

## [PART 5]

### An Historic Post-assassination Perspective from Hindsight

*“Within the Agency offices, cover stories within cover stories had to be invented to explain the presence of the specialists (foreign gunmen) and the various closed doors to their fellow officers.”*

**Richard Helms, Director, CIA**

**Beginning with the murders of J. D. Tippit and Lee Harvey Oswald the CIA stood ready to use Mafia hit-men and other outside resources (anti-Castro Cubans, etc.) to kill anyone necessary to keep the agencies’ involvement in the Kennedy murder top-secret which continues to this day, more than a half a century after the murder! As of this writing there are still thousands of CIA documents related to the murder of John F. Kennedy that the United States government does not want the American people to see.**

**1963:** On the afternoon of November 22, 1963 Guy Banister and one of his investigators, Jack Martin, were drinking together at the Katzenjammer Bar, located next door to 544 Camp Street in New Orleans. On their return to Banister’s office, the two men got into a dispute. Banister believed that Martin had stolen some files and drew his .357 Magnum revolver, striking Martin with it several times. During the altercation Martin yelled: “What are you going to do – kill me like you all did Kennedy?” Martin was badly injured and treated at Charity Hospital.

Banister’s secretary, Delphine Roberts, told author Anthony Summers that Oswald “seemed to be on familiar terms with Banister and with [Banister’s] office.” Roberts said, “As I understood it, he had the use of an office on the second floor, above the main office where we worked. Then, several times, Mr. Banister brought me upstairs, and in the office above I saw various writings stuck up on the wall pertaining to Cuba. There were various leaflets up there pertaining to ‘Fair Play for Cuba’.” **Banister died of coronary thrombosis on June 6, 1964, before he could testify at any investigation.**

**1963:** Late in the day on November 22, 1963 CIA Director John McCone went to Robert Kennedy’s home in Virginia. According to Kennedy aide Walter Sheridan, McCone met Robert on the lawn of his home where Robert asked McCone if the CIA had murdered his brother. Kennedy would later remark, **“One of you guys did it.”** Attorney General Robert Kennedy did not take part in the investigation, or into the investigation of the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.

**DATA POINT:** Days after the assassination of President Kennedy CIA Operative John Garrett Underhill, Jr. (1915-1964) stated that, “The Kennedy murder wasn’t as cut and dried as it might appear. **A small clique in the CIA were responsible.** They were conducting a lucrative business in the Far East [including Vietnam] in gun running and other contraband, **(including heavy involvement in transporting tons of heroin in U.S government aircraft which was later fully confirmed)** manipulating political intrigue to serve their ends. Kennedy had gotten wind of something going on so he was killed before he could blow the whistle.” **Underhill was murdered on May 8, 1964 by a gunshot to the back of the head before he could testify at the Warren Commission.**

**1963:** A memo dated November 23, 1963 from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to Secret Service Chief James Rowley reported, “The Central Intelligence Agency advised that on October 1, 1963, an extremely sensitive source (meaning its CIA wiretap) had reported that an individual

identifying himself as Lee Oswald contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City inquiring as to any messages. Special Agents of this Bureau, who have conversed with Oswald in Dallas, Texas, have observed photographs of the individual referred to above and have listened to a recording of his voice. **These Special Agents are of the opinion that the above-referred-to individual was not Lee Harvey Oswald.**” The FBI was clearly out of the loop on this one.

J. Edgar Hoover reported that information directly to President Johnson. The CIA was attempting to miss-direct both the FBI and the Secret Service even as Oswald was still in custody, before he was murdered. It was not long before this false story made its way to Chief Justice Earl Warren (1897-1974). Embassy employee Sylvia Duran later reported that the real Oswald she eventually saw on film **“is not like the man I saw here in Mexico City.”** This CIA operation in Mexico alone screams “Oswald was set up!”



The false Oswald in Mexico City

**1963:** On November 23, 1963 Mobster and casino operator Jack Zangetty tells friends that Jack Ruby will murder Oswald and to draw attention away from the murder Frank Sinatra’s son would be kidnapped. Both events took place. “A man named Ruby will kill Oswald tomorrow...” **Zangetty was soon murdered.**

**1963:** On November 24, 1963 Lee Harvey Oswald is murdered.

**1963:** On November 24, 1963 Nicholas Katzenbach, Deputy Attorney General wrote out a memo, well before any investigation was completed. He wrote, “We have to show the American people that the evidence is such that Lee Harvey Oswald killed the president.” He wanted it made clear that no matter what the evidence **proved**, the United States government had to make Oswald the single assassin “to quiet the discontent within the country.” With this written note the conclusions to be made by the Warren Commission were already a foregone conclusion. If Oswald had not been murdered this effort to frame him for the murder would have ultimately failed as real evidence would have been presented in open court. Cover for the real assassins would be put into place and it is still in place more than 57 years after a small group of treasonous killers within the CIA murdered President Kennedy. As of this writing there has yet to be a fully honest deep investigation by the United States government into the CIA contracted murder of President Kennedy.

