

9 Mr. Hartman. 1951 - 1976.

10 Mr. Genzman. In connection with your employment with the
11 CIA, have you ever executed a secrecy oath or secrecy agreement
12 with the Agency?

13 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I have. All employees do.

14 Mr. Genzman. At this time I would like to give you a copy
15 of a document marked as JFK Exhibit No. 94, which is a letter
16 from Mr. Frank Carlucci, Acting Director of the CIA, to the
17 Chairman of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, dated
18 March 23, 1978, and dealing with secrecy arrangements with the
19 Agency. Have you read this letter?

20 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I have.

21 Mr. Genzman. Do you understand it?

22 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I understand it. I have one problem
23 with it: I do not know who of the people whom I might mention
24 is under cover or has retired under cover; therefore, I would
25 have a problem in that respect, but I presume that you gentlemen

1 can work that out with the people at the Agency.

2 Mr. Genzman. That is correct, and if you have any problems
3 or any questions about any of our questions, we can go off the
4 record and discuss it.

5 Mr. Hartman. That would be fine. I just want to be sure
6 that you understand that I don't know who retired under cover
7 and who is still working under cover, and I wouldn't want to
8 jeopardize anybody who has a cover situation.

9 Mr. Genzman. Please understand that the deposition will
10 be classified and that declassification is something that will
11 have to be worked out with the Agency.

12 Mr. Hartman. Right.

13 Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hartman, what was your position in 1963
14 and 1964?

15 Mr. Hartman. I was an operations officer in the Counter-
16 intelligence Staff.

17 Mr. Genzman. Whom did you work under?

18 Mr. Hartman. My immediate boss was Raymond G. Rocca,
19 R-o-c-c-a.

20 Mr. Genzman. Did you have any expertise in records and
21 filing?

22 Mr. Hartman. Well, yes, records.

23 Mr. Genzman. What specific component did you work in?

24 Mr. Hartman. Within the staff, you mean?

25 Mr. Genzman. Yes.

1 Mr. Hartman. The Research and Analysis Group.

2 Mr. Genzman. Would you explain the functions of that group?

3 Mr. Hartman. The functions of the group were very broad
4 and I don't really know because of compartmentization exactly
5 what everybody did; but I did know my functions, of course, and
6 some of my colleagues, but I had no way of knowing all of the
7 functions of all the people.

8 Mr. Genzman. Would you classify yourself as a records
9 expert?

10 Mr. Hartman. Well, let's put it a little differently: I
11 think I would be considered an expert to a degree in the Agency's
12 clandestine service records system. I am not an overall
13 records expert and never have claimed to be.

14 Mr. Genzman. In the course of your duties with the CIA
15 did you ever do any work in conjunction with the investigation
16 of the Kennedy assassination?

17 Mr. Hartman. Yes, such as the Agency was doing.

18 Mr. Genzman. Would you briefly explain your duties and
19 functions?

20 Mr. Hartman. Well, you could break it down into two
21 general periods: One period was during the time immediately
22 following the assassination through the period of the existence
23 of the Warren Commission.

24 The second period -- again, this will be a general term --
25 would be following the dissolution of the Warren Commission and

1 until I left the Agency.

2 During the first period I did ad hoc chores; whatever was
3 given to me, I did.

4 I was also given a very general chore of keeping -- well,
5 let's change that -- of making certain that the file was being
6 kept in as good an order as we could under the circumstances.

7 The second period, however, during the second period I was
8 in effect the custodian of the file, made sure that the paper
9 flowed into it, whatever paper came to us, and that the file was
10 generally in good order.

11 This does not mean -- I want to insert -- this does not
12 mean that I personally did the filing and all of the computer
13 work that was entailed. As I said, I was mainly charged with
14 making certain that the file was kept in that order, but I
15 didn't do the direct work.

