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JFK RECORDS

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Summary of CI soft file on the
unidentified man photographs.

prepared by DAN HARDWAY

3/15/78

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CI Soft File on MMM photo.

1. Blind memo dated 5/5/77:

"As a result of a detailed search of old records forwarded to Washington from Mexico City, three of the original reports of the "Unidentified man" were located. According to these records, the man visited the Soviet Embassy on 2 October 1963 (not 1 October as reported in Mexis-6453 of 8 October 1963) from 1216 to 1222 hours (local time) and on 4 October 1963 from 1115 to 1132 hours.

1/ The same man visited the Cuban Consulate at 1115 hours on 15 October 1963. 2/ The records contain negatives of five frames of photographs. Prints from two of these frames were sent to Headquarters as a part of the Station file on Oswald because this man was mistakenly linked to the Oswald investigation before it was known that Oswald had left Mexico

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City before this man went to the Soviet Embassy. The three additional frames will be printed and filed with the other photographs in 201-289248 Mexico file but these photographs add no new information.

2. Photographs of the unidentified man were provided by three separate unilateral sources. The original records were located for two of these sources.

(This is a report for 2, 4, and 15 October 1963). The other records are believed to have been destroyed in Mexico since the original file folders were located and had been re-used for more recent records. 3/

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2. Blind, undated memo regarding the delay in sending the first cable about Oswald.

"1.... It was discussed in Dave Phillips book as a ~~result~~ case of laziness on the part of the Soviet case officer (which in my view was unjust and unnecessary and indicates that Dave ~~Phillips~~ didn't know what he was talking about)

2. Normally, the Spanish transcript for the 1 October conversation would have been picked up on the morning of the 2nd of October. The Russian language portion would have gone to the Russian/English transcriber on the 3rd of October. The translation would have been returned the following day (4th) at which time, the Soviet case officer would have asked for the photographic coverage. That coverage would not have been in the station before the 7th since the film

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was still in the camera on the 3rd of October and it was picked up probably on the 4th, processed and passed to the Station on the next work day which would have been Monday 7 October.

3. Later the film was taken out of the camera every day but at that time, the film stayed in the camera until a full roll was completed which might take three or four days.

4. A name trace could have been requested on the basis of the name alone but that wasn't the way Min Scott ran that Station. He wanted the photographic coverage tied in with the telephone coverage.... It was also part of the 'numbers game' of justifying a project by the number of dispatches, cables, or reports produced."

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3. Log of Film #744; Tuesday, 1 October; Coverage 900 to 1900; also gives Camera Setting & weather designation. This log also covers the 2nd & 3rd of October. It is in Spanish (Sovemb pictures).
4. Log Film 145, October 4, 1963
In Spanish; Sovemb pictures
5. Log from Cubemb photos
Film #260 10/15/63. Log is in English. The entry in the log about the MMR says: "Man; sent to the Consulate"
6. Memo (blind) dated 5/2/77
"1. On 2 May 1977, ~~████████████████████~~
and ~~████████████████████~~ ^{EMPLOYEES} visited
the ~~████████████████████~~ Records Center
to review old Mexico City files
in search of additional photographs of the "unidentified man".
We were unable to locate any such photographs. It appears that earlier photographs may have been destroyed in a purge of Mexico City Station files and that the folders for the destroyed

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material were re-used to forward more recent photographic material to Headquarters for retention.... Dispatch HMMT 11,368, dated 17 March 1972. Photos were filed in re-used subject and "P" folders (equivalent of subject 201 folders) indicating contents of original subject. An 'P' files were destroyed. Ref (to previous shipment) HMMA 40,562, 21 May 1971."

7. Blind, undated memo entitled "Mexico Station Coverage of Soviet and Cuban Embassies (1963)":

a. There were three photo coverage sites on the Soviet Embassy. One was directly across the street from the Soviet gate. The second covered the backyard of the Soviet compound. The third was a backup position for the first one. The first base was closed when the station learned that the Warrens

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Commission was going to publish a copy of the M M M photograph.

b. These three bases were managed by an agent ~~_____~~

~~_____~~. He collected the film from the two main bases three times a week. The film was then developed and printed onto 8X10 contact print sheets by another recruited outside agent.

c. ~~The Embassy~~ Station clearly had a unilateral telephone surveillance operation on the Soviet Embassy prior to 1958. In that year the Mexicans proposed a joint operation ^{WHICH WAS INSTALLED.} ~~The American~~ taps were removed to prevent their discovery by the Mexicans when they put their taps in. It is unclear to me whether the unilateral taps were reactivated.

