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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 103211A
2 November 2018

JOHN GREENEWALD
27305 W LIVE OAK ROAD
SUITE 1203
CASTAIC CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 25 December 2017 for Intellipedia entries on "JFK Assassination". As stated in our initial response to you, dated 9 January 2018, your request was assigned Case Number 103211. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. There are no assessable fees for this request. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

For your information, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intelink. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search across the three levels of Intellipedia and located one document responsive to your request. The document is enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the document.

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities, in this case, internal URLs, as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We have determined that such information exists in this record, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from

disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you requested against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be in sent via U.S. postal mail, fax, or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

The facsimile number is (443)479-3612; the email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.

- It must be postmarked or delivered electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial of requested information was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

For further assistance or to discuss your request, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. OGIS contact information is Office of Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail: ogis@nara.gov; main: 202-741-5770; toll free: 1-877-684-6448; or fax: 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

Paul H
for

JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encl:
a/s



(U) JFK Assassination

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From Intellipedia



(U) This article is **historical**.

(U) It will be updated only occasionally, if at all. However, editors are still encouraged to update and refine it. Please retain it for reference purposes.

After President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on 22 November 1963, the US Government briefly suspected that the Soviet Union might have perpetrated this crime. Fears of Moscow's complicity were revived in early 1964 because of a convoluted counterintelligence episode involving CIA's legendary James Angleton and KGB defector Yuri Nosenko ^[1]. No case in the Agency's history was more fraught with potential for conflict. If Nosenko was found to be a dispatched agent, it would suggest that Moscow had ordered the murder of a American president--probably a casus belli for the United States. Consequently, Nosenko was detained and harshly treated for nearly four years when it appeared to CIA officials like Angleton that he might be hiding a Soviet role in the assassination. Meanwhile, Angleton's pursuit of the CIA mole whom Nosenko allegedly was protecting damaged many Agency officers' careers and tarnished the CI chief's reputation.^[2]

When news of Kennedy's assassination reached Langley, Richard Helms --then the Agency's head of operations--recalled that "[w]e all went to battle stations over the possibility that this might be a plot--and who was pulling the strings." Especially after assassin Lee Harvey Oswald's murder two days later, Agency officers could not until mid-December rule out the possibility that Oswald was a Soviet or Cuban hit man.^[2]

Suspicious of KGB complicity were revived in late January 1964 when Nosenko--a counterintelligence officer who had first been in touch with CIA in 1962--recontacted the Agency in Vienna and soon defected. Between the two meetings, Angleton and like-minded CIA officers began to doubt Nosenko's credibility, but now his startling disclosure that he had been assigned to watch Oswald during the latter's defection to the Soviet Union (from 1959 to 1962) was the main reason for CIA's suspicion of him.^[2]

Nosenko's surprise decision to defect and his news that Oswald was not a KGB asset seemed too convenient to Angleton and other Agency officials. Moreover, Nosenko contradicted the assertion of Angleton's key source on the KGB, defector Anatoly Golitsyn, that the Soviets had a mole inside CIA. Golitsyn claimed that Nosenko was a disinformation agent sent both to discredit him and to hide Moscow's hand in President Kennedy's death. DCI John McCone, Helms, and senior Agency executives decided that an extraordinary effort to elicit the truth from Nosenko was essential because, as Helms later said, "if it were shown that Oswald was acting as a Soviet agent when he shot President Kennedy, the consequences to the United States and to the world, would have



Intelligence History Portal



Yuri Nosenko

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

Doc ID: 6640531

been staggering." Despite being kept in austere conditions for over three years and periodically subjected to harsh interrogation (none of which Angleton ordered), Nosenko never changed his story. Nosenko was eventually released and compensated.^[2]

Meanwhile, doubts about Nosenko energized Angleton's molehunt. If the Kremlin had gone so far as to murder an American president, Angleton reasoned, it would attempt to hide its complicity by using its hypothetical mole inside CIA to support the credibility of a false defector sent to report that Oswald had no tie to the KGB. Acting on Golitsyn's vague leads, Angleton did find a mole, but because he was not as senior or as damaging as Angleton had thought, and was no longer working for CIA, the search continued for the "primary mole" supposedly still inside Langley. Along the way, forty Agency officers were put on the suspect list and fourteen were thoroughly investigated. Although innocent, all had their careers damaged by the "security stigma."^[2]

Angleton was fired in December 1974 amidst the "Family Jewels" scandal, and as details of the Nosenko case and the molehunt became widely known inside and outside the Agency, his theories and methods fell into disrepute, and the CI Staff's resources and prestige plummeted. Not until after the "year of the spy" in 1985 would the Agency's CI capabilities begin to be restored.^[2]

References

1. Nosenko passed away in August 2008 [redacted] (b) (3) - P.L. 86-36
2. This item was contributed by the Center for the Study of Intelligence, CIA: (improved citation needed)

Retrieved from [redacted]

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(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

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