16 Mr. Genzman. How long were you in charge of maintaining
17 the file?

18 Mr. Hartman. Until I left the Agency.

19 Mr. Genzman. Which was in 1975?

20 Mr. Hartman. 1976.

21 Mr. Genzman. Excuse me.

22 Who took over your position when you left with regard to
23 the file?

24 Mr. Hartman. I was told that it was a fellow named Russ
25 Holmes, but I wasn't certain of that. I think there was a

1 question about transition and exactly who would take over and
2 so on.

3 Mr. Genzman. Thank you.

4 At this time, Mr. Hartman, I would like to ask you questions
5 with regard to several documents which we will now show you.

6 The first document is labeled "JFK Exhibit F-534." It is
7 a cable dated October 31, 1959, from the U.S. Embassy in
8 Moscow to the Department of State, which discusses Lee Harvey
9 Oswald's desire to defect.

10 Would you please read this cable at this time?

11 Mr. Hartman. Let's go off for a second.

12 (Discussion off the record.)

13 Mr. Hartman. I have read it.

14 Mr. Genzman. Which component at CIA Headquarters would
15 have received this information?

16 Mr. Hartman. I honestly don't know, because I had no
17 connection with the case at that time. I really don't know. I
18 presume that it would have been SIG of the CI staff. If the
19 CI staff at all received it, I presume it would have been the
20 SIG Section, because this man was an American and SIG primarily
21 dealt with counterintelligence problems concerning Americans.

22 Mr. Genzman. Did SIG deal with American defectors and
23 similar cases?

24 Mr. Hartman. It was within their general responsibility,
25 yes.

1 Mr. Genzman. Do you know why SIG had this particular
2 responsibility?

3 Mr. Hartman. That's the way the staff was set up.
4 Primarily, of course, when the staff was set up, someone had to
5 be concerned with the problem of Americans who were dealing with
6 or playing footsy with the Bloc outside of the U.S.

7 In the U.S., the Bureau did it; outside the U.S. it was the
8 Agency's responsibility, in coordination with the FBI.

9 But we have never had an American Desk, so to speak. In
10 other words, we have had branches covering the world except the
11 United States, and so it had to be placed somewhere, and
12 inasmuch as a defector becomes a counterintelligence concern, I
13 presume that's why SIG was given that chore.

14 Mr. Genzman. Thank you.

15 I would next like to show you a document which is labeled
16 according to a CIA page number --

17 Mr. Hartman. May I insert something?

18 The Office of Security also, of course, dealt with
19 questions concerning Americans, and in particular if Americans
20 were applying for employment, but also other cases, cranks and
21 all sorts of weirdos and that type of thing; so it is not
22 inconceivable tht the Office of Security within the Agency might
23 have come into play here. I don't know.

24 Mr. Genzman. I would next like to show you a document
25 labeled, "CIA page 788." That is a 201 file opening form used

1 to open the file on Lee Harvey Oswald?

2 Mr. Hartman. Right.

3 Mr. Genzman. Have you seen this page before?

4 Mr. Hartman. Oh, many times.

5 Mr. Genzman. Why was the file opened by CI/SIG?

6 Mr. Hartman. I really cannot give you a factual answer,
7 but I can make a supposition based on the way things were
8 operating at the time.

9 Inasmuch as SIG had the responsibility concerning Americans,
10 they would have received traffic concerning Oswald, and I know
11 that as a result of the postassassination period that they
12 received traffic before the assassination. I did not know it
13 at the time, of course; and having received documents concerning
14 a person, when you begin to accumulate several, instead of
15 just keeping them loosely somewhere, you can and are permitted
16 to open a 201 file in order to have an orderly, structured
17 situation; also in order to permit the indexing of that
18 person's name, that would then lead a searcher to that file.

19 Mr. Genzman. Do you know why the file was opened by Ann
20 Egerter?

21 Mr. Hartman. Well, she was one of the employees in SIG, one
22 of the senior analysts, and a very learned lady; and she at that
23 time, I presume, and I know now as a result of postassassination
24 information, that she had some cables and some papers concerning
25 Oswald; therefore, she would have opened the file.

1 Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether she handled other defector
2 cases?