**1963:** A threatening order to all who had been present at the fake Kennedy military autopsy was delivered to the participants on November 26, 1963. “1. You are reminded that you are under verbal orders of the Surgeon General, United States Navy, to **discuss with no one events connected with your official duties on the evening of 22 November – 23 November 1963.** 2. This letter constitutes official notification and reiteration of these verbal orders. You are warned that infraction of these orders make **you liable to Court Martial proceedings under appropriate articles of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.**” The governmental cover-up was beginning to take hold.

**1963:** On November 29, 1963 President Lyndon B. Johnson issued an executive order 11130 that created *The Warren Commission* to cover-up the assassination. Members included:

- o Gerald Ford (R-Michigan), U.S. Rep., House Minority Leader  
(Ford was an FBI asset. He secretly relayed commission research to J. Edgar Hoover.)
- o Hale Boggs (D-Louisiana), U.S. Rep., House Majority Whip (1914-1972)
- o Richard Russell, Jr. (D-Georgia), U.S. Senator, (1897-1971)
- o Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States (chairman)
- o John Sherman Cooper (R-Kentucky), U.S. Senator (1901-1991)
- o John J. McCloy, former President of the World Bank  
(FBI document proves that John J. McCloy was in a meeting in Dallas with Johnson, Hoover and Nixon the night before the assassination. Hoover soon departed; Johnson joined the motorcade; Nixon could not recall where he was!)
- o Allen Welsh Dulles, Former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency  
(Fired by Kennedy as CIA Director after the Bay of Pigs.)
- o General counsel J. Lee Rankin (1907-1996)



**1963:** During a top secret session of the Warren Commission Richard Russell, Jr., a member of the Warren Commission, remarked, **“They couldn’t find where one bullet came out that struck the President and yet they found a bullet in the stretcher!”**

CIA New York City station chief David P. Hunt would eventually report that the “Warren report is not realistic.”

**1963:** On December 18, 1963 the *Washington Post*, along with other national newspapers, reported that information coming out of Dallas, Texas, indicated that the bullet which struck President Kennedy in the back **“was found deep in his shoulder.”** This early report, **confirmed by the FBI** before it was released, was an early published report that excluded the possibility of a single bullet exiting his back and causing any wound to Governor Connally because a bullet had been found. This verified report makes the “magic bullet” myth dead on arrival even before it was created by Alan Spector and the Warren Commission. The question now remains: What happened to that real bullet? It is well to note that the bullet that entered the president’s back and the bullet that entered his throat could very well still be in the president’s body thus making it possible that a new examination of his remains can once and for all PROVE that he was killed in a cross fire and not by the “lone assassin”!

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**The bullet which struck President Kennedy in the back “was found deep in his shoulder.”**

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**1963:** Around one month after Kennedy was assassinated James Angleton was made the CIA liaison to the Warren Commission by Richard Helms to cover-up the CIA’s involvement in Kennedy’s murder. The CIA would insure that the report never mentioned any CIA involvement in the murder. More critically Angleton, Chief of Counter Intelligence for the CIA, had broken into the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., and had met with CIA contract killer Jean Souetre during November 1963 and was in Dallas on November 22, 1963 when the CIA murdered President Kennedy. Angleton was not only covering up for the CIA, he was covering up for his treason and his complicity in the murder of President Kennedy. Conviction of his involvement would have likely ended with a death sentence.

**1964:** On January 1, 1964: *The Houston Post* published an article below the title “Oswald Rumored as Informant for U.S.” “DALLAS – Was Lee Harvey Oswald a stool pigeon for a federal government agency? That’s the question being asked by many people in responsible positions have.”

