

Highlighted changes between 2025/157-10011-10048.pdf and 2023/157-10011-10048.pdf

Agency Information

AGENCY : SSCIA
RECORD NUMBER : 157-10011-10048

RECORD SERIES : TRANSCRIPT

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : SSCIA
FROM :
TO :

TITLE : TESTIMONY OF ROBERT MAHEU

DATE : 07/30/1975
PAGES : 95

SUBJECTS :

ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL: GALANE, MORTON R.
GIANCANA, SAM
WIRETAPS
MAHEU, ROBERT
ROSELLI, JOHNNY
MAFIA CONNECTION

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : Consulted; 1A; 1B; 1C; 3; Donor Restricted
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 07/19/1994

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS : SSCI Box 252, Folder 5

152-10011-

10048

TOP SECRET

19

tape 1b

Phone (Arl 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 am not too far off in what I am about to tell you. The contract
2 was structured in such a way that as the bottoms of other
3 companies became obsolete, they could only be replaced with
4 Onassis' tankers. Even ARAMCO had to, by attrition, within a
5 period of four-and-a-half to five-and-a-half years, would have,
6 if their tankers became obsolete, they could only be replaced
7 by Onassis tankers.

8 Our statistics, after having studied the contract and
9 making what we considered to be proper projections, indicated
10 that at the completion of approximately five-and-a-half years,
11 Mr. Onassis would control more dead weight tonnage than the
12 United States controlled in its entirety, that he would control
13 on the high seas annually more oil by tens of thousands of
14 gallons more than were used by all of the Allied nations during
15 the most severe year of the Korean War, that in the first year
16 his profit would be approximately \$17 million dollars, that
17 after five-and-a-half years his annual profit would be in the
18 area of \$200 million.

19 While this analysis is going on, we also found that a
20 million dollar pay-off had been made to one of the top ministers
21 in Saudi Arabia and we had the evidence ~~out of the Swiss bank~~
22 ~~accounts, in other words, contrary to what a lot of people~~
23 ~~believe that they can't be broken, even in those days, they were~~
24 ~~broken and we had the evidence with all of the documentation.~~

25 We then prepared our inputs and presented them to the

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

20

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 National Security Council --

2 Senator Huddleston. Of the United States?

3 Mr. Maheu. -- of the United States, and within a matter,
4 I believe, of forty-eight hours, our State Department
5 denounced the agreement. It was the first time that anyone
6 had actually seen what this meant, and frankly, there was an
7 innate fear that with the initial \$17 million, then there would
8 be no way of stopping, I mean, he might go to Venezuela and
9 do the same thing, and there were also other inputs about the
10 background of Mr. Onassis that I would just as soon not make
11 a matter of record, but they were not too favorable, that we
12 presented to the National Security Council verbally but not
13 in writing.

14 Mr. Madigan. Who made the presentation?

15 Senator Schweiker. What subsequently happened then with
16 the Security Council denunciation, et cetera?

17 Mr. Madigan. The State Department denounced the agreement
18 and that same evening we were told that two ~~top CIA~~ officials were on their way to Saudi Arabia.
19

20 Then I proceeded to dig up the gentleman by the name of
21 Carl Twitchell by virtue of reading about the country, because
22 I'm not about ready to go there and not know about the customs
23 and the formation of the country. I dug up a man by the name
24 of Carl Twitchell who was living in Connecticut who turned out
25 to be the first American who had ever really been accepted by

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

20

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 National Security Council --

2 Senator Huddleston. Of the United States?

3 Mr. Maheu. -- of the United States, and within a matter,
4 I believe, of forty-eight hours, our State Department
5 denounced the agreement. It was the first time that anyone
6 had actually seen what this meant, and frankly, there was an
7 innate fear that with the initial \$17 million, then there would
8 be no way of stopping, I mean, he might go to Venezuela and
9 do the same thing, and there were also other inputs about the
10 background of Mr. Onassis that I would just as soon not make
11 a matter of record, but they were not too favorable, that we
12 presented to the National Security Council verbally but not
13 in writing.

14 Mr. Madigan. Who made the presentation?

15 Senator Schweiker. What subsequently happened then with
16 the Security Council denunciation, et cetera?

17 Mr. Madigan. The State Department denounced the agreement
18 and that same evening we were told that two [REDACTED]
19 officials were on their way to Saudi Arabia.

