

CERTIFICATION FOR 6 MARCH 1995 SI/TK/G&B

David Marwell

080-30-7709

Thomas J. Gunn

529-74-8907

Thomas E. Samoluk

030-50-1292

Sheryl Walter

506-80-0934

Talking Points - 2/18/98 Judge John R. Tunheim, Chair  
Assassination Records Review Board

• Judge Tunheim  
• J. Edgar Hoover  
• Cohen  
• Lee H. Stuckley  
• John Payson  
• Martin Bland  
• Barry Nardone

1. OIM - New Office -
  - a. Bringing all of release programs into alignment.
  - b. Realize there are problems - let me read two short sections from a briefing I have prepared for the DDA and the EXDIR

Pgs 13, and 19

- c. This office is not knee-jerk or Neanderthal in its approach. We care a great deal about what makes sense practically and legally
  - d. In fact we have a significant legal bent in this office.

Lee is a former OGC attorney.  
His FOIA coordinator is an attorney.

I am a former DGC on rotation from OGC

And I have three attorneys assigned to this office

Bruce Burke - Assoc DGC for Information

And two staff level attorneys:

Vicky Pepper a GS-15 attorney and

Martin Bolland a junior attorney.

2. Cover Issue:

- a. Appreciate your consideration of our concerns on state cover.

b. As I explained when I met with Dr. Gunn on 3 February. There are subjects that seem like open secrets, if they could be called secrets at all. And certainly, this is different from a secret like x is a CIA spy in y country.

c. But as the State Department and our station chiefs have indicated, this is more important that it would seem at first blush. There are repercussions from official acknowledgment of certain "open secrets."

- d. Which brings me to perhaps a final point:

Secret - Working Paper

Notes from Briefing of ARRB Staff on Stations  
(11 October 1995 - ARRB conf. room)

CIA Attendees: Bill McNair  
Lee Carle  
John Goins  
Chuck Briggs  
Hal Bean  
Barry Harrelson

**Bill re Stations:**

No problem with release of CAS (Controlled American Source), fact we have overseas locations, CIA representatives in specific countries -- the problem comes with officially acknowledging the stations thereby putting the host government and service in a position of explaining why it is allowing a foreign espionage unit to operate in the country. This may become a serious political issue for the government, especially in countries where the government does not acknowledge its own service. Also can be perceived as "rubbing their nose in it" and can affect the trust between the Agency and the host service (violated agreement of confidentiality).

Marwell pointed out that this information was 30 years old and asked what was the impact of acknowledging a station presence in 1963 on current operations or relations.

Bill responded "opened up old sores" and cited Rome and the sensitivity to our involvement in past election. Mentioned the reaction to the announcement on covert actions by DCI.

Gunn asked if stations = liaison relationship; Bill said the other service can not say it did not know the CIA was operating in its own country -- would look incompetent.

Mary asked about changes in government; Bill responded that intell types tend to stay own or its revolving door where the group that leaves when a new government comes into power will be back in power at some point.

**Bill comments on specific stations**

If important to the story such as Mexico City and the surrounding stations which were involved in the cable exchanges re Oswald, then will release.

"Don't take it away from us for little or no gain to the story", i. e. if not critical to the story let us protect.

Secret - Working Paper

He indicated he could live with opening the stations for short windows if important to story, but also said it created a problem about protecting other activities in that window

Moscow - opened for Oswald windows

**Rome** - No, past elections issue and current narcotics projects

**Delhi** - No, counter narcotics projects

**Madrid** - Liaison relationships have been up and down; (PNGed five officers) can't afford any more flaps

**Rabat** - long time relationship w/ head of state; could give anti-government labor unions an issue (however, would not "fall on my sword" for this one)

**Helsinki and Stockholm** -- would go to DCI with request to appeal (governments currently under fire for cooperation with US/very sensitive operation under way)

Marwell asked about substitute language: Scandinavia, Northern Europe -- Bill responded with Western Europe/ said southern Europe **for Rome, Madrid etc.** "ok"

London: do not want to acknowledge but could live with

Australia - very sensitive

Berlin - is open in 1955; 1963 (?) Bill may have been having second thoughts about previous statement "to release", but I think it still stands -- there was a discussion of why Berlin important to story.

Mary asked about other European stations, **Bombay** and some South American stations

Bill did not have specific on other stations but made a couple of comments

Bonn and Hague - no problem

Brussels - very sensitive to any mention of intelligence service presence

Would get back to them on other stations

[I promised Bill a list of the Stations]