

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

10253 JES
21 November 1978

SUBJECT: House Assassination Committee Inquiry

1. On 17 November 1978, Mike Smith, GC, and I attended an interview conducted by staff members of the House Select Committee on Assassinations in regard to the allegations of Mr. David F. Christensen concerning the involvement of certain individuals in the assassination of President Kennedy.

2. The interview was conducted by Messrs Kenneth Klein and Gary Cornwell and was held in secure spaces provided by Mr. George Murphy, Director of the Senate National Security Office. Both individuals are authorized SI access.

3. The interview was conducted under terms of a Memorandum of Understanding executed between the Committee and OSD on 15 November, 1978 (copy attached).

4. For purposes of the interview, DoD made available Sgt. Nicholas B. Stevenson, USAF, who had been stationed with Mr. Christensen at USA-55, Kirknewton, Scotland, in 1963. Sgt. Stevenson was accompanied by LTC Jeffrey Graham, USAF, Air Force Legislative Liaison.

5. The Committee staffers were interested primarily in Sgt. Stevenson's recollections in regard to events described by Mr. Christensen in a letter to Stevenson written in May 1978.

6. Sgt. Stevenson briefly described the USA-55 site mission and confirmed that the EXEMPT link mentioned in Mr. Christensen's letter could have been intercepted by the site but, to his knowledge, had not been an assigned target. Regarding the specific allegations made by Mr. Christensen that he had personally intercepted communications relating to the President's assassination, Sgt. Stevenson emphatically stated that he had no knowledge of such an event, though in all likelihood, if it had occurred, it would have been widely known within the station and the probable subject of a CRITIC. EXEMPT

7. Mike's and my role in the interview was concentrated largely on interpreting SIGINT jargon and emphasizing the fact that the sites' mission was and remains properly classified CONFIDENTIAL-HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS.

8. The staffers made no notes and agreed to let us review their report, for purposes of classification, on or after 20 November 1978.

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9. The staffers remain particularly interested in determining the name of the individual who Mr. Christensen believes relates to the assassination. They will explore means of determining this information to include the possibility of having Sgt. Stevenson call Christensen and ask him for the identity (Stevenson indicated his extreme unwillingness to do this. LTC Graham stated that this request would have to be examined at policy level within DoD).

10. If the Committee is able to determine a specific name, the staffers indicated that they would probably initiate a specific inquiry to NSA to again search our materials.

E. Yeates
EUGENE F. YEATES
Chief
Legislative Affairs

Encl:
a/s

cc: DIR
D/DIR
ADPL
GC
DDM
M5
DDO
EXEC/DDO
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~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

EXEMPT

15 Nov 1978 1025

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall govern the protection of classified information of the Department of Defense relating to the investigation of the House Select Committee on Assassinations (Committee) into the allegations of David F. Christensen of involvement ^{in the} ~~Government of Cuba~~ *individuals* in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

For such purpose, the Department of Defense will make Sergeant Nicholas

B. Stevenson, USAF, available for an interview by a designated member of the Committee Staff at a time of mutual convenience but not later than November 22, 1978.

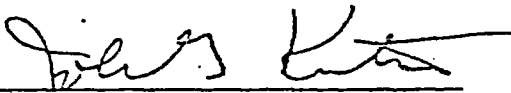
2. The interview will be conducted in secure spaces which are authorized for the discussion of classified signals intelligence information.

3. The interview will be limited in scope to the substantive content of the allegations of Mr. Christensen. Information which deals with intelligence sources and methods will not be used in responding to questions, except as such information may directly relate to the substance of the allegations.


4. The Committee agrees, for itself and on behalf of the person designated by the Committee to conduct the interview, not to disclose any classified information which is revealed in the course of the interview without the prior written concurrence of the Department of Defense. A representative of the Department of Defense will attend the interview and advise the Committee representative as to information that is classified.

5. The Committee's designee who conducts the interview may make a record of the interview and written notes of the responses of SGT Stevenson to the Committee's questions. The Committee agrees that any such notes may be inspected by the representative of the Department of Defense prior to removal from the interview room, and any classified information which is contained in the notes shall be deleted prior to their removal. If any classified information is contained in the notes, the original version shall be maintained in the Office of The Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and the Committee may have access to those notes as needed. Any record or transcript of the interview will be left in the possession of the Department of Defense for a review to determine its classification. If the transcript or record contains classified information, it will remain in the possession of the Department of Defense, and the Committee may have access to it as needed.

6. Nothing in the Committee's undertaking affects the Committee's right to invoke in the future any subpoena power available to it to secure and disclose the information related to Mr. Christensen's allegations, provided, however, that the Committee will not disclose the information until any related litigation has been concluded by judicial action that permits disclosure.



JOHN G. KESTER
The Special Assistant to the
Secretary and Deputy Secretary
of Defense



G. ROBERT BLAKEY
Chief Counsel and Director to
the House Select Committee on
Assassinations