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TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

5 January 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 5 January 1978

The Director was on leave; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Cary advised that progress has been made in expediting House Select Committee on Assassinations Counsel Blakey's access to file material. Shackley noted that additional manpower has been assigned to this task.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

2 February 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 2 February 1978

The Director was on the West Coast; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Miller reported that the House Assassinations Committee now wants access to the Church Committee files. It was noted that the SSCI has custody of same. Miller will meet with Congressional Staffers Epstein, Blakey, and Walt to determine the appropriate procedures.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

6 February 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 6 February 1977

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Miller advised that the SSCI and the House Assassinations Committee are negotiating regarding granting the latter's staff access to the Church Committee documents.

3 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 3 March 1978

Waller reported that the House Assassinations Committee may put former Agency employee Vincent Thill under oath with regard to the allegation that former BND employee Siragusa tried to recruit him in connection with assassination plotting against Castro.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

20 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 20 March 1978

The Director was out of the country; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Waller advised that former Legislative Counsel Maury will be interviewed on "Panorama" today at noon with Edward Epstein, author of Legend: The Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald. Waller noted that Epstein was apparently close to former Deputy Chief of the CI Staff Rocca, and McMahon added that Epstein also apparently had conversations with former employees Angleton and Sullivan.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

31 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 31 March 1978

The Director was out of the country; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Miller said the House Assassinations Committee has asked for an analysis of President Kennedy's assassination allegedly provided to the Agency by E. Howard Hunt.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

11 April 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 11 April 1978

The Director was meeting with the SSCI Staff; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

White said that the House Assassinations Committee plans to interview former DDO IA employee Ann Goodpasture on the topic of Lee Harvey Oswald. Waller noted that Ms. Goodpasture assisted the Agency in its investigations and is a reliable person.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

21 April 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 21 April 1978

The Director was on leave; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

White reported that the House Select Committee on Assassinations wants to interview Mr. Soley of Security, retired DDO employee Manells, and defectors Nosenko, Golitzyn and Deriabin. Mr. Carlucci noted that from a conversation he and the Director had with Nosenko regarding his establishing himself in a new area, he would expect that such a session would be very disruptive to him. SA/DDCI Smith suggested that the Committee may be interested in surfacing the "Monster Plot." Mr. Carlucci responded that if this were the case, this effort should be headed off and he would be willing to discuss the same with Congressman Stokes.

McMahon noted that former DDO employee Goodpasture testified before the House Select Committee on Assassinations on 12 April and she felt browbeaten by the Committee. McMahon also expressed concern that the Committee had duplicated classified documents. White said that Committee Counsel Blakey apologized for duplicating the documents and regretted that Ms. Goodpasture felt browbeaten but said she was less than forthcoming as a witness.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

27 April 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 27 April 1978

The Director was at his EOB office; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Blake advised that House Assassinations Committee Counsel Blakey has informed him that the Committee has refused to rescind the moratorium on Agency records destruction at this time.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

28 April 1978

Morning Meeting of 28 April 1978

Lapham said that Deputy Assistant Attorney General Keuch was informed by House Assassinations Committee Counsel Blakey that the Committee wanted to enroll three people in the Federal Witness Protective Program administered by the Department of Justice. SA/DDCI Smith said the three individuals probably were Nosenko, Golitzyn, and Deriabin. Lapham said this procedure would be inconsistent with our handling of defectors. Mr. Carlucci said that a strategy has been developed regarding how to handle this problem with the Committee, which would include the stipulation that the Committee would interview these individuals here at the Agency. Smith noted that when Deriabin appeared yesterday, he refused to testify unless he could be assured that he could go through the resettlement process all over again. Miller said this probably precipitated Blakey's idea about suggesting enrolling these individuals in the Department of Justice program.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

9 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 9 May 1978

The Director was in his office; Mr. Carlucci was out of the city; and Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Mr. Blake outlined his understanding of the House Assassinations Committee's plans to interview Nosenko at the Agency on 31 May and to have the session video-taped and audio-taped, in addition to having the usual stenotype transcript taken. A lengthy discussion ensued on concerns about the taping aspects of the session. Miller said the Committee hoped to use the tapes for public viewing. SA/DDCI Smith highlighted his meeting yesterday with Committee Counsel Blakey, who noted that the Committee reserves the right to determine how it is going to use the information it obtains from interviews with the three defectors (Nosenko, Golitzyn and Deriabin). Smith said the Committee now seems to be working toward highlighting the issue of the Nosenko/Golitzyn conflict on Oswald and this could lead to very serious problems. Strathern noted that these procedures would discourage any future defectors. Blake said he would meet with Smith on this topic following the meeting. Smith noted serious problems with the Committee's view that any information these three individuals provided before they actually defected is public property.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