**1964:** On January 22, 1964, during classified closed session of the Warren Commission: Mr. Rankin: “Mr. Wagner Carr, the Attorney General of Texas, called me at 11:10 this morning and said that the word had come out, he wanted to get it to me at the first moment, that **Oswald was acting as an FBI Undercover Agent, and that they had the information of his badge which was given as Number 179**, and that he was being paid two hundred a month from September of 1962 up through the time of the assassination. I asked what the source of this was, and he said that he understood the information had been made available so that Defense Counsel for Ruby had that information, that he knew that the press had the information, and he didn’t know exactly where Wade had gotten the information, but he was a former FBI Agent.” It was now confirmed that Oswald had been working for the FBI at the time of the Kennedy assassination.

Let us be very clear on the subject: At the time of the Kennedy murder Lee Harvey Oswald was working for the CIA and the FBI; he was in fact an employee of the United States government - period!

**1964:** On January 26, 1964 the *New York Times* reported, “The third bullet, according to an autopsy in Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland, **ripped away a portion of the back of the President’s head on the right side.**” “Investigators are now satisfied that the first of three bullets hit the President in the back of the right shoulder, several inches below the collar line. **That bullet lodged in his shoulder.** The second bullet wounded Governor John B. Connally of Texas.” Once again a report of the bullet found in Kennedy’s back was published. (Three separate bullets were reported and one found in the President’s shoulder by the naval hospital before the autopsy was changed to fit the lone gunman myth. With the missed shot this makes the number of rounds fired at least four.)

**1964:** In March 1964, Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, who was heading up the Warren Commission at the time remarked, “**You may never get the truth in your lifetime,** and I mean that seriously.”

**1964:** Jack Ruby wrote, “The only one who gained by the shooting of the president was [President] Johnson, and he was in a car in the rear and safe when the shooting took place.”

**1964:** On March 12, 1964 Deputy Director of Plans for the CIA Richard Helms informed the Warren Commission that they “would have to take his word for it the fact that Oswald had not been an agent of the CIA.” During May of 1964 the Director of the CIA, John A. McCone swore in an affidavit to the Warren Commission that, “...detailed inquiries he caused to be made” by myself personally that Lee Harvey Oswald was, “not an agent, employee or informant of the CIA.” He added in sworn testimony that, “Lee Harvey Oswald was never associated or connected, directly or indirectly, in any way whatsoever with the Agency.” **This was a continuation of the effort to cover-up the CIA’s involvement in the murder of President Kennedy. A continuing series of murders were soon to follow.**

**1964:** At this time Richard Helms was deeply involved in greatly expanding CIA operations in Vietnam which included hundreds of assassinations in several key hamlets. Eventually several thousands would be killed by CIA operatives in South East Asia. This was the happy hunting ground for the CIA.

**1964:** On May 24, 1964 the FBI conducted firing tests from the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Texas School Book Depository. **Not one of the FBI marksmen was able to match the three shots in 5.7 seconds or the timing of 1.6 seconds between two of the shots reportedly made by Oswald with the Italian rifle.** At this point in the investigation the FBI should have reported to the American people that one gunman, no matter who he may have been, could not have fired three shots with that weapon at the motorcade in 5.7 seconds.

**1964:** June 1964 Chief Justice Earl Warren and Representative Gerald R. Ford visit Jack Ruby at the Dallas jail. Ruby informs them that he wants to tell the truth; wants to be taken to Washington to testify. Warren says NO! The cover-up by the judicial branch of the federal government begins and would end with the Warren Report. The American people had just lost the support of the judicial branch of the federal government as the official cover-up continued to roll on.

**1964:** September 1964: The Warren Commission cover-up documents were presented to Johnson and the American people. The unpublished portion of those records was initially sealed for 75 years (to 2039) under a general National Archives policy that applied to all federal investigations by the executive branch of government, a period “intended to serve as protection for innocent persons who could otherwise be damaged because of their relationship with participants in the case.”

#### Warren Commission Report

The commission concluded that Oswald acted alone in assassinating Kennedy. However, the Warren Report could not ascribe any one motive or group of motives to Oswald’s actions. It was from the very start a complete cover-up and one that will forever be a stain on the reputation of Chief Justice Earl Warren. Gaeton Fonzi would write, “The Warren Commission’s legacy of deceit had left a stain on American history...”

From the Report of the President’s Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Chapter 7, 1964, pages 423–424.