20 Then I proceeded to dig up the gentleman by the name of
21 Carl Twitchell by virtue of reading about the country, because
22 I'm not about ready to go there and not know about the customs
23 and the formation of the country. I dug up a man by the name
24 of Carl Twitchell who was living in Connecticut who turned out
25 to be the first American who had ever really been accepted by

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

21

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 old King Saud. ~~Mr. Twitchell~~ had spent time in the country
2 as a mining engineer to help them in the exploitation of
3 mines. It was in fact to ~~Carl Twitchell~~ that the old king gave
4 the power of attorney to come to the United States government
5 or come back to the United States and try to form a consortium
6 for the exploitation of oil from which emanated ARAMCO.

7 ~~Carl~~ was the type of man who was only reimbursed for his
8 expenses. I think his total expenses were slightly in excess
9 of \$8,000. He didn't even keep the banking and percentage
10 for himself, or a piece of the action, so to speak, and he was
11 highly, highly loved by the Saudis and although the old king
12 was then gone and King Saud, the son, was in power, ~~Mr.~~
13 ~~Twitchell~~ had the same respect and reverence from the present
14 leaders as he did from the father and I convinced ~~Mr. Twitchell~~
15 that -- he already had a clearance, a satisfactory clearance,
16 and I convinced him to precede me to Saudi Arabia to try to
17 lay the groundwork.

18 Senator Schweiker. What year was this, roughly?

19 Mr. Maheu. This, I believe, was in '54 or '55, yes.

20 Anyway, I finally ended up going to Saudi Arabia, having
21 a meeting with the King's confidential assistant, presenting all
22 of this evidence, frankly at the time not knowing if the King
23 himself had a piece of the action --

24 Senator Huddleston. Had some of this evidence come from
25 the wiretap?

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

22

1 Mr. Maheu. That tap was entirely unproductive, entirely
2 unproductive.

3 Senator Schweiker. What happened then at your meeting?

4 Mr. Maheu. Well, it's very interesting, if we could take
5 a little time, I mean, I was scheduled to have the meeting
6 "with the King," but he doesn't show, he stays somewhere else
7 and the confidential assistant shows up and one trusted
8 minister that he had with ~~Carl Twissell~~ present.

9 And my meeting was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. one night, and
10 this happened to be the last day that the King was supposed to
11 be in Jidda, he was then leaving for the capital further
12 inland, Jidda being the only major port in Saudi where he
13 spends his summers, and they were having a big parade for him,
14 and from the balcony of the hotel, I'm watching the parade go
15 by, and finally the King's car comes and he is arm and arm with
16 the man on whom I'm going to give the evidence that night, and
17 I frankly was not too comfortable, particularly in view of the
18 fact that in those days -- and I don't know whether it has
19 changed, but in Saudi, the same document did not give you
20 permission to enter and leave; you had to make application for
21 an exit visa after you arrived, and I was in constant contact
22 with the then-United States Ambassador. He made it very clear
23 that the government approved of everything I was doing, but if
24 something went wrong they could not come to my rescue, I would
25 have to be the fall guy, and I was prepared to do it. That was

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25

Phone (Area 202) 5144-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Saudi Arabian government would have its flag flying the high
2 seas, and at the time that all of this is going on they are
3 building what then, upon completion of production, had been
4 the biggest tanker in the world at that time, a ship named
5 after the old King, a tanker which was scheduled to go and take
6 a maiden flight and take off, and it turned out the biggest
7 problem that we had was to find a save-face gimmick. But
8 finally the whole thing was accomplished, and it took two and
9 a half years to do it.

10 Senator Schweiker. I didn't mean to get you off the
11 track.

12 Mr. Maheu. Well, I'm sorry I am so verbose.

13 Senator Huddleston. You said you bought a paper in
14 Athens? You mean by that you actually bought the paper or just
15 paid them to run the story?

16 Mr. Maheu. We bought a newspaper.

17 You'll have to understand, Senator, that in Rome, in those
18 days, there were fifty newspapers. I mean, the big circulation
19 in those days, big circulation in Rome was 20,000. It's hard
20 for us to visualize that.

21 Senator Huddleston. **The CIA supplied the money to buy**
the newspaper?

23 Mr. Maheu. Yes.

24 Can we go off the record?

25 Senator Schweiker. Yes.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

30

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Liebengood. Was this listening post that you referred
2 to, was that a project that was related to work for the Central
3 Intelligence Agency?