11 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 11 May 1978

- The Director was at his EOB office; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

White said that Nosenko would be interviewed for the first time at 1000 here in the building. In response to Mr. Carlucci's question, he stated that four House Assassination Committee staffers would be present. Mr. Carlucci said he was considering writing a memorandum designating one person to oversee this matter. He noted that the memorandum of understanding with the committee was a very broad one, putting the Agency in a very difficult position.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

12 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 12 May 1978

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Miller noted his understanding that the Shevchenko case was still being very closely held. He said, however, that the FBI allegedly told the House Assassinations Committee that Shevchenko was under our control and the committee wants to interview him. It is unclear whether this is a ruse or in fact true. Mr. Carlucci said he would be meeting with someone from the FBI today and would check.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

15 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 15 May 1978

The Director was meeting with General Thompson; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

In response to Stein's question if OLC had replied to the House Assassinations Committee request for the Hart study, Miller said that the Committee is presently reading the 80-page DDO study. In response to Mr. Blake's question if the "Hart study" would be sanitized if surrendered, Mr. Carlucci said that options need to be developed in order for this to be decided. Stein said two possible options were to let only Committee Counsel Blakey read it or to have John Hart speak to the Committee. SA/DDCI Smith noted that Hart's contract has expired and he will not testify unless he has some kind of employment relationship with the Agency. A discussion ensued, after which Mr. Carlucci asked Miller to provide recommendations on this matter in coordination with OGC. (Action: OLC)

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

24 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 24 May 1978

The Director was at his EOB office, and Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

SA/DDCI Smith advised that the House Assassinations Committee staffers are now pursuing the same line of investigation that CIA did when Nosenko first defected. Stein noted his understanding that Committee Counsel Blakey has asked for access to Shevchenko. Smith said that Blakey was aware of Shevchenko's status. Miller said that he was working on an answer to Blakey's request to the effect that the oversight committees have jurisdiction over this matter because of their broader concerns. Mr. Carlucci suggested that Miller discuss this with SSCI Staff Chief Bill Miller and advise the DCI.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

5 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 5 June 1978

The Director was at his EOB office; Mr. Carlucci was meeting in his office with Scott Breckinridge and House Select Committee on Assassinations Counsel Blakey; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Stein noted that Breckinridge told House Select Committee on Assassinations Counsel Blakey that his Committee was operating beyond its terms of understanding with the Agency, and Blakey was presently discussing this problem with Mr. Carlucci.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

6 Jun. 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 6 June 1978

The Director was at his EOB office; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Highlighting his meeting with House Assassinations Committee Counsel Blakey, Mr. Carlucci said he told Blakey that the Committee would not have access to agents. Blakey said that the Agency would have to live with the consequences of this decision.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

9 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 9 June 1978

The Director was at his EOB office; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Miller said that a House Assassinations Committee staffer conducted an audit to determine if that Committee had been provided all relevant information that it requested in March on Oswald and Nosenko. He found one document in the Oswald material that the Committee had not been provided and also found information in the CI Staff files that the Committee had not seen.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

15 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting Minutes of 15 June 1978

The Director was attending an SCC meeting; Mr. Carlucci was out of the country; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Miller advised that Congressman Stokes has written the Director a strongly worded letter regarding Mr. Carlucci's meeting with House Assassinations Committee Counsel Blakey on the subject of the Committee's desire to interview an agent in Mexico City. SA/DDCI Smith noted that this required a DCI response. Miller agreed and noted that Stokes' Committee would be holding hearings with Nosenko in the Headquarters Building next week.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

16 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 16 June 1978

The Director was en route with the Director/FBI to address the FBI Academy graduating class; Mr. Carlucci was out of the country; and Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

In response to Mr. Blake's question, Miller said that he was not aware of the Director's reaction to the letter from Chairman Stokes (see Morning Meeting Minutes of 15 June). He added that a memorandum had been prepared for the Director recommending that he visit Chairman Stokes, explain to him the issue involved in direct access to an agent, and reassure him that the Agency will try to obtain answers to any questions his Committee has.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

21 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 21 June 1978

The Director was meeting with Congressman Solarz; Mr. Carlucci was out of the country; and Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