3 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I know that she handled other names of
4 Americans who had defected. There were quite a few of them, as
5 I remember, but, again, this is as a result of my knowledge after
6 the assassination and not my knowledge before then.

7 Mr. Genzman. Do you know why there was such a lengthy
8 period between the time when the Agency received the Department
9 of State cable dated October 31, 1939, and the date of the
10 opening of the 201 file on Oswald, which was 9 December 1960?

11 Mr. Hartman. Again, I don't have factual knowledge on that,
12 but I can tell you this much: That is not an unusual thing to
13 have happened; it happened all the time. You don't need to
14 open -- as a matter of fact, the Records Handbook stated that
15 you shouldn't open a 201 file necessarily because you received
16 one piece of paper. A 201 file was generally opened after the
17 receipt of several pieces of paper, not one piece, and there
18 was no rule that required the opening of the 201 file at all; it
19 was a matter of proper and good housekeeping of records and a
20 procedure that permitted you to operate in an orderly fashion
21 regarding your records; but there was no rule ever that you
22 must open the file the day you receive it or one week after you
23 receive it.

24 My presumption in this case is that Betty Egerter probably
25 received the first piece of paper and held on to it and then

1 eventually received another piece and possibly months later
2 a third piece, and another piece, and in due course then she
3 decided, "Well, I've got several pieces of paper; it is about
4 time I put them all into one convenient file," and that's the
5 201 file.

6 Mr. Genzman. But isn't the information which was contained
7 in the cable from the Department of State dated October 31,
8 1959, to the effect that a U.S. Marine was defecting to the
9 Soviet Union, the type of information which would have caused
10 the 201 file to be opened?

11 Mr. Hartman. Not at all. On the contrary, our Records
12 Handbook did not even provide for the opening of a file or
13 indexing of an American defector. We never even thought that
14 an American would ever defect when we wrote the rules, which
15 was in -- I would say -- the mid-1950s or so. It was an
16 unthinkable thing for us. I presume that that's why it was
17 never included. You can bet your life that that ruling that we
18 may open 201 files and index American defectors was inserted
19 into the Records Handbook, which, incidentally, is the book of
20 rules on records in the Agency, sometime after the assassi-
21 nation, quite some time after the assassination, because we
22 suddenly came to the realization then that we had no provisions
23 for indexing of Americans who defected.

24 So it is not at all unusual.

25 Mr. Genzman. At the bottom of the 201 opening form, why

1 is the file marked, "Restricted"?

2 Mr. Hartman. Again, I can only tell you how the records
3 systems operated, rather than why Betty Egerter operated that way.

4 SIG, by its very name, Special Investigators Group, handled
5 sensitive cases, and certainly cases involving Americans are
6 sensitive because you don't want to bandy the names about and
7 you want to keep them closely held so that no injustices are
8 done by revealing information, could conceivably happen that
9 a person who is mentioned in the cable has a brother or sister
10 or some relative employed right in the Agency, so you want to
11 hold it fairly tightly; and by having the file at her desk and
12 restricted to her, meant that anyone wanting to see information
13 in that file would have to come to the SIG section and, more
14 particularly, to her, unless, of course, she weren't available,
15 then they would have to go to the chief of SIG. also.

16 Also, if the file were lodged in the file section, in
17 other words, presuming that at one point here that Betty Egerter
18 would have been through with the file and would have sent it to
19 the file room, the restriction indicated that anyone wanting
20 access to that file would have to first get clearance for such
21 access from Betty Egerter or from the person and section that
22 restricted it.

23 Mr. Genzman. Do you know why the 201 opening form contains
24 an uncorrected middle name, "Henry", for Lee Harvey Oswald?

25 Mr. Hartman. I cannot tell you, except that human errors

1 are made and that is why we have erasures on pencils. That is
2 my only explanation. I don't know.

