

MEMORANDUM

June 6, 1997

To: File (Interviews)

By: Michelle Combs

Subject: Interview with Jane Roman

On June 5, 1997, Jane Roman, former head of Counterintelligence/Liaison for the Central Intelligence Agency, was interviewed at her home in Bethesda, MD by Jeremy Gunn and Michelle Combs. This interview, of approximately two hours, was recorded on two audio tapes labeled Jane Roman, June 5, 1997, ARRB Interview, Parts 1 and 2 of 3 parts and Part 3 of 3 respectively.

- Mrs. Roman provided some information on the structure and purpose of the CIA's Counterintelligence Staff under CI Chief James J. Angleton in the late 1950's and early 1960's.
- Mrs. Roman outlined her duties as CI/LI. Her job was to act a liaison between the CIA and other US Government agencies--FBI, State, AID, USIA, Secret Service, Narcotics, Customs, INS, and the military intelligence services--on counterintelligence matters. She emphasized that CI/Liaison dealt with these agencies only on counterintelligence and security matters, not on operational matters. Mrs. Roman explained that while she met with Sam Papich from the FBI everyday, he also met regularly and privately with Jim Angleton. She described Papich as very understanding and broad minded.
- Mrs. Roman noted that HTLINGUAL was approved by the National Security Council and that the FBI also knew of the mail intercept program. She remembered that the program was held very closely by the person who ran it. She said that this person worked out of Ray Rocca's special projects group (SIG) but ran the mail intercept program independently. Mrs. Roman said that the program was one of the most tightly held secrets on the CI Staff.
- When asked why CI/SIG would have Lee Harvey Oswald's 201 file. Mrs. Roman said that she had no information and no idea why SIG would maintain the file.
- Asked about the omissions and contradictions between the October 9, 1963 and the October 10, 1963 cables from Headquarters to Mexico City, Mrs. Roman hypothesized that perhaps

the FBI report on Oswald had still been in circulation and had not yet been put in his 201 file at the time when the first cable was written.

- Mrs. Roman said that she had no involvement with the Oswald file after the assassination.
- Mrs. Roman continually emphasized that she was very upset with an article, "The Oswald File: Tales of the Routing Slips," by Jefferson Morley which appeared in the Washington Post. Mrs. Roman believed that this article was misleading and that Mr. Morley had taken her information out of context. She gave to the ARRB a draft of a letter she composed to the Washington Post in response to the article but did not send.

Note: In the course of the interview, Mrs Roman promised to speak with the person she believed had been in charge of the HTLINGUAL program but was unwilling to give us his name. She later called back and reported that she had contacted the person she had in mind but that she had been mistaken and the individual had not handled HTLINGUAL. In addition, Mrs. Roman promised to contact Cicely Angleton (the widow of James Angleton) about some files she believed Angleton had taken home with him. Mrs. Roman said she had contacted Cicely Angleton but that the files had all pertained to the OSS in World War II and had been returned to the CIA after James Angleton's death.

Attachments: Tape recording, copies of three cables, various routing sheets, draft letter written by Mrs. Roman to the Washington Post.

Combs e:\roman1.wpd
File 4.0.5 (Roman)