White said that during the House Assassination Committee hearing last night with Nosenko, the committee sharply attacked Nosenko's bona fides after having agreed that this would not be an issue. In response to Lapham's question, McMahon noted his understanding that Nosenko was not accompanied by any Agency personnel during the hearing.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

22 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 22 June 1978

The Director was out of the city, Mr. Carlucci was out of the country, and Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Lansdale reported that as a result of the House Assassinations Committee's hearing with Nosenko, the latter has asked about having a lawyer represent him. Lapham is contacting Justice on this matter. Waller noted his understanding that the Committee was very rough in its handling of Nosenko, and Mr. Blake added that Scott Breckinridge is preparing a memorandum on this matter.

24 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 24 July 1978

The Director outlined the disturbing situation of the House Assassinations Committee having reviewed Agency files revealing sources. He noted the compromise arranged by Mr. Carlucci and Scott Breckinridge that may enable the Committee to interview these sources without revealing that they had worked for the Agency. The Director asked McMahon to review the circumstances that led to the Committee's inspection of the files. McMahon said that the Committee had violated CIA's trust and disregarded any groundrules that had been established. In response to Camm's question, the Director and Blake explained the unfortunate incident involving the CIA security guard. The Director urged that every effort be made to contain this matter. (Action: DDO)

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

26 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 26 July 1978

The Director was on leave; Mr. Carlucci was testifying on the Hill; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Mr. Blake asked Hetu to explain the disturbing ABC story emanating from Havana. Hetu said that ABC reporter Reynolds called him and said that as part of Cuba's 26 July celebration, a double agent will march in a parade and appear at a press conference, saying that CIA tried to prove that Cubans were involved in President Kennedy's assassination. Castro also plans to announce CIA activities in Africa to track the Cuban presence there. Hetu told Reynolds that he hesitated to comment at the present time but the charge regarding the Kennedy assassination was ridiculous.

McMahon summarized an FBI report that a Cuban Intelligence Service official has been in contact with an unidentified journalist in connection with the World Youth Festival now taking place in Cuba. The journalist stated that the festival will include a tribunal that will condemn CIA activities throughout the world. It will also reveal the above-mentioned charge that the CIA tried to prove Cuban involvement in President Kennedy's assassination. Former CIA agents will be revealed as well as proof of CIA activities in Africa. This report also mentioned that a press conference will be held.

Greaney (for OGC) added that on 21 July an OGC representative paid off a former agent in New York who had been in prison in Cuba. She had been a member of the original 26th of July Movement and seemed to have become extremely radical and bitter. Greaney said that he would not be surprised if this individual appeared at any of the above-mentioned activities.

OGC
LAST ENTRY -
TAKE OUT?

(No)
RJE

8

28 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 28 July 1978

McMahon advised of a problem with the House Assassinations Committee, which has requested to review personnel files of employees. According to Scott Breckinridge, this procedure had been agreed to with earlier committees. McMahon said that employees are objecting, however, and he thought they were justified in doing so. Lapham said that the Privacy Act was not relevant in this matter. Blake suggested that this seemed an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy and an incursion by the Legislative Branch into the Executive Branch. Blake explained what would be found in a typical personnel file, and Waller added that many fitness reports contain operational details. Mr. Carlucci noted that the Department of State does not allow Congressional investigators to review personnel files. Lapham said that the Agency would not be on strong legal footing if it denied the Committee access to the files. After further discussion, Lapham said that the Committee could subpoena the information but doing so would be extremely time consuming. The Director concluded by suggesting that DDO negotiate with the Committee and ask it specifically what information it required.

31 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 31 July 1978

In response to the Director's question about the status of the planned House Assassinations Committee trip to Mexico, Mr. Carlucci said that it has been postponed until 9 August. Hitz mentioned that photos that may have been obtained from the Agency were shown on the television news last night. Lapham explained that the Committee had decided to make three photos public in an attempt to identify the individuals involved. Mr. Carlucci highlighted the Department of State's problems with this House Committee.