“It is apparent, however, that Oswald was moved by an overriding hostility to his environment. He does not appear to have been able to establish meaningful relationships with other people. He was perpetually discontented with the world around him. Long before the assassination he expressed his hatred for American society and acted in protest against it. Oswald’s search for what he conceived to be the perfect society was doomed from the start. He sought for himself a place in history – a role as the “great man” who would be recognized as having been in advance of his times. His commitment to Marxism and communism appears to have been another important factor in his motivation. He also had demonstrated a capacity to act decisively and without regard to the consequences when such action would further his aims of the moment. Out of these and the many other factors which may have molded the character of Lee Harvey Oswald there emerged a man capable of assassinating President Kennedy.”

In a footnote in its final report, the ARRB wrote: “Doubts about the Warren Commission’s findings were not restricted to ordinary Americans. Well before 1978, President Johnson, Robert Kennedy, and four of the seven members of the Warren Commission all articulated, if sometimes off the record, some level of skepticism about the Commission’s basic findings.”

**1964:** November 23, 1964 the National Archives takes custody of the Warren Commission records.

**1965:** From April 1965 through June 1966 the CIA Director was Vice Admiral William F. Raborn, Jr., who had earlier worked with the Office of Naval Intelligence.

**1965:** Dorothy Kilgallen (1913-1965) had informed the public through her column that she was skeptical of the conclusions of the Warren Commission’s report into the assassination of President Kennedy and continued to write newspaper articles on the assassination. She had written that, “**There was a connection between Jack Ruby, Dallas police officer J. D. Tippit and a Texas oil millionaire**” reportedly **H. L. Hunt**. She also reported that “**Oswald had linkage to U.S. intelligence and U.S. intelligence was nervous about it and covering up about their relationship with him.**” She reported that she was about to break the story wide open!

**Kilgallen was murdered on November 8, 1965.** After her murder her book notes on the Kennedy murder and private files on her interviews with Jack Ruby as well as her notes on the Kennedy murder went missing.

**1965: Florence Pritchett was murdered** by induced cerebral hemorrhage on November 9, 1965 the day after the murder of her friend Dorothy Kilgallen. **She had been given a back-up copy of Kilgallen's notes on the Kennedy murder only days earlier.** Back-up notes of the Kennedy murder were taken. Pritchett had a long-term ongoing affair with President Kennedy well before and after he became President.

**1966:** On June 1, 1966 President Johnson appoints Richard Helms as director of the CIA. Agents would later report that Helms was not part of the Kennedy murder, but he did cover-up the assassination post-murder. In point of fact Helms was a great deal more involved than just a cover-up.

It was not long after that, that Helms began operation CHAOS, an illegal domestic spying operation aimed at anti-war protesters. The operation was run by James Angleton. Part of the program involved infiltration of the Catholic publication offices of *Ramparts* which had published anti-war articles. Freedom of speech, under the *Constitution* of the United States, was under attack by agents of the CIA.

**1966:** Louisiana Senator Russell Long remarked, **“Those fellows on the Warren Commission were dead wrong. There's no way in the world that one man could have shot up Jack Kennedy that way.”**

**1966:** On October 5, 1966 appellate court vacates Jack Ruby's conviction and death penalty and calls for a new trial. Trial set for February 1967 in Wichita Falls, Texas.

**1966:** On October 29, 1966 **Lt. Comm. William Bruce Pitzer (1917-1966) was murdered**, by a single gunshot to the head just before he was scheduled to retire. **He had stated that he would reveal the truth about the Kennedy autopsy when he retired from the Navy.** He had a role in documenting Kennedy autopsy and knew that it had been altered to show a single gunman conclusion. Kennedy's wounds had been altered prior to autopsy. Massive right side wound proved the fatal shot came from the front.

**1966:** On December 9, 1966 Ruby is admitted to Parkland Hospital with pneumonia.

**1967:** January 3, 1967 – **Jack Ruby is murdered.** He had been injected with cancer cells while in custody. Fast moving cancer is now in his brain, liver and lungs. Death reportedly caused by a pulmonary embolism. For the previous three years jail house doctors who examined Ruby regularly reported that he was in good health. With his death a new trial for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald never took place therefore legally no one has been convicted of Oswald's murder.

**1967:** District Attorney Jim Garrison reports, “We know what cities that were involved. We know how it was done, in the essential respects. We know the key individuals involved, and we are in the process of developing evidence now.”

**1967:** On March 1, 1967 CIA operative Clay La Verne Shaw was arrested in New Orleans and charged with **conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy** by District Attorney Jim Garrison. Shaw had been a long time member of the intelligence community beginning in WW II as an OSS agent in Europe. The FBI begins bugging Garrison's office as the CIA plants agents on his staff; files begin to disappear as other members of the staff are followed by FBI agents in order to keep track of Garrison's investigation.



