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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure Subject
to Criminal Sanctions

The United States Senate R3014

Report of Proceedings

STANDARD
DATE 3/2/77
BY 28

Hearing held before

DATE 4/19/77
BY EC

Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental
Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities

7600007011

Thursday, May 6, 1976

Washington, D.C.

(Stenotype Tape and Waste turned over
to the Committee for destruction)

WARD & PAUL

3017 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VA 22201

(703) 841-0800

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1 Cuban economy.

2 Senator Schweiker. And how about an Antonio Veciana,
3 a Cuban name?

4 MR. Halley. Yeah, I think he's the owner, one of the
5 part owners in the restaurant in Miami called Las Violinas.

6 Senator Schweiker. At one point he worked for --

7 Mr. Halley. Could you spell the name?

8 Senator Schweiker. Maybe I'm not pronouncing it right.

9 V-g-e-l-a-n-a.

10 Mr. Halley. I think that's the fellow who used to
11 run the restaurant called Las Violinas, and he was involved
12 with a number of Cuban exile groups. I think he was connected
13 with the second front of the Escambray, but that is off the
14 top of my head. We'd have to do a trace.

15 Senator Schweiker. Did David Phillips, during your
16 tenure there, have any assignment in Cuba?

17 What was his relationship at the time of this period?

18 David Phillips? That's head of the Retired --

19 MR. Halley. Yes, at that point in time he was stationed

20 in Mexico City, and my recollection was that he was involved
21 in covert operations against Cuba out of Mexico
22 City, and he may have been involved in operations against the
23 Cuban embassy in Mexico City. I am a little vaguer on that
24 I am on the first part.

25 I know we had some travelers going down to Mexico City.

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1 or of receiving that information?

2 Mr. Halley. I would have to say because of the indicator
3 on here, the communication system was very reliable, that
4 this message was received, because that's what it shows, but I
5 personally have no recollection of this message.

6 Mr. Johnston. Could WAVE have made a contribution to that
7 report?

8 Mr. Halley. Well, again, I have to go back in the file.
9 It says the above is from a KNUSSA diplomat. I assume
10 that that was from a Mexican diplomat. Italian?

11 Then that would determine whether we could have made
12 a contribution. There was a time when we in WAVE had as
13 recruited agents **Mexican and Italian Diplomats in Havana.**
14 That cryptonym doesn't ring any bells with me. Now you had
15 to go back and look it up, look in the file, and that would
16 tell you whether we were running the guy or not.

17 Mr. Johnston. Is that the only evaluation you could
18 make?

19 Mr. Halley. Yes, looking at this, I'd say that's the
20 only evaluation we could have made, but there is one other
21 possibility. There is a Cuban aircraft. It might be that
22 some of the monitoring or communications that we had in our
23 exile groups doing that we... we have had some contribution
24 to make to it.

25 Mr. Johnston. For verifying the flight?

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1 Senator Schweiker. And there were all kinds of Cuban
2 Committees.

3 Mr. Halley. That's right, and therefore, unless there is
4 a name that goes with it, I have trouble deciding it out.

5 Senator Schweiker. All right.

6 I meant, did your work involve any working relationship
7 to the Mullen Company in Washington?

8 Did you use them in any relationship at all?

9 Mr. Halley. No, my knowledge of the Mullen Company
10 doesn't start until about 1972.

11 Senator Schweiker. Okay. I'll let somebody else handle
12 that.

13 Now about the Fair Play for Cuba Committee? What, about
14 your program, what role or relationship forgetting Oswald and
15 did you have with them since they obviously had some foreign
16 intelligence relationship?

17 Mr. Halley. None. In other words, we felt that that
18 was an organization that really of interest to the FBI.

19 Senator Schweiker. However, you did have a counter-
20 intelligence section.

21 Mr. Halley. Yes, we did have a counterintelligence
22 section, but not directed against these kinds of groups,
23 and counterintelligence section was primarily concerned with
24 the Moscow kind of things, detecting the infiltration of
25 alien agents on those basis and other forms, like the Jan

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2 No, that doesn't ring any bells with me.

3 Senator Schweiker. Then there is a Paul Helowell.

Mr. Halley. He's a man

5 Senator Schweiker. Florida banker. He was involved in
6 paramilitary or some kind of operations.

Mr. Halley. Well, there were two phones. Paul Helowell

8 was involved in the Bay of Pigs operation. In cleaning up some
9 claims that the families of one or two of the pilots had who
10 crashed involved in the Bay of Pigs. And I would have known
11 that through the file.

12 Malvern later was in touch with us at the time when
13 I was in the Miami station, and he provided, as I recall,
14 he had real estate interests, banks, and he helped us create
15 some cover companies through which we bought or leased such
16 things as dock space at marinas for boats and items like that.

136. *Sanford Cramer, USA*

Q Do you have anything else on the records?

Dr. Johnston. Just as you think

any personal contacts did you have with him?

22 Mr. Bailey. My recollection would be that I probably
23 only met him once or twice personally, but you know, your
24 duty as assistant was, at that time, our target cover in
25 which was a confidential source. I was a vice president of

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1 that company. As a result, I traveled extensively in the
 2 business social community. At that point we had one of the
 3 largest covert payrolls in South Miami, and I was a member of
 4 a number of clubs, and people like Helowell I would meet
 5 at cocktail parties or dinners, you know, or the yacht club
 6 that I belonged to or whatever, but officially, in terms of
 7 business sense, I only recall talking with Helowell twice, I
 8 think.

9 Senator Schweiker. Would he look anything like that
 10 picture?

11 [The Witness looks at the sketch.]

12 Mr. Helley. No. At that time he would have been much
 13 heavier.

14 Mr. Johnston. Did you ever discuss the Kennedy assassi-
 15 nation with him?

16 Mr. Helley. No, I wouldn't have. I wouldn't have talked
 17 about that. My recollection of the kind of things that I would
 18 have talked about with Helowell would have been the formation
 19 of some cover company, the purchase of a boat, the rental of
 20 two houses or you know large pieces of acreage for training
 21 sites and things like that. That's about what I recall of
 22 Helowell's relationship with us at the time.

23 Mr. Johnston. I guess I just have a little bit of
 24 trouble, and that is with your recollection of conversation
 25 with him. But you don't recall whether you talked

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Phone (Area 202) 344-6006

When a call

610 First Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003

1 to McCone or Helms about a connection between the Kennedy
2 assassination and the Cuban operation.

3 Mr. Bailey. Well, you know, some of those things make
4 different kinds of impact on you. I mean, McGowan was in that
5 part of the country where we were located was an important
6 figure. He had a bank not too far from where we were located
7 many of our people did their banking with him, and so forth.
8 And he's a name that sticks out.

9 Mr. Johnston. I thought that Mr. Helms and Mr. McCone
10 would also make an impression.

11 Mr. Bailey. Well, McCone, yes, you know, I went to three
12 meetings with McCone in Washington and other places, and I said
13 I don't mean this to sound blasé, but a visit of the President
14 to a place you recall, but you don't necessarily recall the
15 exact timeframes of it. I've had lots of visits at stations
16 that I've been in from Wisconsin. I've been involved in
17 Presidential visits and Vice Presidential visits, and you know
18 I can tell you when the President came to Vietnam or something
19 and you tell me we had Mr. Helms down in that date, and
20 I don't remember it.

21 Mr. Johnston. I guess I wasn't aware, you to me
22 from the exact date of a meeting with Mr. Helms or Wisconsin
23 McCone, and just whether you had a discussion with them as
24 to the relationship between the assassination of President
25 Kennedy and the covert operations against them.

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