

INTERVIEW FORMAT
ANTONIO VECIANA

1. Introduce yourself and the agency.

I am calling from the Assassination Records Review Board, an independent agency of the federal government, established in 1992 to declassify and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. A few weeks ago we sent you a letter which introduced our agency and asked for your assistance in answering a few questions that we had regarding the Kennedy case and your testimony to the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

As we stated in our letter, we have contacted you in hopes of clarifying and perhaps augmenting the official record, especially as it pertains to your testimony. I want to make it clear that we are not affiliated with any private researcher, nor are we conducting another investigation into this case. Rather, we are trying to fill in gaps in the official record and accumulate documents which will eventually comprise the JFK Assassination Collection at the National Archives.

As you may have noted, most of the questions will focus on your ability to provide new information on the Kennedy case, given that it has been nearly 20 years since you testified to the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

Given our mandate, we are simply interested in obtaining, on the record, your responses to the questions which were outlined in the letter which we sent to you.

We would also like to ask for your cooperation in addressing issues that may arise based on your responses to some of these more basic questions.

1) This deals directly with the Maurice Bishop issue: are **now** in a position to offer more or different evidence about your relationship with him?

2) Are you **now able** to provide information on others who may be able to identify Maurice Bishop, or confirm your relationship with him?

A) The intermediary issue

You have been quoted as stating that you used an intermediary in your contacts with Bishop when you were traveling or otherwise not accessible. Do you think that this person can **now** be identified? In your opinion, do you think that this person would now be willing to provide information on your contacts with Maurice Bishop?

B) Mr. Melton

You have stated that Maurice Bishop referred you to a Mr. Joe Melton, who trained you in various intelligence and operational methods while you were in Havana. You have also stated that Mr. Melton and the person you believed to be Lee Harvey Oswald are the only two individuals to have seen you and Mr. Bishop together. Are you **now** in a position to offer any further information which could possibly identify Mr. Melton?

Melton did not speak Spanish
trained AV in psychological warfare, making bombs and explosives
physical description?

2. You have referred to a March 1963 press conference which was carried out at Bishop's urging, where you announced a successful raid on a Soviet ship docked in Cuban waters. Bishop apparently made arrangements for two-high level government officials to attend the press conference. Can you recall who these officials were? Are you aware of any relationship between Bishop and these individuals?

Featured on p. 132 in Fonzi book

3. Regarding your position with the Agency for International Development: how sure are you that Maurice Bishop, or officials of the U.S. intelligence community, had something to do with your getting that job? Can you detail your "official" responsibilities as an AID employee? (You have stated that you were an assistant at the Central Bank-- what were your "cover" responsibilities? How much time did you actually perform these duties? Were your colleagues aware that you were conducting anti-Castro operations under the disguise of an AID employee?

In Bolivia

4. Why do you think Cesar Diosdado questioned various Cuban exiles after the assassination? What is your opinion as to his motivation? Sponsors?

US Customs agent alleged to be CIA

AV did not mention seeing Oswald with Bishop to Diosdado

5. Are you willing to provide proof of the \$253,000 payment which you allege was paid to you by Maurice Bishop? You have stated that you deposited the money in a way which would prevent someone from discovering it. Do you still have records of these deposits?

Money received by AV on 26 July 1972.

6. Are you currently in the possession of records relating to any investigation of the assassination of the President?