3 I think all I can tell you is my hypothesis, that, as I recall,
4 Betty had a slug full of names of Americans in the cable and she
5 probably had a number of documents in all of them, and one fine
6 day she decided that she was going to open 201 files on all, and
7 she might have even gotten the clerk to help her fill out the
8 form, for that matter, and whether she or someone else, some helper
9 put "Henry" down instead of "Harvey", getting confused with all
10 these names, I don't know. Is it possible that one of the other
11 defectors -- I think there were something like 17 or 19 others;
12 I don't know -- is it possible that one of their first names or
13 middle names was "Henry" so that in glancing quickly and copying
14 the names she could have made an error? I think it is strictly
15 an unfortunante human error.

16 If you are interested, I want to explain one thing to you.
17 Often we would open 201 files if we have paper and legitimate
18 reason to open it on people who don't even have a first name.
19 Our system required that as you became aware of additional infor-
20 mation on the person, that would go onto the format of an index
21 card and this essentially is that same format, drawn from that
22 same format, that you ought to insert additional information,
23 make corrections as appropriate.

24 Now, all of us were very busy and we didn't have much time,
25 believe me, and we were all handling countless cases, countless

1 projects of one sort or another, and it is not inconceivable
2 that Betty, under the pressure of handling a lot of work, made
3 the error or somebody who was helping her made the error, and
4 nobody went back and corrected it; and even though, as you can
5 see, Mr. Rocca even -- they are his initials -- made a notation
6 that it's Harvey and not Henry, but he made it on this form
7 after the assassination, some years after, and never gave anybody
8 any instructions to correct the record and have the correct
9 index card.

10 But I believe that that correction was made way before then.
11 I think somebody else had spotted it, and it might have been me.
12 It might have been someone else who then made sure that this was
13 corrected on the index card but didn't show the correction on
14 here.

15 I also note something that we are no doubt going to get
16 into later -- we later became aware of aliases that he used,
17 that is, you know, his own concocted phony names that he used,
18 and these concocted names are not on here, on this form, and
19 yet, technically, they should be; but they were put onto the
20 index card, not on this form, so we tried to update these things;
21 but, you know, pressure of work and so on doesn't always make
22 the world go as right as we would like it to be.

23 Mr. Genzman. Thank you.

24 What does the notation "A.G." mean?

25 Mr. Hartman. That's as it says here, occupational -- no,

1 I'm sorry -- it's an occupational and intelligence code that we
2 used. By "code" I mean a code used for computers. In order to
3 be able to recover from the computer a listing, say, of all
4 persons who were, let's say, just as an example, Communist
5 influence agents, on whom we have 201 files, of course, we could
6 go to the computer and ask for such a listing as a result, or
7 with the aid of, this code.

8 Now, the code is always in two letters and stands for either
9 an occupation grouping or an intelligence affiliation, as I
10 recall. We had to be very careful with such codes and one of
11 the provisions in this code, I recall very clearly, was that we
12 would not ever put down an employee of the Agency or someone
13 used by the Agency because we were always fearful that someone
14 could pull out of the computer a listing of our employees or of
15 our contacts or of our connections, so we wanted to make
16 absolutely certain that no such inclusions were had.

17 Therefore, this is strictly based on occupation or intel-
18 ligence affiliation of other countries.

19 Now, I cannot remember honestly -- this is just too much
20 time go by -- what the two letters stand for; but you folks
21 told me that the other day that this stands for American
22 defector to Communism; that's what the AG stands for.

23 Now, I can only hypothesize, but you can get somebody in
24 the records system today or in the olden days, some knowledgeable
25 person, who can tell you exactly what it stands for.

1 I hypothesize that the letter "A", the first letter, must
2 have meant "Communism" and that the second letter would then be
3 a categorization of within the Communism structure, for example,
4 "A.A." might be "Communist influence agent"; "A.B." might be
5 "Communist Party official"; "A.C." might be anything, you name
6 it, Communist something or other. I can't even come up with
7 anything, and I would presume that by the time that we reached
8 this code we had only gone to A.F.

