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AMMUG memos

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5 May 64 Blind memo

Subject - General: Debriefing of AMMUG-1
Specific: Oswald case

Source has no direct knowledge of LHO or his activities but was able to provide items of interest based on comments of CUIS officers assigned to DSI, of which source himself was a staff officer. Info below furnished by source + keyed to questions submitted by KODESK

1. Prior to October 1963, LHO visited the Cuban Embassy in Mex Cy 2 or 3 times. Before, during, + after these visits, LHO was in contact w/ DSI, specifically Luisa Calderon, Manuel Vega Perez, + Rogelio Rodriguez Lopez.

Vega, CUIS pseudo-Maicos, currently CUIS chief in Mex. Had recent TDY in Habana, run to which was chief CUIS in Mex.

Rodriguez is CUIS staff officer in Mex. CUIS pseudo ~~Maicos~~, Eduardo, Casimiro, + Jose Antonio

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The precise relationship of Luisa Calderon to the DSI is not clear. She spent about six months in Mex. from which she returned to Cuba early in 1964.

Comment: WH/SA/CI has the following references concerning Luisa Calderon Carralero: She was assigned to the commercial office of the Cuban Embassy in Mex. Cy, and she had arrived in Mex on 16 Jan 63 and on 11 Dec 63 made a reservation to return to Cuba on Cuban Airlines "Mexi 7371,

13 Dec 63 IN-80351, HMM-8153!

She left Mex Cy for Havana on 15 Dec 63 using passport E/63/H. "Mexi 7423, 17 Dec 63, IN-82692.

Another reference "HMMA-20971, 25 March 63" said that her date of arrival in Mex was 19 Jan 63 and that she had replaced Rosario Vazquez, a Mex seiy in the commercial office.

Other references apparently concerning the subject are HMM-6913 and Mexi 3205 IN-56591, dated 26 Jan 63, which do not appear to add anything of interest to that given above.

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2. Source doesn't know if LHO used in agent capacity ^{or by other means.} by DSI

3. When JFK's assassination learned of by DSI, caused much comment concerning the fact that LHO had been in Cuban

Embassy in NY. Orders issued for all HAs and field offices of the DSI to sort + package all docs according to whether 1) very secret 2) secret 3) important.

Once packaged, material was to be held pending further instructions. Also, all travel by DSI officers and all DSI pouches were suspended temporarily.

B. When news of that LHO was assassin under DSI, no immediate comment but, when Fidel Castro spoke on TV to deny Cuban involvement, there was considerable com-

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ment concerning Oswald's visit to the Cuban Embassy in NY. At this time, Vega, who was mentioned previously, was in Cuba

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request visa but had been refused. Vega did not give any details + the subject ^{was not} pursued.

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4. Not known ^{inform} if LHO visit to Cuban Consulate in Mex in Sept 63 was relayed to any Cuban service.
5. Not known if CUIS had contact w/ N.O. FPCC

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FOIA 687-295

11 May 64 Memo for DDP XAA2-27215
Subj. AMMUG/1 info on LHO
from Raymond Rocca

memo is for info + for action

Info: AMMUG, CUIS defector has produced info of interest to the Pres's Commission of Assass of JFK. CI Staff learned of AMMUG/1 on 30 April. Questionnaire submitted by Staff on 1 May (Attach A). Swenson, who is handling MUG decrypting provided a reply on 5 May (Attach B)

"It was clear from Mr. Swenson's summary that AMMUG/1 had information bearing on the Oswald relationship w/ the Cuban Embassy and Cuban Intel. personnel in Mex Cy, albeit his knowledge was not that of a direct participant in matters

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affecting Oswald. A follow-up questionnaire was submitted to AMMUG/1 on 6 May (Attach C).

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Mr. Swenson's reply was dated 8 May (Attach D). Attention is directed particularly to the content of paragraph two of Attachment D.

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" We have the problem of reconciling the operational exploitation of AMMUG/1 and satisfying the responsibilities we have undertaken w/ Mr. Rankin. AMMUG/1 is such an operational gold mine that Mr. Swenson wants, at a maximum, two months to work fully. It is palpable, however, that we must furnish to the Commission the substance of Ammug/1's information on Oswald before that. On the previous record of our association w/ the Commission, particularly w/ Mr. Rankin, it seems possible for the Agency to work out an arrangement w/ Mr. Rankin personally that would take care of their needs and ours after a frank discussion of the equities.