4 Mr. Maheu. I don't believe it was.

5 Mr. Madigan. Did you have any New York assignments other
6 than Onassis that you gave to Frank?

7 Mr. Maheu. I don't remember any.

8 Mr. Madigan. How about Thomas Evans? I may have asked
9 you that yesterday. Do you recall whether he had any relation-
10 ship with your company during the 1950's?

11 Mr. Maheu. I don't remember a Thomas Evans. Thomas
12 Evans?

13 Mr. Madigan. A CIA employee.

14 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall his name.

15 Mr. Madigan. I got sidetracked off of my question of
16 whether you recall a prosecution or an investigation of the
17 Onassis wiretap. You may have already have answered that.

18 Mr. Maheu. I think I did, yes.

19 Mr. Madigan. What did you say?

20 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I appeared before a
21 Grand Jury that was investigating Mr. Frank on another
22 matter.

23 Mr. Madigan. On another matter, but you had no recollection
24 of any investigation of that particular tap?

25 Mr. Maheu. No, I don't.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

31

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

1 Mr. Madigan. Either an investigation of you or Frank or
2 Leone or anyone?

3 Mr. Maheu. No, I don't.

4 Mr. Madigan. No interviews by the FBI?

5 Mr. Maheu. It's conceivable, but I don't remember it.

6 Mr. Madigan. You don't remember it?

7 Mr. Maheu. No.

8 Mr. Madigan. Let's go off the record.

9 (Discussion off the record.)

tape 2a

10 Mr. Madigan. Did there come a time when you were asked
11 by the Central Intelligence Agency to be involved in a
12 project which would involve sending a woman by the name of
13 Florence Horn over to a foreign country?

14 Mr. Maheu. Yes, sir.

15 Mr. Madigan. And what were you asked to do with regard
16 to that?

17 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I was asked to find
18 a woman, preferably from Los Angeles, who would agree to go to
19 a foreign country and under some pretext try to meet the
20 leader of the country and hopefully change his basic philosophies
21 which at the time were thought to be detrimental to the United
22 States, and that they were very, as a result, very seriously
23 jeopardizing the national security of the government of the
24 United States.

25 Mr. Madigan. Did you find such a woman?

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

WARD, & PAUL

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

32

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Maheu. Yes, I did.

2 Mr. Madigan. And did the Agency sponsor her trip overseas?
3 That is the CIA?

4 Mr. Maheu. I placed her in touch with a representative
5 of the CIA. He made certain commitments, financial commitments
6 to her. At the completion of the assignment, she claimed that
7 she had additional funds coming to her which I paid out of my
8 own pocket, so that I guess a more accurate way of saying it is
9 that the Agency and I sponsored her trip.

10 Mr. Madigan. Did she ever get to meet the foreign leader,
11 whom we will call A3?

12 Mr. Maheu. I do not have any recollection.

13 Mr. Madigan. You don't know whether she did or she
14 didn't?

15 Mr. Maheu. I don't have any recollection.

16 Mr. Madigan. Do you know how long she was gone?

17 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that she was gone for
18 several months.

19 Mr. Madigan. And this person is the woman I referred to
20 earlier by the name of Florence Horn, is that right?

21 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

22 Mr. Madigan. Now can you date that assignment as sometime
23 in 1956 or '57, does that sound about right, or do you have
24 any recollection of what year it was?

25 Mr. Maheu. I don't have any recollection. It was before

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

33

1 1960.

2 Mr. Madigan. It was sometime after you had begun in '54
3 with your Agency operation?

4 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

5 Mr. Madigan. Or your sponsorship?

6 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

7 Mr. Madigan. Subsequently, did this Leader "A" come to
8 the United States to your knowledge after this?

9 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall whether he came subsequently or
10 prior to.

11 Mr. Madigan. When the same leader did come to the United
12 States, were you involved in any assignment for the CIA with
13 regard to his presence in the country?

14 Mr. Maheu. Yes, I was.

15 Mr. Madigan. And what was that assignment?

16 Mr. Maheu. [I was told by the State Department and the CIA that this leader would be in need of female companions and that the government was very much concerned that the type of women that would be secured for him might eventually be very dangerous to the national security of the United States government unless said women had been cleared by local police departments in several of the cities for which he was scheduled to travel.]

24 Mr. Madigan. Who was the Agency representative that gave
25 you this assignment? Did you go through Mr. O'Connell, or was

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

34

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 it someone different?