9 Now, this code, "A.G." the "G" was not in existence at the
10 time of the assassination at all, because, again, what I said a
11 little bit ago, the Handbook gave us no provisions for indexing
12 American defectors. At the same time we never thought that an
13 American could ever defect to Communism; therefore, I remember
14 very clearly when it suddenly hit us somewhere within the center
15 of the Warren Commission period that, holy smoke, we wouldn't
16 even have had the authority to index Oswald, really, or an
17 American defector, anytime, nor did we have a code, an
18 occupational code, for that. So we went to the records system
19 in two stages: First, we did the correction of the Handbook,
20 and that takes some time to do. You know, you have to explain
21 what it is that is required and then at the next update a
22 revision of the Handbook that was done. And the same applies
23 here: We went to the machine system, the part of the system
24 that deals with the computers and machines, and we asked them to
25 give us a code, you know, that would be for an American defector

1 to Communism, so my presumption is that at the time of the
2 assassination we had reached the "A.F." period and the "G" --
3 the "A.G." was assigned sometime during the Warren Commission
4 period because we had no code for "American defector" until then.

5 I remember the officer in the CI staff who was charged with
6 the responsibility of the counterintelligence use of computers.
7 He went absolutely nuts when he found out, when we realized that
8 we didn't even have an occupational code for an American
9 defector, just as we didn't have any provisions for indexing an
10 American defector. But who would have ever thought that an
11 American could ever defect?

12 Mr. Genzman. When was the notation "A.G." added to the
13 201 opening form for Oswald?

14 Mr. Hartman. I cannot tell you. I don't know.

15 Mr. Genzman. Can you give an approximation?

16 Mr. Hartman. Sometime, I presume, after the revision, you
17 know, after the addition of this code. I don't know when it was
18 added. As a matter of fact, you know, we don't know when these
19 things were added. The original opening action might well have
20 not had all of this information and that was only added later.

21 The Handbook specifically calls for these kinds of additions
22 and corrections and updating the form and updating of the index
23 cards so that our records are always as reflective as we
24 possibly can make them. But stress of work and so on, who knows?

25 But I don't know. I would presume that it was added sometime in

1 the first third of the Warren Commission's existence, toward
2 the halfway mark of its existence, somewhere around that time.

3 Let me just hypothesize: I don't remember when we realized
4 this shortcoming was in our records and possibly we made that
5 correction at the time that the Warren Commission came over,
6 so that we could -- I don't know that this is true; it is only a
7 hypothesis -- that we would simply tell the Warren Commission,
8 "Look, we didn't have criteria for indexing American defectors
9 at the time. We are assigning these OI codes to them, but we
10 have made that correction." It is a plausible thing, but I
11 don't know that we did then. Maybe it was even later, after
12 they had come.

13 Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether the Warren Commission
14 was specifically apprised of any additions which had been made
15 to the 201 opening form or to any other documents in Oswald's
16 201 file?

17 Mr. Hartman. Documents we would have; the opening form is
18 nothing but an administrative device that has no meaning and
19 certainly no substantive value to the case whatsoever.

20 Mr. Genzman. Are you sure that as of the time of the open-
21 ing of the 201 file for Oswald that the notation "A.G." had
22 never been used by the Agency?

23 Mr. Hartman. As I said before, I cannot tell you with
24 certainty, but I remember very clearly that we did not have a
25 code at the time. When we suddenly realized that, which was

1 some months after the assassination, we requested a code, and
2 that was the code that was given us, "American defector to
3 Communism," and therefore it could not have been at the time
4 that the 201 was opened, but when it was added, I don't know.

5 Mr. Genzman. Thank you. I would now like to show you
6 CIA page no. 787, which contains three index cards for Lee
7 Harvey Oswald. Can you explain what the star after Oswald's
8 201 number indicates?

9 Mr. Hartman. Yes. The asterisk following a 201 number
10 means that the person named on the card is the subject of that
11 201 file. I want to explain, because possibly those people who
12 might read the transcript may not understand, one document might
13 have the names of ten people in it. The principal person,
14 however, is the one into whose 201 file the document goes.
15 The other persons, if they meet our indexing standards, would be
16 indexed and that 201 number would be shown; but that would not
17 have an asterisk behind it, meaning that that person is only
18 named in the document and is not the subject of that entire file.

