

ATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Serial: N0078 26 January 1976

TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (INTELLIGENCE)

SUBJECT: Senate Select Committee Queries to NSA Concerning the Warren Commission

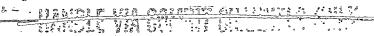
Reference your letter dated 14 January 1976 transmitting a request from Mr. Alton Quanbeck of the Senate Select Committee Staff. The following information is provided in response to Mr. Quanbeck's letter, keyed by paragraph to his letter (inclosed - see underlined portions). Most of the information was made available to the SSC Staff, Mr. Jim Johnson, during an interview with Dr. Louis Tordella on 20 January 1976.

Para. 1. - NSA requested permission to retain photocopies of those reports on which we had worked merely as record copies of our efforts on behalf of the Commission. It was felt that if a question should arise at that time concerning what analytic efforts had been involved and the number of manhours expended, a record copy would prove useful. No operational use was made of these documents except to hold them on file for a period of time which cannot now be determined. To the best of our present knowledge, the photocopies have now been destroyed. Absolutely no results relevant to the assassination were obtained through NSA's analytic look at the exhibits. The Commission, in the person of Mr. Allan Dulles, had asked Dr. Tordella, informally, to review the exhibits for any secret writing or codes which might have been contained in the documents. Dr. Tordella, after causing a careful review of the documents by NSA cryptanalysts, reported verbally to Mr. Dulles and other Commission members that nothing whatsoever had been achieved by the · analytic effort. No written reply was submitted.

Classified by DIRMSA/CHOTS (NSI/CSSM 123-2)
Exempt from CDS, TO 19CTS Anti-Eller
Declassify Upon Notifier Not To the Delginator

and the second control of the contro





Serial: N0078

Para. 2. - NSA is uncertain as to what is precisely meant by these comments, but we assume that the comments on names refer to our biographic files which are maintained on foreign personalities of potential intelligence significance. As the Committee knows, these biographic files are maintained (now at CIA incidentally) as analytic support. It is also possible that the Commission was referring to the fact that names are frequently seen in traffic collected for foreign intelligence purposes and therefore NSA might have access to foreign names not otherwise available to the Intelligence Community.

Para. 3. — It may well be that CIA did obtain such transmissions and pass them to NSA for analysis, but no one presently working that analytic area recalls such a request. Discussions with Dr. Tordella also failed to shed any light on this subject. There are no files or records which we have been able to locate from that time frame which would substantiate such a claim. In fact, the only file the responsible analytic group has been able to locate concerning a request from the Warren Commission deals with a file compiled from open sources citing major dates in the last months of Oswald's life. Presumably the date file was to be compared with NSA product on/about the key dates in the hope that something could be deduced. The file does not contain any "hits."

Para. 4. - The informal request from Mr. Dulles is the known total extent of NSA's role in assisting in the investigation. The file discussed in Paragraph 3 is the only file thus far recovered. There is no information which can now be identified which was developed from Cuban or Soviet transmissions relating to the assassination.

Para. 5. — We have no information on this subject at all. However, pursuant to the subject raised during the Tordella interview, we have searched our files manually, and as Mr. Lowman agreed during the Tordella interview, we have recovered three product reports (Inclosures 2 through 4) which show that Cuban military forces did go on alert immediately after the assassination. There is no SIGINT evidence, however, that the Cuban forces were alerted prior to the assassination, thereby suggesting that they had prior knowledge of the event.

Serial: N0078

Para. 6. - No hard copy material of any kind was provided to the Commission (see Para. 1).

DAVID D. LOWMAN Special Assistant to the Director

for Cóngressional Reviews

4 Incls: a/s

and a second of the contract of the public of the contract of

N0078

DIR fiess incis cc: D/DIR ESS ESS/R ESS Mr. Lowman NCRDEF A, Miss Caracristi (Less Incls) L221

Inclosures 2 through 4 are product reports numbered R66-63, 2/0/ R196-63 and 2/0/ R58-63.