2 Mr. Maheu. This request emanated from, directly from the
3 State Department.

4 Mr. Madigan. Who in the State Department?

5 Mr. Maheu. Mr. Scott McCloud, who was then Director of
6 the Office of Security and Consular Affairs.

7 Mr. Madigan. Was it coordinated with the CIA, or was this
8 strictly between yourself and the State Department?

9 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that the CIA was kept
10 apprised, however that the coordination was with the State
11 Department, in connection with the security that was being
12 provided for this leader during his visit to the United States.

13 Mr. Madigan. Did you meet with the State Department or
14 CIA people or both in New York City when the leader arrived
15 there?

16 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I met with Security
17 Personnel of the State Department.

18 Mr. Madigan. What did you do in New York for this
19 assignment?

20 (Pause)

21 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

22 Mr. Madigan. And did you meet with the New York police
23 with regard to the assignment?

24 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

25 Mr. Madigan. ~~Did you obtain or send over any females over~~

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

35

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 To the hotel that person A was staying at?

2 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

3 Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday that you
4 did send girls over there?

5 Mr. Maheu. No, I don't.

6 Mr. Madigan. Did you travel from New York to any other
7 city with this leader?

8 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I did.

9 Mr. Madigan. What occurred when you arrived at the other
10 cities?

11 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I contacted the
12 security representatives of the State Department.

13 Mr. Madigan. And after you contacted the security
14 representatives, what were you supposed to do in these other
15 cities?

16 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I, through local
17 Police Department officials or law enforcement officials, made
18 certain that the women who would gain access to the leader's
19 suite were such that they would not be a security risk insofar
20 as the national security of our government was concerned.

21 Mr. Madigan. Were these women that would not be a security
22 risk be women who the Police Department had some relationship
23 with?

24 Mr. Maheu. I don't know what you mean by relationship?

25 Mr. Madigan.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

36

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Madigan. You indicated in our discussion yesterday,
2 that the women that were allowed access, as you put it, to this
3 leader "A" were to be women that the police would have some
4 control over so that they would not be a possibility of a later
5 blackmail problem with the United States government, is that
6 not correct?

7 Mr. Maheu. That is my recollection, yes.

8 Mr. Madigan. Did you participate in sending these women
9 or providing these women over to the hotel where the leader
10 was staying?

11 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

12 Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday that you
13 did?

14 Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

15 Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday when I
16 asked you whether someone had travelled from city to city, you
17 indicated that you thought maybe one did, but you weren't sure
18 about how many others.

19 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

20 Mr. Madigan. How many cities did you visit during the
21 trip that this Leader "A" made?

22 Mr. Maheu. Several cities.

23 Mr. Madigan. Now were the women that were provided known
24 to you or represented to you as prostitutes in any of these
25 cities?

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

37

1 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

2 Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday that they
3 were?

4 Mr. Maheu. Do you recall yesterday identifying the
5 leader?

6 Mr. Madigan. I do.

7 Let's go off the record.

8 (Discussion off the record.)

9 Mr. Madigan. According to your understanding, Mr. Maheu,
10 [REDACTED] of the project that you were involved in with the State
11 [REDACTED] Department. In providing the women to this foreign leader in the
12 various cities starting from New York and going through the
13 other cities he stayed at, do you believe the women that were
14 sent over to his hotel were prostitutes?

15 Mr. Maheu. That they may have been, yes.

16 Mr. Madigan. And you did participate under instructions
17 of the government, to send these women over to his hotel or to
18 make them available to him at his hotel, not knowing what
19 happened after they got to the hotel?

20 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

21 Mr. Madigan. And that occurred in New York and the other
22 cities that he stayed at while he was in the United States?

23 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

24 Mr. Madigan. And as far as these women travelling with
25 [REDACTED] you from city to city, your recollection is that one may have

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

38

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Maheu. No.

2 Mr. Madigan. But you did not bring a crowd of six or
3 seven.

4 Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that ~~any woman~~ travelled
5 with me, may have travelled independently, but I have no
6 recollection of being on the same plane with any of these
7 people.

8 Mr. Madigan. You think may have traveled from city to
9 city, or four or five?

10 Mr. Maheu. One may have gone to one further city. That
11 is the best of my recollection.

12 Mr. Madigan. ~~And the others that were provided in each~~
13 ~~city were sort of local, so that they could be controlled,~~
14 ~~more or less, by the local police.~~

15 Mr. Maheu. That's my recollection.

16 Mr. Madigan. Is that the theory of the project?

17 Mr. Maheu. That's my recollection.

18 Mr. Madigan. ~~Now with regard to this same leader, didn't~~
19 ~~you ever receive an assignment from the CIA to produce any~~
20 ~~film with regard to him?~~

21 Mr. Maheu. Yes, I did.

22 Mr. Madigan. Do you remember when that assignment was
23 in terms of whether it was before or after this visit to the
24 United States?