23 August 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 23 August 1978

Sherman (for OLC) said that a note has been forwarded to the Deputy Director regarding the possibility that the House Assassinations Committee will subpoena the Agency for two items, including the 1947 records of the Mexico City Station. In response to the Director's question, Morrison said that the Agency can try to negotiate with the Committee regarding this matter. In response to Mr. Carlucci's question, Sherman said that he did not think the House as a whole would support a Committee request to issue a contempt citation against the Agency. The Director asked OLC to organize a meeting to decide how to handle this situation and to consider whether or not he should speak to Chairman Stokes. He suggested the Agency might be willing to partially satisfy the two items in the subpoena, but providing all of the materials seems unreasonable. The Director noted that he would like to speak to Hitz within the next day or two. (Action: OLC)

1 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 1 September 1978

Mr. Carlucci said John Hart, who is now on contract, will be principal briefer to the House Assassinations Committee and expressed concern over any briefing in open session on the Nosenko case. He reviewed his exchange with Chairman Stokes and the latter's resistance to a hearing in executive session. Lansdale noted that presumably John Hart can be subpoenaed for an open session. Although the Committee had voted for subpoenas, Hitz commented that he was puzzled they had not yet been served; and Lansdale observed that the Chairman took this action to exert pressure.

TOP, SECRET SENSITIVE

6 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 6 September 1978

The Director was out of the country; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Hitz noted that the subpoena from the House Assassinations Committee for the history of the Mexico City station, which to our knowledge was never served, is scheduled for return today. The staff could decide to let the issue die or to issue another subpoena. Hitz said that it had been suggested that the Staff Director review the relevant material so that he could assure the Committee that it did not add anything further to its investigation. Mr. Carlucci noted his understanding that the Committee had not accepted this compromise. Koehler added that if the Committee did not receive a supplemental budget appropriation, it would be out of business in two weeks.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

13 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 13 September 1978

The Director and Deputy Director were meeting with Attorney General Bell and Congressmen Boland, Aspin, and Wilson; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

McMahon noted that the 12 September San Francisco Chronicle carries an interview with former CIA staff members Jim and Elsie Wilcott regarding Oswald's alleged relationship with the CIA (attached). They contend that Oswald was a CIA agent who went to the Soviet Union and later shot President Kennedy at the CIA's behest. Mr. Blake asked Miller to determine if the Wilcotts had testified before the House Assassinations Committee. (Action: OLC)

Miller advised that the House Assassinations Committee has decided to postpone the Director's testimony until December, by which time it probably will have completed its report. The Director's testimony would, therefore, be geared towards "educating the public."

55/12/

SECRET

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STAFF

ACTION: 1AD/CAS-4 (729) INFO: ODPD-D, VR, FILE, DCI/PA, DDO-4, CS/RF,
C/PCS, CI-4, EPS/EG-2, FR-5, IAD, INT/FL, OED, OG/DMS, PCS/PGL, SECUR-3,
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TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR INFO [REDACTED]

WNINTEL LWSHELL FORRES

1. SAN FRANCISCO "CHRONICLE" OF 12 SEPTEMBER 1978, CARRIES FULL PAGE INTERVIEW ON PAGE FOUR OF JIM AND ELSIE WILCOTT, RESIDENTS OF CONCORD, CALIFORNIA, HEADLINED, "COUPLE TALKS ABOUT OSWALD AND THE CIA." JIM WILCOTT IS IDENTIFIED AS FORMER CIA FINANCE OFFICER AND ELSIE AS FORMER SECRETARY. THEY CLAIM TO HAVE SERVED IN TOKYO, WASHINGTON AND MIAMI.

2. ARTICLE IS ESSENTIALLY A REHASH OF GOSSIP AND INNUENDO, SIMILAR, WE ASSUME TO WILCOTT'S TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS OF LAST MARCH AND THEIR APPEARANCE IN HAVANA LAST MONTH AT "CIA TRIBUNAL." WILCOTT CLAIMS HE WAS TOLD IN TOKYO THAT OSWALD WAS A CIA AGENT SENT TO THE USSR AND THAT OSWALD SHOT PRESIDENT KENNEDY AT CIA BEHEST. WHILE IN TOKYO, WILCOTT CLAIMS HE WAS DIRECTED TO CULTIVATE PETER DEDIJER OF THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY, THEN TURNED HIM OVER TO A "RECRUITMENT AGENT."

3. WILCOTT SAID HE IS NERVOUS BECAUSE THE "AGENCY IS NOT BEYOND RETRIBUTION." HE HAS LOST SEVERAL ACCOUNTING JOBS SINCE HE LEFT THE AGENCY "UNDER VERY STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES." WILCOTT SAID HE PLANS TO DO SOME WORK "DEVELOPING INFORMATION" WITH PHILLIP AGEE. POUCHING COPY OF ARTICLE.