19 Mr. Genzman. I would next like to have you examine CIA
20 page numbers 943 and 944.

21 Mr. Hartman. Off the record.

22 (Discussion off the record.)

23 Mr. Genzman. Page 943 contains three index cards and page
24 944 contains one index card.

25 Mr. Hartman, can you explain what "HTLINGUAL" means?

1 Mr. Hartman. Yes, I can now, but I didn't know it at the
2 time. I didn't know the cryptonym. I know that "HTLINGUAL"
3 even just from newspapers, was a mail intercept program that was
4 conducted by the CI staff in an extremely sensitive manner,
5 with great compartmentalization because most everyone in the
6 staff had no knowledge of it.

7 Mr. Genzman. Which CIA component ran "HTLINGUAL"?

8 Mr. Hartman. A component known as the CI Project.

9 Mr. Genzman. Was this component also referred to as
10 "Special Projects"?

11 Mr. Hartman. No, not that I know, and I think it was under
12 the general direction -- no, that is not correct. I was going
13 to say under the general direction of SIG, but that is not
14 correct. It had its own chief and everybody just called it
15 "The Project."

16 Mr. Genzman. On the top card, on page 943, what does
17 CI/PROJECT/RE" mean?

18 Mr. Hartman. I don't know exactly what it means, but my
19 hypothesis is that "RE" would stand for the person who did the
20 translation of certain foreign language documents. Those would
21 be his or her initials, so that they could come back to the
22 person who did the translation if there were a question.

23 Mr. Genzman. Whom does "RE" refer to?

24 Mr. Hartman. Specifically, and here again I want to be
25 sure that I am not bothering anybody's cover, my supposition is

1 it is Reuben Efron, R-e-u-b-e-n E-f-r-o-n.

2 Mr. Genzman. What does "N/R-RI" mean?

3 Mr. Hartman. That would mean no record RI; which stands for
4 the Record Integration Division, Records Integration Division.

5 Mr. Genzman. On the middle card on page 943, what does
6 "Watch List" mean?

7 Mr. Hartman. I don't know what it means, but my presumption
8 is that it might have means the State Department Watch List.
9 State had a very good watch list and it might have been that he
10 appeared on the State Departments' watch list, but I really
11 don't know.

12 Mr. Genzman. Why would Egerter's name be on this card?

13 Mr. Hartman. Because she might have asked that her name be
14 put on there, so that any information on this person that was
15 received would be brought to her attention. That's my
16 supposition. I don't know for certain. I really wasn't ever
17 familiar at all with The Project's activities and my only know-
18 ledge is supposition and presumption.

19 Mr. Genzman. What does "Deleted 28 May '62" mean?

20 Mr. Hartman. I don't know. Is it possible that it means
21 that he was deleted, his name was deleted from the watch list
22 in '62, 28 May, or that the requirement for mail regarding him
23 be deleted, but that doesn't make sense, really, because the
24 next card is '63, and they are still watching his mail, so I
25 presume, having entered the U.S., his name might have been

1 deleted from the watch list. I don't know. This is all
2 hypothesis.

3 Mr. Genzman. On the cards, on page 944, what does "CI/
4 Project/PH" mean?

5 Mr. Hartman. Again going on the presumption that this
6 would be the initials of a translator, there was a lady who
7 worked in that section, in the Projects Section, at that time,
8 and her name was Pauline Harvey, and I presume that those are
9 her initials.

10 Mr. Genzman. I would now like to show you a document which
11 has been marked as "JFK Exhibit F-516", which is a cable from
12 CIA Headquarters to Mexico City, dated October 10, 1963, and
13 labeled, "IR74830." Why does this cable make reference to Lee
14 Henry Oswald as opposed to Lee Harvey Oswald?

15 Mr. Hartman. I'm trying to find it here.

16 Mr. Genzman. It's in the first paragraph.

17 Mr. Hartman. Well, I simply presume that someone must have
18 taken the data right off of the 201 opening action. I just
19 presume; I don't know.