25 Mr. Maheu. Subsequent to his visit to the United States

TOP SECRET

1 he made a trip to Russia. [our sources were to the effect that] he brought back from Russia with him an attractive Russian
2 agent, she that his philosophies relative to the United States
3 began to change appreciably and that the security of the United
4 States was in great jeopardy as a result of whatever influence
5 this female agent was able to have upon him.
6

7 Mr. Madigan. As a result of that, what assignment did you
8 receive, if any, from the CIA?

9 Mr. Maheu. [At a certain point, I was asked if I could, as a]
10 [result I was provided with pictures reflecting the quarters,
11 allegedly reflected the quarters to which she was assigned
12 during his trip to Russia, photographs of the female agent,
13 and I was asked if I could find some contacts in Los Angeles,
14 who could produce a set resembling the headquarters reflected
15 on the pictures, a woman who looked like the female agent, a
16 male who looked like the leader, and take some pictures
17 subsequently showing them together within the confines of the
18 alleged headquarters.]

19 Mr. Madigan. Did you recruit anybody to be in this ?
20 [Edits]

21 Mr. Maheu. Yes, I did.

22 Mr. Madigan. Who was that?

23 Mr. Maheu. I recruited a man who was working for me in
24 Tucson, Arizona by the name of Charles Kite, a female agent
25 [who was known to me as a female who was known to the law]

TOP SECRET

40

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 [redacted] enforcement authorities in Los Angeles, and who resembled the
2 [redacted] Russian female agent.

3 Mr. Madigan. Did you ever advertise in the newspaper for
4 [redacted] that film?

5 Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection. I can't believe that
6 where you would find [redacted] the proper subjects, I don't believe so
7 no.

8 Mr. Madigan. Did the CIA provide the set for that, or
9 [redacted] did you do the backdrop and all that business making it look
10 [redacted] like it was in Moscow?

11 Mr. Maheu. The CIA provided me with photographs, and I
12 [redacted] secured the services of a person in Los Angeles who was in the
13 industry on behalf of the CIA.

14 Mr. Madigan. Was that Bautzer?

15 Mr. Maheu. No, sir.

16 Mr. Madigan. Who was that?

17 Mr. Maheu. First I discussed the matter with Howard
18 Hughes and he recommended that I contact Mr. Larry Crosby, which
19 I did.

20 Mr. Madigan. Did Hughes have to approve your being
21 involved in this?

22 Mr. Maheu. I am not sure he had to approve. I was just
23 seeking his advice.

24 Mr. Madigan. You were more or less just telling him about
25 it?

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

41

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

1 Mr. Maheu. I beg your pardon?

2 Mr. Madigan. You were just telling him about it?

3 Mr. Maheu. No, Mr. Hughes had been in the industry, he
4 had been in movie studios, I thought he could be helpful to
5 this contract.6 Mr. Madigan. Did you deal with O'Connell with regard to
7 this contract or with somebody else?8 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I dealt with Mr.
9 O'Connell and Colonel Edwards.

10 Mr. Madigan. Colonel Edwards?

11 Who was this person? [the female who was known
12 to be] . . .13 Mr. Maheu... I really don't remember. [The one and only
14 time I have seen her in my life.]15 Mr. Madigan. Could this film have been described as a
16 pornographic film, or was it something less than that?17 Mr. Maheu. By today's technology, I would say definitely
18 no.19 Mr. Madigan. You say this woman was known to the law
20 enforcement authorities. Was she suspected by yourself to be
21 a prostitute?

22 Mr. Maheu. Not at all.

23 Mr. Madigan. Not at all?

24 Mr. Maheu. Not at all.

25 Mr. Madigan. She was just an actress of some kind?

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

TOP SECRET

42

1 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall, but my recollection is [redacted]
2 was highly respected by the law enforcement authorities.
3 Whether [redacted] was an informant for them or what the relationship
4 was, I don't know.