4. NO FILE. E2 IMPDET.

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

HINKLE'S JOURNAL

Couple Talks About Oswald and the CIA

By Warren Hinkle

The ex-CIA man poured his eighth cup of coffee and lit his 11th cigaret. He stared out the open window into the quiet blackness of a Concord Sunday night. The other ex-CIA person sat at the dining table and looked frail and nervous. She was his wife.

They were talking about what life is like for a CIA couple. It wasn't long before they got into the bad parts. He made a face as if all the dirty little secrets were a stinking rose opening in front of his nose.

He had been a CIA finance officer for nine years, she a secretary to spies. They served together in Tokyo, Washington, D.C., and Miami. Between them they saw enough to make them want out. They were told not to talk, but they knew that, someday, they would. They held their tongues for more than ten years. They were afraid. Now, the silence of a thousand sleepless nights is over.

Sunday, in their modest Concord home, they took the unsettling journey back through the looking glass into the never-never world of the CIA.

The place they described was a topsy-turvy land where old-fashioned values are destroyed in the name of saving them, a perverse place of sexual blackmail, betraying friends, unleashing psychopaths and bobnobbing with mobsters, of pseudonyms and cryptonyms, drunkards and ripoff artists, dirty money and dirty tricks and run-amok assassins; a place where error and folly were held sacred in the almighty name of secrecy. One assassin among those run amok was Lee Harvey Oswald who, according to the former CIA money man, was in the pay of the CIA.

"It was common knowledge in the Tokyo CIA station that Oswald worked for the agency," he said.

"That's true," his wife said. "Right after the President was killed, people in the Tokyo station were talking openly about Oswald having gone to Russia for the CIA. Everyone was wondering how the agency was going to be able to keep the lid on Oswald. But I guess they did," she said.

The former CIA finance officer is Jim Wilcott. His wife's name is Elsie.

Wilcott testified behind closed doors before the House Select Committee on Assassinations last March.

He said the committee had asked him not to discuss his testimony, but it was learned from sources in Washington that he told the committee the CIA's role in Kennedy's assassination extended beyond covering up Oswald's employment to the involvement of other CIA employees in a conspiracy to kill the President.

He testified that he overheard CIA agents say "agency people" had Kennedy murdered because the President had reneged on a "secret agreement" with former CIA director Allen Dulles to militarily support the CIA-backed 1961 invasion of Cuba.

"CIA people killed Kennedy," Wilcott was reported by a committee source to have told the committee. Wilcott provided a list of names of CIA officials in Tokyo, at the time who he said could support his testimony.

CIA officials in Washington could not be reached last night to comment on their former employee's allegations.

The Wilcotts were recruited by

in the late 1950s, shortly after they were married.

"We were a two-for-one deal," he says. There is weary bitterness in his voice.

"We didn't even know what CIA was all about when we went to work for them," he said. They found out soon enough. During her polygraph test for security clearance, the CIA interrogator asked Elsie, who had grown up on a farm, one of those standard polygraph questions: Had she had ever had sex with the animals. She was flabbergasted. "Why, we didn't even know any such thing was possible," she said. A friend of theirs who went through security clearance had once worked in a mortuary. The CIA strapped him into a lie detector and asked him if he had ever had intercourse with a corpse.

"I began to get the impression that there were a lot of weirdos in that organization," Jim Wilcott said.

That impression blossomed in Tokyo. There was, for instance, the matter of the Bulgarian ambassador's bed. One Saturday morning when Wilcott was holding down security duty in the Tokyo station, several CIA case officers came over to his desk to offer him a gin and tonic and let him in on the morning's fun. They had bugged the bed.

CONTINUED

JIM WILCOTT



and his aides would scatter the cash on the floor and take off their shoes and jump up and down on it like button-down collared grape crushers.

The money Wilcott handed out was dirty in more ways than one. Wilcott said he learned from other CIA agents that some of his cash ended up in the hands of members of the Japanese version of the Mafia, who performed unmentionable services for the Tokyo station, and to psychopathic personalities the CIA plotted to release from Vietnamese mental hospitals and outfit as Viet Cong to pillage South Vietnamese villages, thereby turning the sympathies of our allies against the insane V.C.