20 Mr. Genzman. Does the physical description contained in
21 this cable fit Lee Harvey Oswald?

22 Mr. Hartman. Well, yes, from what I recall of photos in
23 the papers and so on; it sounds about right.

24 Mr. Genzman. Does the cable reflect the fact that it was
25 sent to Mexico City at 0900 Zed time?

1 Mr. Hartman. I presume you know what time. Yes, there is
2 a time indicator, although the copy is very, very bad.

3 Mr. Genzman. Do you know what Zed time means?

4 Mr. Hartman. Zebra time.

5 Mr. Genzman. Do you know what Zebra times means?

6 Mr. Hartman. That's the basic time that is established
7 for traffic throughout the world by the signal center people,
8 the message center people who handle all cables. I think it's
9 also in the military, if I recall correctly. It is a pretty
10 standard identification of time.

11 Mr. Genzman. I would next like to show you a document
12 labeled "JFK Exhibit F-517" which is a dissemination cable
13 dated October 10, 1963, from CIA Headquarters to various agencies.
14 It is labeled, "IR64673." Does the description contained in
15 this cable correspond to the description contained in the
16 previous cable?

17 Mr. Hartman. It does not.

18 Mr. Genzman. I am referring to the description of Lee
19 Harvey Oswald.

20 Mr. Hartman. Yes. This description, of course -- well,
21 he has been known variously as the "Mystery Man" and we used to
22 call him at times the "Ape Man."

23 Mr. Genzman. Are you referring to the unidentified male
24 who was photographed in Mexico City?

25 Mr. Hartman. That is correct, right.

1 Mr. Genzman. In the second paragraph does this cable also
2 contain the middle name of "Henry" for Lee Harvey Oswald?

3 Mr. Hartman. It does indeed.

4 Mr. Genzman. And does this cable indicate that it was sent
5 at 1200 Zed time?

6 Mr. Hartman. Yes.

7 Mr. Genzman. Off the record.

8 (Discussion off the record.)

9 Mr. Genzman. How did you explain the fact that this cable
10 records an incorrect description for Lee Harvey Oswald, whereas
11 the cable which is labeled "JFK Exhibit No. F-516" which was
12 sent three hours earlier at 0900 Zed time, contains a correct
13 description of Lee Harvey Oswald?

14 Mr. Hartman. Well, I have no answer for you that is based
15 on fact, but, again, I have to hypothesize because I didn't
16 write the cables and I wasn't even there when they were written.

17 First of all, let's get the time element squared away. Just
18 because these cables were sent three hours apart does not
19 necessarily mean that the lady who wrote them did the work within
20 those three hours; she might have started on one cable three
21 days before and began her draft, or four days before, and on the
22 second cable at some later time. For that matter, the second
23 cable or one cable or the other, or conceivably even both, might
24 have been done by an assistant. In other words, both cables need
25 not even have been written by the same person, but they might

1 well have been.

2 The originator's name would be the person who is responsible
3 for having written the cable, but need not necessarily be the
4 very person who did the work.

5 Now, I can picture how something like this occurs: First,
6 she would have written one cable and she would have taken the
7 information off of possibly the 201 file, for that matter --
8 I don't know -- or from a Bureau report, conceivably. The
9 Bureau notoriously used to put down on the last page of the
10 initial document on a case, and often even on subsequent
11 documents, the man's full name, all his particulars and so on,
12 and she might have been -- I have done this myself, trying to
13 work four files at one time or four pieces of paper and
14 holding up pages and flipping them -- she might have flipped
15 the page open here and copied the information for that.

16 When she went back to the next cable, or whoever did the
17 next cable if she didn't, they might have copied that right
18 off of a different document that was sent in from Mexico
19 or however, because it is said in this cable -- you see in the
20 second one -- it said, "It is believed that Oswald may be
21 identical "with or to," so and so; then there is another phrase
22 "The American was described as approximately 35 years old" et
23 cetera. This gives me the impression that she took this
24 information from another secondary or even tertiary reporting
25 source, whereas, this, the preceding cable, is straightforward