5 Mr. Madigan. [redacted] you produced one film? One film,
6 [redacted] canister as a result of this, movie film?

7 Mr. Maheu. Very short.

8 Mr. Madigan. [redacted] did you make any still photographs or
9 anything like that?

10 Mr. Maheu. No, I did not.

11 Mr. Madigan. [redacted] And then you turned the film over to the [redacted]
12 [redacted]

13 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

14 Mr. Madigan. And thereafter do you know what happened
15 [redacted]

16 Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

17 Mr. Madigan. Were you told what was going to be done
18 [redacted]

19 Mr. Maheu. [redacted] I was told that the stills would be distributed
20 [redacted] in the country of the leader in an attempt to embarrass him;
21 [redacted] and hopefully as a result remove what was considered to be a
22 [redacted] very serious threat to the national security of our country.

23 Mr. Madigan. Were you ever familiar with the project names
24 that were attached to these assignments by the CIA?

25 Mr. Maheu. Not that I recollect, no.

TOP SECRET

43

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Madigan. Did you ever hear of project Happy Days?

2 Mr. Maheu. No.

3 Mr. Madigan. Or Project Harp Star?

4 Mr. Maheu. No.

5 Mr. Madigan. Or Project Norfok?

6 Mr. Maheu. No.

7 Mr. Madigan. [Did you have an occasion to receive any
8 assignments from the CIA with regard to the leader of another
9 foreign country, who we will refer to as Leader "B"?]

10 Mr. Maheu. Yes, sir.

11 Mr. Madigan. What was your assignment in that regard?

12 Mr. Maheu. I was told that said leader would be visiting
13 Los Angeles, that he was enthralled with Hollywood and asked
14 if I could find someone to have a party, preferably in a
15 private home, with a reasonably large attendance on his behalf
16 during his trip to Los Angeles.

17 Mr. Madigan. And who did you contact with regard to that?

18 Mr. Maheu. I contacted Mr. Gregson Bautzer.

19 Mr. Madigan. Is that B-a-u-t-z-e-r?

20 Mr. Maheu. B-a-u-t-z-e-r, a Hollywood attorney.

21 Mr. Madigan. And did he hold the party that you refer to?

22 Mr. Maheu. Yes, he did.

23 Mr. Madigan. Was part of your assignment to line up a
24 woman who was to try and associate herself with this leader?

25 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that the intent was to

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

44

1 I have young movie starlets present at the party, but I do not
2 have any recollection of receiving any instructions stating
3 later, for instance, one specific person was to be his date. It
4 that's what you're --

5 Mr. Madigan. So your understanding was to have a number
6 available at the party, that's all. Not to have anyone --

7 Mr. Maheu. To have the party, period.

8 Mr. Madigan. Not to introduce one to him?

9 Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

10 I did not go to the party. I do not know who all was
11 there. I do recall that there were quite a few people present
12 and again, my recollection is that since this particular
13 leader was enthralled with Hollywood that the intent was to
14 have present people who -- with whom he would have an opportunity
15 to converse concerning his interests in the movie industry,
16 and the making of movies, and talk to not only starlets, but
17 I believe that some male stars were also invited to the party.

18 Mr. Madigan. As a result of the party, did the leader
19 associate himself with one particular female?

20 Mr. Maheu. I was subsequently told that as a result of
21 the -- having met a young starlet at the party, that he
22 subsequently invited her to spend time with him in his country.

23 Mr. Madigan. Were you ever asked to be involved in
24 providing a house in Long Island for him to stay at with this
25 particular female?

TOP SECRET

1 Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that I was asked.

2 Mr. Madigan. Do you know who that person was?

3 Mr. Maheu. I do not recall the name.

4 Mr. Madigan. You indicated that your recollection was
5 that there was some [redacted] later on with regard to this
6 female? [redacted]

7 Mr. Maheu. [redacted] subsequently told the [redacted] subsequent
8 date after he had taken this person with him to his country
9 there was some embarrassment because it turned out that the [redacted]
10 Leader was from an Arabic country and that the young [redacted]
11 was of Jewish extraction. [redacted]

12 Mr. Madigan. Was your assignment in that regard solely
13 [redacted] was that the end of it?

14 Mr. Maheu. That is my recollection of it, yes.

15 Mr. Madigan. Did you have any other assignments with
16 regard to that Leader "B"?

17 Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection.

18 Mr. Madigan. Did you have any other assignments with
19 regard to Leader "A"?

20 Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that I did.

21 Mr. Madigan. Did you undertake any other Agency assignments
22 with regard to any other leader of any other country?

23 Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that I did.