Wilcott's terminal disillusionment with the CIA began when he was drafted into a "black operation" to entrap a friend into becoming a double agent. His friend, was Pete Dedijer, who he said was a nephew of Valdimir Dedijer, the Yugoslav patriot and biographer of Tito. Peter worked in the Yugoslavian embassy in Tokyo in a financial post. They met while taking Japanese lessons and would go out for a drink together after class. CIA regulations require that an employee must report any such contacts with any foreign nationals and, when Wilcott did, the agency decided that he should "set up" his friend.

The operation took nine months and a considerable amount of CIA cash, which station higher-ups kept urging Wilcott to lavish on the Yugoslav. "The idea was to 'get him on the hook' — get him used to the high life," Wilcott said. At one point it was decided that Wilcott should "get him involved with women." The master plotter for this was Elsie Wilcott's boss, a spy named Dennis, who was head of the Tokyo station's Soviet Russia Satellite Division, where Elsie was a secretary. At one point Dennis called Mrs. Wilcott into his office and told her that her husband might end up in a compromising situation with another woman but that he would only be doing the deed for the good of her country. This did not serve to stir the fires of her patriotism.

"The CIA was always terrible to women — particularly the wives of agents," Elsie Wilcott said. "The agency was both snobbish and sexist."

Eventually, Wilcott was told

that he was being "phased out" and a person called a "recruitment agent" was being "cut in" to bribe or blackmail the Yugoslav into spying on his own country. Wilcott was told never to see his friend again. He doesn't know what happened then — he doesn't even know if he did a good enough job corrupting his friend American-style to make him turn traitor. Once, when he asked about Peter Dedijer, Wilcott was told that he had "no need to know."

★ ★ ★

"CIA people drink like fish," Wilcott was saying, over his 15th coffee. The Tokyo station kept booze in supply the way most offices keep paper clips. It was generally used — along with the dirty if untraceable cash Wilcott handed out — to coax Japanese journalists, labor leaders, intellectuals and other opinion molders to see things the CIA way. "The station controlled every aspect of Japanese society," Wilcott said. This CIA bounty of liquor was readily available to the agents, at prices amounting to nothing. A CIA employee could pick up a bottle of White Horse scotch selling for \$12, in Tokyo for 75 cents at the office. Double martinis at military clubs frequented by the CIA were a nickel. "At those prices you almost couldn't afford not to drink," he said.

It was during these after-hours drinking sessions with other CIA men that Wilcott became aware of the nature of many secret CIA operations normally hidden by cryptonyms. "The need to know principle often went to hell at a bar," he said. One of the CIA operations he learned about involved Lee Harvey Oswald.

The day Kennedy was shot, there was rejoicing in the Tokyo CIA station, Wilcott recalls. Most of the agents were not, like himself, "Kennedy liberals," but rather despised the Camelot president for not sending the military in to rescue the CIA bunglers at the Bay of Pigs. The station was abuzz about Oswald and, when Wilcott expressed disbelief at the talk that Oswald was a CIA employee, a case officer told him: "Well, Jim, so and so, right over there, drew an advance from you for Oswald under a crypto."

CONTINUED

of the Bulgarian ambassador to Japan and amid the state secrets unfolded between the sheets, the CIA had taped a particularly torrid exchange of connubial privileges between the ambassador and his wife.

The tapes were being transcribed by a young American girl who was no Scarlett O'Hara, so she was manifestly humiliated by the sexual exuberances she was translating from the Bulgarian bedroom vernacular. The CIA men thought this great sport and had broken out drinks all around while they kept playing the steamy portions over and over as the young translator turned redder than wine. When Wilcott dared to wonder what this had to do with national security the case officers looked at him like he was some stick-in-the-mud accountant.

Wilcott's fiduciary duties in the Tokyo station — he was there from 1960 to 1964 — included handing out upward of \$4 million a month in unmarked bills of various currencies for the station's dirty tricks.

Wilcott said the CIA had a phobia about fresh currency — the physically dirtier its money the better, on the theory that used money was less traceable. If someone made the mistake of bringing new bills from the bank, Wilcott

In the months to come, he was to hear constant references to the station's earlier work on "the Oswald project." Wilcott said Oswald had been trained for his trip to Russia at Atsugi Naval Air Station, a plush supersecret cover base for the Tokyo CIA stations "special operations." Wilcott says he no longer recalls the names of the CIA agents involved. He also didn't take notes back then, he says. He wasn't planning on exposing the CIA. The details he remembers have the ring of the authentic.

The Cuban government invited Elsie and Jim Wilcott to Havana last month to testify before a "CIA tribunal" the Cubans had organized as the high point of a world youth festival. The former CIA couple went. It was the first time either of them had been to a socialist country.