CIA operative Clay La Verne Shaw

**1967:** June 25, 1967. CBS News reports that 7 out of 10 Americans in a Harris Poll believe that there were still many unanswered questions yet to be answered about the murder of President Kennedy. It was also reported that 6 out of 10 Americans in a Gallop Poll did not believe the myth of the 'lone gunman.' The United States government cover story was beginning to unravel in the minds of the average American.

**1967:** CIA memo sent to agency chiefs from CIA Headquarters in Langley states, "Such vague accusations as that 'more than 10 people have died mysteriously' can always be explained in some rational way..." If the CIA leadership were not involved in these murders of American citizens why would they need to send out this memo?

**1967:** Jim Garrison interviewed CIA operative de Mohrenschildt who stated that Oswald was a scapegoat for the Kennedy murder.

**1968 - 1972:** CIA Director Richard Helms focuses on Kennedy assassination cover-up operations, including murders of potential witnesses by induced heart attacks, 'suicides', gunshots, car accidents, drug overdoses, etc.

**1972:** Because several of the men directly involved in some manner with the assassination of President Kennedy were also involved with the Watergate break-in, under orders from President Nixon H. R. (Harry Robbins) Haldeman (1926-1993) tells CID Director Richard Helms that Nixon said, **"Tell them [at the CIA] that if it gets out, it's going to make the CIA look bad, it's going to make [E. Howard] Hunt look bad, and it's likely to blow the whole Bay of Pigs, which we think would be very unfortunate for the CIA."**

All three men understood that the reference to the Bay of Pigs by Nixon was its direct connection to the Kennedy assassination. Speculation is that the missing 15 minutes in the Nixon tape is a discussion of the men involved in the murder of President Kennedy. "Bay of Pigs" was code for the Kennedy assassination which is a strong indication for one of the reasons why Kennedy was killed. It also indicates that Nixon was well aware of which group of men had murdered Kennedy and he was not about to put his life on the line to expose to the general public what he knew or had been told about the murder. Since men in government had murdered one president there was no reason to believe they would not murder another president. Nixon knew the power that had been invested in the CIA, as had all other presidents who came to office after him.



Uher 5000 recording machine used to record conversations in the Nixon Oval Office.

**1972:** On April 28, 1972 potential backup Kennedy sniper and French hit man **Lucien Sarti** (1931-1972) **met his death during a shoot-out with Mexican Federal Police** during a raid on a drug trafficking ring.

**1973:** On February 2, 1973 President Richard Nixon removed Richard Helms as head of the CIA. Nixon appoints Helms as U.S. Ambassador to Iran which removes him from Washington well out of the Watergate situation. The CIA had placed the Shah of Iran into power and Helms had a hand in training the Iranian Secret Police, known as SAVAK that kept the Shah in power.

**1974:** During an interview in Havana, Fidel Castro talks about his meeting with French journalist Jean Daniel in 1963 who was asked by President Kennedy to speak to Castro on his behalf about coming to some peaceful arrangement. Kennedy's murder had been broadcast on Cuban radio as he was meeting Daniel. Castro tells the reporters, **"Unquestionably there was a move on the part of Kennedy to establish a contact and an exchange of views with us** and I was listening attentively to everything the envoy was telling me about his conversation with Kennedy when the first pieces of news came over the radio that there had been an attempt on Kennedy's life. We understood straight away the implications of the situation and it worried us; the possibility that it might be used against Cuba. We didn't have a personal conflict with him; no special motive to wish his death, and more after the death of Kennedy another could come and no-one knew who he was."

**1974:** News reports on December 22, 1974 uncover CIA operations CHAOS and the illegal mail opening. Two days later James Angleton was fired by CIA Director William Colby.

**1975:** On April 3, 1975 a smirking Gerald Ford told a gathering of newsmen, **"We said** that Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin. **We said** that the Commission had found no evidence of a conspiracy foreign or domestic." During the Warren Commission investigation Ford had been illegally sending secret Commission reports to J. Edgar Hoover at the FBI. Gerald Ford was in fact an operative for the FBI.