24 Mr. Madigan. Does the name [redacted] mean anything to
25 you with regard to that assignment in Los Angeles?

TOP SECRET

46

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Maheu. That name is familiar, yes, now that you
2 mention it.

3 Mr. Madigan. Do you think ~~she~~ might have been the person?

4 Mr. Maheu. I think ~~she~~ might have been, yes.

5 Mr. Madigan. Did you contact Howard Hughes with regard
6 to that assignment?

7 Mr. Maheu. No, I did not. However, Mr. Bautzer was, in
8 those days, Mr. Hughes' personal attorney.

9 Mr. Madigan. Would you date that ~~particular~~ assignment as
10 being around 1959?

11 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall. It was before 1960, but that
12 would sound approximately right.

13 Mr. Madigan. Did you ever have your office in Washington
14 used for cover purposes by the CIA?

15 Mr. Maheu. Yes, I have.

16 Mr. Madigan. Do you know on how many occasions?

17 Mr. Maheu. On several occasions.

18 Mr. Madigan. Do you know what the purpose of the agent
19 that would be using it for cover was?

20 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that my role was limited
21 simply to fund their income. In other words, they would be on
22 the payroll of Robert A. Maheu Associates and that I would be
23 reimbursed the exact amount of their payroll.

24 As to the specific assignments, I have no recollection.

25 Mr. Madigan. What types of duties would they have for

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

51

1 an employee who was working in [redacted] at some point in their
2 career?

3 Mr. Maheu. Yes, we did.

4 Mr. Madigan. Would you recall that to be around 1968,
5 or do you have a specific recollection?

6 Mr. Maheu. It would be about that time.

7 Mr. Madigan. About that time.

8 Mr. Maheu. Yes.

9 Mr. Madigan. And did you ever hear of the name [redacted]
10 with regard to that cover arrangement? [redacted]

11 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall. My recollection is that the
12 guy's name was [redacted] or [redacted], but I don't recall
13 the name [redacted]. Perhaps he was placed on the payroll as
14 [redacted], but I don't recall.

15 Mr. Madigan. You did not address him as [redacted]?

16 Mr. Maheu. No, not to my recollection.

17 Mr. Madigan. What was he supposed to be doing in [redacted]
18 do you know?

19 Mr. Maheu. Covertly or overtly?

20 Mr. Madigan. Both.

21 Let's start with covertly.

22 Mr. Maheu. Covertly he was -- he had an assignment from
23 the Agency which I don't know. Overtly he was an employee of
24 Robert A. Maheu Associates trying to exploit the possibility
25 of business ventures in the country [redacted].

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

52

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

1 Mr. Madigan. You have no inclination or no feeling at
2 all for what his assignment was?

3 Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

4 Mr. Madigan. In covert terms whether it was an espionage
5 assignment or whether it was a PR kind of assignment? No idea?

6 Mr. Maheu. I don't know.

7 Mr. Madigan. Was there ever an island involved with that
8 assignment to your knowledge?

9 Mr. Maheu. Not to my knowledge or recollection.

10 Mr. Madigan. You never heard of an island called

11 ~~Pelletier~~ have you?

12 Mr. Maheu. Not to my recollection.

13 Mr. Madigan. During the 1960's did you employ a fellow
14 by the name of Jack Buckley? We may have discussed this
15 before.

16 Mr. Maheu. I believe that from time to time a Jack
17 Buckley did work for Robert A. Maheu Associates. I don't
18 believe he was an employee.

19 Mr. Madigan. Would he be on a kind of an intermittent
20 contract basis like Frank was? You would use him every once in
21 awhile?

22 Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that he did some work for
23 Robert A. Maheu Associates and, as I say, not an employee.

24 Mr. Madigan. Do you know what types of assignments he
25 did?

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

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

59

1 Mr. Liebengood. Mr. Mort Jackson?

2 Mr. Maheu. I don't remember his name.

3 Mr. Madigan. Mort Jackson being an attorney --

4 Mr. Liebengood. -- in Los Angeles.

5 Mr. Al Long of the Secret Service?

6 Mr. Maheu. Don't remember his name.

7 Mr. Liebengood. ~~Mr. Jack Baumann~~, formerly of the Central
8 Intelligence Agency, a resident of Florida.

9 Mr. Maheu. Don't remember his name.

10 Mr. Liebengood. ~~Mr. Jack Stewart?~~

11 Mr. Maheu. Don't remember his name.

12 Mr. Liebengood. James McCord?

13 Mr. Maheu. Only what I saw in the newspapers.

14 Mr. Liebengood. But you had no dealings with him while
15 you were in Washington?

16 Mr. Maheu. Not to my recollection.

17 Mr. Madigan. Just briefly, in that regard, we discussed
18 yesterday whether you had any recollection of Mr. McCord
19 being involved -- or at least I think we discussed it -- in any
20 either sweeping of your office or electronic equipment or
21 using of your office as a listening post or anything like that?