The Cubans were understandably curious about the couple's experiences in the CIA's Miami station, which carried on a full-scale secret war against Cuba throughout the '60s. The CIA story the Wilcotts told the Cubans was much the same as the story about Tokyo — bribes, blackmail, dirty cash for gangs of well-fed saboteurs, assassination plots against Castro and that old CIA standby, the Mafia.

The Wilcotts are not your classic whistleblowers. They are among that select handful of former CIA employees who have spoken on the record about company business, but they have not hustled a forum or written a book. They waited a decade to tell the House investigators what they knew about Oswald. They are not eager to be on television and Elsie Wilcott declined to have her picture taken. They prefer the anonymity of Concord, where they have lived for several years.

Jim Wilcott said he had lost several accounting jobs "under very strange circumstances" since he left the CIA in the late '60s. The agency is not beyond retribution, he says. He is still, frankly, nervous. The Wilcotts are the first former CIA couple to go public. They decided to tell what they know, if for no nobler reason, to sleep better nights.

Wilcott is going to do some work "developing information" with Philip Agee, the former CIA agent turned author and anti-CIA crusader. But Wilcott says he will not take a dime for anything, he writes concerning the CIA.

"I don't want people to think I'm doing this for the money," said

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

15 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 15 September 1978

The Director was testifying before the HPSCI; Mr. Carlucci was at a meeting at the Department of State; Mr. Blake chaired the meeting.

Miller noted that the House Assassinations Committee is holding an open hearing today and plans to release some new information that may generate press inquiries. Hetu noted that he had a copy of the Committee report, which makes a convincing case that Nosenko was a "mole."

18 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 18 September 1978

Hitz advised that the oversight committees have not said anything about the 15 September hearing before the House Assassinations Committee on Nosenko. In response to the Director's question, McMahon said that he was glad that this last problem area had been surfaced.

Hitz noted that some members of Congress have also been disturbed about the House Assassinations Committee's procedures. Lapham advised that John Hart came to him on 14 September to ask about the advisability of changing his status from an independent contractor to an Agency employee to ensure his immunity from possible libel suits resulting from his testimony before the Assassinations Committee on 15 September. Lapham dissuaded him from doing so.

Referring to another newspaper article, the Director asked about former CI Chief Angleton's allegation that the Agency knew about the bugs in our Embassy in Moscow before Nosenko revealed the same. Shackley advised that this question has been researched several times and no record exists to substantiate this allegation. Mr. Carlucci noted that in his testimony on 15 September, Hart said that general indications of the taps existed but no specific information.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

Picking up on the Director's suggestion to surface employee concerns, Taylor noted his understanding that employees at large do not understand the Nosenko case. Waller noted increasing confusion can be expected among employees regarding the Epstein book, stories about a rivalry between Angleton and former DCI Colby, and the pro- and anti-Nosenko forces. He opined that putting the above in perspective might also be helpful. Mr. Carlucci said that John Hart, who represented the Agency in testifying before the House Assassinations Committee on 15 September, tried to put the Nosenko case in perspective and his transcript is available for anyone who is interested. His report on this matter is also available. Dirks and Bowie noted that they were not familiar with the background of this case. The Director then proceeded to highlight it, and EA/DCI Ratliff suggested that a similar review might be helpful for employees. The Director suggested that consideration be given to this matter.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

20 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 20 September 1978

The Director reported that after the 18 September staff meeting he asked Waller and SA/DCI Williams to draft a Director's Note on the Nosenko case. He asked Stein and Hetu to review the resulting draft and suggested that it be published as soon as possible. (Action: DDO and PA)

Lapham reported that former CI Chief Angleton will appear in executive session before the House Assassinations Committee on 22 September. Former DCI Helms is also scheduled to appear. Lapham said that he wrote Angleton advising him of the ground rules for such sessions.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

25 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 25 September 1978

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Hitz advised that the House Assassinations Committee intends to interview individuals regarding alleged Mafia links with CIA. Blake said that he expects retired Office of Security employee James O'Connell will be requested to testify. Mr. Carlucci said that he has asked the Committee to treat Mr. O'Connell in the same way the Church Committee did. Blake continued that former Director of Security Osborn has said that he will not testify unless he is subpoenaed to do so.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

