

TED SHACKLEY

Basis: The Cuba mission statement:

Locate, acquire, and declassify records related to Cuba, Anti-Castro activities, paramilitary activities, and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Goal: Examining Ted Shackley's personnel file and other files related to his tenure as COS of the JM/WAVE station may reveal information on additional assassination records.

Justification:

An ARRB examination of files relating to Shackley at JM/WAVE may assure the public that we have, at least, attempted to clarify the public record on his role in paramilitary efforts against Cuba, assassination attempts on Fidel Castro, and the investigation of the JFK case.

Shackley, by his very position as Station Chief of JM/WAVE, was an integral figure in Cuban-U.S. relations during the Kennedy administration, and, therefore, can be considered relevant to the JFK case for the following reasons, among others:

- The HSCA criticized the Chief of Station of JM/WAVE for not querying his clandestine sources inside of Cuba for intelligence which may relate to Castro's interest in the investigation of the assassination (Blond Ghost, pp. 108).
- An examination of his files may lead to records detailing the cooperation between the JM/WAVE station and anti-Castro groups which have been strongly linked to Lee Harvey Oswald, such as the Directorio Revolucionario Estudiantil (DRE).
- Shackley may have had contacts with anti-Castro Cubans or CIA employees who may have demonstrated hostile feelings towards JFK, and whose tendencies might have taken a violent turn.
- The House Select Committee on Assassinations questioned Shackley at his office in Langley. According to Fonzi (pp. 358-359), the HSCA staff had little chance to assemble any background information on Shackley prior to the interview (this may indicate that the HSCA did not have access to his files at the Agency, therefore precluding the chance that his files already exist in the segregated CIA collection or in the microfilm rolls). Shackley was never formally deposed by the HSCA, and Fonzi felt that he was less than truthful in his answers during the interview.