**1975:** During the 1975 Church Senate Committee investigation into the CIA, the existence of a note was admitted by FBI officials and that it had been delivered to Oswald's FBI contact agent James Hosty by Oswald days before the assassination. Hosty, under orders from his superior FBI supervising agent Gordon Shanklin destroyed this critical piece of evidence. FBI Director William Sullivan (1912-1977) testified that agent Shanklin had discussed the note several times and called it an "internal problem." **The most likely subject of this note from FBI informant and CIA**

**operative Lee Harvey Oswald was to warn the FBI agent in charge of intelligence for the Dallas office of the assassination plot to kill President Kennedy in Dallas.** This would have been in addition to the FBI Headquarters warning of a plot to kill Kennedy in Dallas.

Also during this hearing William K. Harvey informed the Committee that then CIA Director John McCone was intentionally kept unaware of “anti-Castro-Mafia” connections with the CIA by Harvey and Richard Helms; operations which were against federal law. Harvey was under investigation for unauthorized illegal attempts to kill Fidel Castro. He would later come under suspicion for his involvement in the Kennedy murder.

**1976:** During February 1976 Executive Order 11905 went into effect which outlawed political assassinations as a foreign policy tool. However, being a Presidential Executive Order it can be overturned at a moment’s notice by any serving President.

**1976:** On June 9, 1976 William King Harvey died of a heart attack at age 60.

**1977:** CIA officer Victor Marchetti stated years after the Clay Shaw trial that “Director Richard Helms had told his staff to look for ways to monkey wrench [district attorney Jim] Garrison’s [1967] investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy.” **The House Committee would discover that the CIA had planted several agents on Garrison’s staff.** This would not have been necessary if the CIA did not have a direct connection to the Kennedy murder. Marchetti also stated that Clay Shaw aka “Clay Bertrand” who had served during World War II as an intelligence officer, had worked on the CIA backed Bay of Pigs operation along with David Ferrie and E. Howard Hunt as well as several others.

**1977:** March 1977, CIA operative De Mohrenschildt stated during an interview with author Edward Jay Epstein that he had been **ordered by Dallas station chief and CIA officer J. Walton Moore to meet Oswald.** He also told Epstein that he would not have met Oswald had he not been ordered to do so. In fact it can be proven that de Mohrenschildt had met Oswald several times from the summer of 1962 to April 1963.

**1977:** In July of 1977 Jack Anderson reported, “The Central Intelligence Agency had no comment last May when we quoted from House investigative files that **the CIA was in contact with Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas on the eve of the John F. Kennedy assassination.**”

**1977:** On November 9, 1977 FBI Director of Domestic Intelligence William Sullivan was murdered; shot in a “hunting accident.” **He had predicted that if he testified at the House Select Committee on Assassinations he would be killed before he could appear and it would be made to look like an accident.** Set to testify before the House Select Committee on Assassinations he was killed before he could testify. Shooter reportedly said he mistook Sullivan for a deer! **He was one of six FBI men murdered during a six month period before they could testify.** The question remains: Was he murdered by the FBI or the CIA?

**1977:** In 1977, the FBI released 40,000 files pertaining to the assassination of Kennedy including an April 3, 1967 memorandum from Deputy Director Cartha DeLoach to Associate Director Clyde Tolson (1900-1975) that was written less than a month after President Johnson learned from J. Edgar Hoover about CIA plots to kill Fidel Castro. According to DeLoach, LBJ aide Marvin Watson “**stated that the President had told him, in an off moment, that he was now convinced there was a plot in connection with the assassination [of President Kennedy]. Watson stated the President felt that [the] CIA had had something to do with this plot.**”

**1978:** Ex-CIA Director Richard Helms remarked to reporters covering his testimony during the House Select Committee on Assassinations that, **“No one will ever know who or what Lee Harvey Oswald... represented.”** When later asked if he knew of any ties to the CIA by Oswald he laughed and said, “I don’t remember.”

**1978:** In 1978, former CIA paymaster and accountant James Wilcott testified under oath before the House Assassinations Committee, stating that **Lee Harvey Oswald was a “known agent” of the Central Intelligence Agency.** Wilcott and his wife, Elsie (also a former employee of the CIA) later repeated their testimony in a story published by the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

**1978:** United States Senator and U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence member Richard Schweiker told author Anthony Summers in 1978 that he “believed that the Warren Commission was set up at the time to feed pabulum to the American public for reasons not yet known, and that **one of the biggest cover-ups in the history of our country occurred at that time.**” He reported that both the FBI and CIA were “deficient and the facts which might have substantially affected the course of the investigation were not provided.”

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**[END PART 5]**

R. Michael Gordon, 2021

**[Next week: Part 6: An historic post-assassination perspective continues.]**