27 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 27 September 1978

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Miller noted that Santos Trafficante is scheduled to appear before the House Assassinations Committee regarding Agency/Mafia links. He also reiterated that former CI Staff Chief Angleton will be testifying before the Committee in executive session. Mr. Carlucci asked that Miller investigate why Angleton was granted executive session but Agency officials were refused the same. (Action: OLC)

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

29 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 29 September 1978

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Hitz advised that the House Assassinations Committee has completed its public hearings until November. The major equities of the Agency seem to have been protected to date. Hitz commended Scott Breckinridge for the excellent way in which he has interfaced with the Committee during this period. Mr. Carlucci concurred. In response to Waller's question about former CI Staff Chief Angleton's executive session testimony before the Committee, Hitz said that he had not yet heard anything.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

6 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 6 October 1978

The Director was meeting with Senator Jackson; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

In response to Stein's question, Mr. Carlucci said that former CI Staff Chief Angleton provided the House Assassinations Committee a deposition. Angleton was informed that the Agency had not been given sufficient time to prepare the information that he had requested to review.

11 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 11 October 1978

Lapham said that as a result of John Hart's testimony before the House Assassinations Committee, we can no longer claim an FOIA exemption to some materials previously denied and in coordination with the DDO will be releasing a few documents related to the Nosenko case.

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

13 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 13 October 1978

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Hitz reported that Miller (OLC) dissuaded the House Assassinations Committee from trying to subpoena Shevchenko. The Committee still wants to talk to him, however. Hitz noted that the President's amusing remark responding to a press inquiry about Agency payments to Shevchenko helped to diffuse the pressure that had been building regarding Shevchenko's expenses.

SECRET SENSITIVE

16 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 16 October 1978

The Director was out of the city; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting.

Hitz said that Ed Ryan will be briefing the House Assassinations Committee staff today on Division D, formerly of DDO and a predecessor of OSO.

SECRET

11 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 11 December 1978

The Director chaired the meeting: Mr. Carlucci was testifying before the House Assassinations Committee. (U)

Miller noted his understanding that Mr. Carlucci's testimony before the House Assassinations Committee was going well. (U)

(Mr. Carlucci and Hitz joined the meeting at this point.) (U)

In response to the Director's question, Mr. Carlucci said that his appearance before the House Assassinations Committee went well, and this was a tribute to the efforts of Scott Breckinridge. He said he put in a strong word for the necessity of protecting sources and methods and felt that he got all of the Agency's points across. In response to Taylor's question, Carlucci said that this should be the last hearing and that a report remained to be completed, but the Agency will be assisting the Committee in revising it. The Committee is still interested in contacting one source, but Mr. Carlucci plans to decline its request. He concluded by saying that this exercise seems to indicate that it is possible to take a strong stand before such committees as long as it is fair. The Director commended both Breckinridge and Mr. Carlucci for their efforts in handling the Agency's relationships with this Committee.

13 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 13 December 1978

Lapham noted receipt of a detailed FOIA request from attorneys for former CI Chief Angleton regarding John Hart's testimony before the House Assassinations Committee. Since he has already contacted lawyers, Angleton appears to be ready to bring suit against the Agency if he does not receive a response within ten days.

15 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 15 December 1978

The Director expressed concern about former C/CI Angleton's lawyers' contention that after agreeing to grant Angleton access to Agency files on 5 October, he was later denied access to the files in December and advised to submit an FOIA request. Lapham said that he would check into this matter. Mr. Carlucci then explained that Angleton had asked for access to the files two days before he was to appear in executive session before Congress and he was therefore granted access to prepare for his testimony. He did not come to review the files prior to his Congressional appearance, however, and then later asked for substantially more information later in December. At that point he was referred to the FOIA channel. (AIUO)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 27 December 1978

Lapham outlined his meeting yesterday with former C/CI Angleton regarding the latter's lawsuit. Angleton is seeking access to classified documents to rebut former employee Hart's testimony before the House Assassinations Committee. Lapham suggested that the Agency may want to consider granting Angleton access to these documents apart from his lawsuit. Doing so would require at least obtaining an updated clearance for Angleton. In response to the Director's question if Angleton had been seriously maligned by the Hart testimony, Lapham said that it was difficult to say, but Angleton certainly thinks so. In response to McMahon's comment, Lapham agreed that the Agency could make these documents available to the Committee, but the Committee is running out of time, and Angleton would not want to comment on them without seeing them personally. In response to Lapham's question, attendees noted that former employees were permitted to review classified papers prior to testifying before the Church Committee. (AIUO)