Frank Foster/O/ESS/3161s/26 Jan 76/kjb

OFFICE	RECEIVED			RELEASED		SEEN NY	
	SIGNATURE	DATE	71822	3175	31:45	NAME & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE
	, '0						
							
• 8	•	-				•	
	▽						_
		1 1	-				
							1
			<u> </u>			0	
•	•		,				
		į į		Ĭ	90)

Hendle Via Indicored Cominds

— COMMINT

Access to this document will be restricted to those persons cleared for the specific projects;

WARRING

This document contains information effecting the notional security of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws U. S. Code Title 18, Sections 793, 792 and 798. The law prohibits its transmission or the revelotion of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person, as well as its use in any manner prejudicial to the safety or interest of the United States or for the benefit of any foreign government to the detriment of the United States. It is to be seen only by personnel especially indoctrimated and authorized to receive information in the designated control channels. Its security must be maintained in accordance with regulations pertaining to the BYEMAN and Communications Intelligence Controls. No action is to be taken on any communications intelligence which may be contained herein, regardless of the advantage to be gained, if such action might have the affect of re-coling the existence and nature of the source, unless such action is first approved by the appropriate authority.

TOP SECRET

Dnej 1

CACY DANT CULO.

william E. Miller, Stapp Bineevor Prededict a. O. Schmant, In., Chief Counsil Curver, Smothers, Minority Counsil

ed States Mirate

SELECT COMPLITTEE TO study covernmental operations with RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSJOWY 70 S. RES. 31, DATH COMERGES)

Washington, D.C. 20510

January 13, 1976

Mr. Thomas K. Latimer Special Assistant to the Secretary U. S. Department of Defense Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Tom:

In connection with the Select Committee's investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, we earlier received answers to certain questions put to NSA. Since then we have examined other material pertaining to NSA's contribution to the Warren Gommission's investigation and we desire further information from NSA.

By way of background for this request, we note the Warren Commission provided NSA various documents and asked NSA to review them for any cryptological significance. NSA found no cryptological significance and its report of this fact was published by the Commission.

- By letter of July 10, 1964, (a copy of which is attached) Mr. Rankin provided General Blake a copy of certain decuments requested by Dr. Tordella for NSA's files. Since NSA's analysis of the documents was apparently completed at the time of Rankin's letter, we wish to know why NSA wanted to keep these documents for its file. Further, we wish to know what use, if any, was made of these documents and what results relevant to the assassingtion were obtained from such use.
- 2. In a Commission staff internal memorandum, discussing the documents provided NSA, it is reported that NSA is "primarily interested in names," and NSA claims it has "information on names which the CIA does not have." Assuming these statements are accurate, we wish to know what significance such names would have

Cirini : 55C Indif Pather ther taken of the passifications SCH: 1:4: 6: 6 6 6 11:52 - 1.55: 1.00 - 1.7 6. 0.8: ro chieling the modern

January 13, 1976 JULE VIA COMMINICATIONS STATES

to NEA and what information on names NSA had that CIA did not. If names had significance, what names did NSA use in its analysis?

- 3. We are informed that CIA obtained transmissions from the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City for November or December 1963 and that it may have passed these to NSA for analysis. Did NSA receive these transmissions or any transmissions relevant to the assassination inquiry? Did it analyze them? What were the results of its analysis?
- 4. We are interested in learning the extent of NSA's role in assisting in the investigation of the assassination. In that connection, please inform the Committee the extent of NSA files relating to the assassination. Please provide the staff of the Committee access to those files. Please provide the staff with a summary of all information NSA developed from Cuban or Soviet transmissions relating to the assassination.
- 5. We have been informed that after the assassination the Cuban government instructed its embassies and consulates to return all files on Oswald to Cuba. What information does NSA have on whether such instructions were issued?
- 6. In connection with the answers to questions 4 and 5, please indicate whether such material was provided the Warren Commission and provide copies of all documents evidencing that fact.

We would appreciate receiving a response to these questions as soon as possible and to expedite this inquiry we are sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Foster of NSA.

Sincerely,

Al

Alton H. Quanback

cc: Frank Foster

CLESSIFICE BY SSC INTELLE CICK

EXEMPT FROM CHARLE & MILLIANSIFICATION

CHICLES AS ASSETTION LAISE BAYE

Solid AND ASSETTION LAISE BAYE

AND CHARLES BURLASSIFIED ON

AND CHARLES ASSETTION AND CONTROL

CONTROL ON CO. OR CO. OR CO.

11 this yes to see the country of th