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It is recommended that DDP in person or via a designee, ~~not~~ preferably the former, discuss AMMUG/1 situation on a very restricted basis w/ Mr. Rankin at his earliest convenience either at

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the Agency or at the Commission HQs. Until this takes place it is not reasonable to put anything in writing

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b. Source has known Calderon for several years. Before going to NY, she worked in the Ministry of Exterior Commerce in dept known as "Empresa Transport". She was Sec'y Gen'l of the Communist Youth in the dept named in the previous sentence.

c. Susana Calderon was transferred directly from her position in the Min. Ex. Com. to a post in NY, a matter of surprise to the source.

d. Rogelio Rodriguez Lopez (DGI pseudo Marcos) shortly before he left Cuba for NY on or about 16 April 64 saw Calderon.

4. As explained to CI staff, ~~SECRET~~ any publicity about source, his defection to KOBARIK, or extent of his knowledge of DGI activities might prejudice operational use of the source, + of info he has provided.

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Eggs might be appropriate to point out to WC (as agreed by DC/WH/SA) that KOBARIK hopes by using source to obtain access to DGI personnel including those mentioned in par. 3 above ^{signed swanson}

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Attach 3 - 6 May 64, proposed questions on Oswald case
re: Debriefing of A/1, dated 5 May 64
(same as attach #1)

Attach 4 8 May 64,
memo for: Chief CI Staff
attn: Mr. Poca

Subj: Her'l: Debriefing of A/1
Specific: The Oswald case

Ref: A. Blind memo dated 5 May 64
B. Blind memo dated 7 May 64
C. Conversations between CI Staff & C/WH/SA/CI

1. When Oswald case first discussed w/Source specific ?'s by CIA staff were posed. The answers given by the Source were reported in Reference A. That memo which I dictated to a CI Staff stenographer appears accurate except for sentence #9 which should have said that the only possible "fabrication" known by Source was the specific denial by Fidel Castro, on a television program, of any Cuban knowledge of Oswald.

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2. On 7 & 8 May 64 I further discussed the Oswald Case with the Source in order to clarify exactly what

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he knew and what he had heard. In the light of the explanation given by him, I believe that a clear understanding of what he knows can be reached if I record his knowledge w/out using the ? and answer format. Accordingly, in the following paragraphs I shall report all the information given by the Source paraphrasing his explanation and comments.

" I have no personal knowledge of Lee Harvey Oswald or his activities and I do not know that Oswald was an agent of the DGI or any other Directorate or department of the Cuban Government.

" I first heard of Oswald after the assassination of President Kennedy when news media carried the name of Oswald. Personnel in the DGI first commented ~~about~~ ^{about} the case, so far as I can recall, one day after lunch when a group of officers, of whom I was one, were chatting. The officers present were about ten including Roberto Santiesteban, Roberto Hernandez de Curbelo, ~~the~~ Andres Armona, Pedro Farina Diaz and Manuel Vega Perez. Manuel Vega Perez, previously

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had been assigned to Mex in the Cuban Consulate where he was the principal intell. officer of the D61. Vega mentioned that Oswald had gone to the Cuban Consulate two or three times in connection w/ a visa application during the time that Vega was in Mex.

I gathered, although I do not know that Vega made any specific statement to this effect, that Vega personally had seen Oswald. I well could have reached this conclusion because normally Vega and his assistant in Mex for the D61, Rogelio Rodriguez Lopez, would see persons applying for a visa to go to Cuba. This is because D61 officers are charged w/ expediting the granting of visas of agents of the D61. Such agents on appearing at the Consulate use a special phrase to indicate their relationship w/ the D61. (I do not know ~~the~~ the particular phrase used in every case. I do know that agent from El Salvador in requesting visas always made mention of the name "Mauricio.") The D61 officer at a Consulate interview visa applicants to find out if they are agents. If the visa applicant does not use one of the indicated phrases, the D61 officer, instead of granting the visa immediately, tell the applicant to

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