22 Mr. Maheu. I don't remember.

23 Mr. Madigan. And your indication was you didn't have
24 any recollection?

25 Mr. Maheu. No.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

77

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 payroll, and for the second time I was turned down by Mr.
2 Hughes. I believe it was in September of 1969 that I finally
3 called Mr. Meier in and requested his resignation and then
4 I informed Mr. Hughes that he had resigned.

5 After the departure of Mr. Meier, while going through his
6 files, Mr. Ellson ran into some documents that indicated some
7 very serious double escrows on mining properties and we
8 recommended to Mr. Hughes that all the information be made
9 available to the authorities and let the chips fall where they
10 may.

11 Mr. Liebengood. Do you know why Mr. Hughes was not inclined
12 to follow your recommendations with regards to Meier's termina-
13 tion at earlier dates?

14 Mr. Maheu. He was afraid that Meier would embarrass him.
15 At least, that is what he told me.

16 Mr. Liebengood. You are aware of no CIA interest in
17 Meier?

18 Mr. Maheu. The only thing I know is that Meier was cut
19 in on the cover of Mike Milrage in Ecuador and was aware of
20 that operation.

21 Mr. Liebengood. How did that come about? How was he
22 cut in on that?

23 Mr. Maheu. Because it was he who initially had worked on
24 a deal for a venture in Mexico on the part of Hughes Aircraft
25 for cable television and subsequent to -- well, when that

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

78

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

1 collapsed, the person who was to be the partner of Hughes
2 Aircraft in that particular venture threatened to sue Howard
3 Hughes and all of the Hughes interest for non-fulfillment of
4 contract, and I made a recommendation to that person whose
5 name slips my mind, but I believe his last name was Jamie,
6 J-a-m-i-e or something like that, I don't recall. But to try
7 to discourage him from filing such a lawsuit I suggested that
8 he and I put up \$10,000 in ~~Ecuador~~ and check into the
9 possibility of developing business there.

10 I put up my ten, he never put his up, and Meier was the
11 one who was involved. But when the Agency needed a cover for
12 an assignment in ~~Ecuador~~, Meier was made privy of this by the
13 Agency.

tape 3b

14 Mr. Liebengood. Just to be certain I understand, this
15 was because of Meier's role in reestablishing the operation
16 in ~~Ecuador?~~ Is that correct?

17 Mr. Maheu. Well, of trying to save the lawsuit, yes.
18 That's right.

19 Mr. Liebengood. And you think the name of this would-be
20 partner was Jamie?

21 Mr. Maheu. I don't remember whether that was the first
22 name or last name.

23 Mr. Liebengood. How did ~~Milhagen~~ whatever way do you
24 spell his last name, do you recall?

25 Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

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

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

79

Phone (Area 202) 544-6000

WARD & PAUL

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

1 Mr. Liebengood. Do you know who accompanied Meier and
2 F. Donald Nixon on this trip to the Dominican Republic, the
3 celebrated trip?

4 Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

5 Mr. Liebengood. As far as you know, they had nothing to
6 do with any Agency interest in that?

7 Mr. Maheu. No, sir, not as far as I know.

8 As a matter of fact, it's my recollection I found out
9 about this afterwards.

10 Mr. Liebengood. Who else was witting of the cover
11 arrangements that you had with the Agency through Robert A.
12 Maheu Associates? You mentioned Meier and this particular
13 one. Did you have other employees who were witting of the
14 cover?

15 Mr. Maheu. I believe Bill Staton was aware of some of
16 it.

17 Mr. Liebengood. And did he keep your books?

18 Mr. Maheu. Yes.

19 Mr. Liebengood. And outside of the ~~Milbrage cover~~, Meier was
20 not witting of any other cover arrangements, I take it?

21 Mr. Maheu. Not to my knowledge.

22 Mr. Liebengood. Do you recall who the other personnel were
23 through the years that obtained Robert A. Maheu Associates
24 cover for the Agency?

25 Mr. Maheu. I don't.

TOP SECRET