

13-14-02

## interview

RETURN TO CIA  
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Name William Crawford  
 DOB 19 Sept 24  
 SSN 429-26-4954  
 address - 4944 Cass St, Apt 806  
 San Diego, Ca 92109  
 Telephone - 714-272-2770

at 9:30 A.M. on 5-14-78 <sup>SCA</sup> Staff  
 investigator Harold Deap interviewed  
 William Crawford, former executive officer  
 of the CIA station at Atsugi, Japan  
 concerning his knowledge of LHO and  
 the military intelligence that LHO may  
 have possessed from his military assignment  
 as Radio-radar operator at the Atsugi  
 Naval Airbase.

Crawford advised that he did not  
 know LHO and never heard the name  
 until after the assassination of J.F.K.  
 The U-2 program administered by  
 the CIA at Atsugi did not have  
 their own radio-radar facilities. The  
 U-2 planes utilized the naval base  
 communications ~~for~~ only for take-off  
 and landing clearance.

The ~~station~~ CIA employees at Atsugi  
 had no clandestine activity other than  
 the U-2 program. All human

intelligence ~~units~~ <sup>resources</sup> were handled by ~~the~~ case officers stationed elsewhere [in <sup>10</sup> Japan].

The cover story for the U-2 plane at Atsugi was that it was used to monitor radio activity in the atmosphere. In fact the plane actually ~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> equipment installed to measure radio activity to facilitate the cover story. ~~When the~~

Oswald would have seen the U-2 take-off and land at the base however he would have <sup>had</sup> no other information.

Radar operators would not be able to trace the U-2 <sup>over</sup> ~~the~~ flights. The plane would take off in the opposite direction. The U-2 would ~~not~~ fly to a staging area (Peshawar, Pakistan) before going into the flight plan for the over flight. However the Russians were aware of the over flights from the beginning of the program 1955. The Russian did not have the ability to shoot the U-2 down at the altitude of the U-2 flight.

CIA recruited personnel for the program from the military now. The pilots would resign from their respective service units with the understanding that at the completion

(V/MC)

of the program they would go back without losing service time and at a rank commensurate to their contemporaries. All program employees were paid by CIA. General maintenance on the U-2 was provided at Atsugi however major overhaul was made only in U.S.

Although the program was directed and administered by the CIA, the commander of the Atsugi program was Col. Marion "Hack" Nixon from the air force.

The program was terminated in 1960.

Harold:

Can you add the following statement:

Crawford said that had LHO been associated with the Atsugi <sup>CIA</sup> Station, he, as exec officer, would've known about it.

~~However he would not have~~  
~~known of his existence~~

Contract Report

Pursuant to critic applications and specific statements by former CIA employee James Wilcott that LHO was a CIA agent, Staff Investigator Harold D. Reap, interviewed the following ~~persons~~ personnel to determine if there was collaboration for ~~the~~ Wilcott statements ~~and~~ ~~personal~~ ~~knowledge~~ relating to the Oswald agent issue.

1. Robert P. Wheeler, DOB 4 Oct 15, SSN 258-17-0844, 6600 Melwood Rd., Bethesda, Maryland, telephone no. 229-6368. Position, with CIA, was Deputy Chief of Station, [Tokyo<sup>13</sup> Japan], June 59 to ~~Oct~~ 64. Interviewed at CIA Hqrs 4-13-78. Subject is retired.
2. Leo Hornbourn, DOB 2 Dec 23, SSN 122-14-2221, 1815 Opalochka Dr., Mechanicsville, VA, telephone no 356-5283. Position with CIA for the period ~~4-10-64 to 4-10-67~~ was Chief of Counter Intelligence, ~~SR~~ Branch, [Tokyo<sup>13</sup> Japan]. Interviewed CIA Hqrs 4-10-78. Subject is retired.

Jun 60  
Jun 61  
to  
Jun 63

3. [Hope Irene<sup>3</sup> Mason], DOB 24 May 33, SSN 018-26-3500. Subject presently employed at CIA Hqrs and has cover. [Mason<sup>3</sup>] position with the CIA in 1963 at [Tokyo<sup>13</sup> Japan] was intelligence assistant for the SE Section. Interviewed at CIA Hqrs on 4-7-78.
4. Frederick C. Randall, DOB 28 Oct 26, SSN 508-20-4068, Presently employed at CIA Hqrs and has cover. Randall position with the CIA in Sept 61 to Aug 63 was Chief of Prospecting at the [Tokyo<sup>13</sup>] Station. Interviewed at CIA Hqrs

w/cover

6/mc

notes ~~scribble~~

5. James S Wood, DOB 20 Feb 28, SSN \_\_\_\_\_  
presently employed at CIA Hqs. Wood's  
position from ~~April~~ to ~~Jan 68~~ at <sup>13</sup>[Tokyo]  
station as finance officer. Subject  
interviewed at CIA Hqs on 3-31-78.

<sup>James</sup>  
6. George von Bruegel, DOB 12 Dec 21  
SSN 074-18-5912, 14801 Springfield Rd  
Germantown Md, telephone 945-6908. Former  
CIA case officers, <sup>13</sup>[Tokyo, Japan] to S.R.B.  
from ~~July 67~~ to ~~July 67~~ - presently retired,  
interviewed 4-10-78. ~~interviewed 4-11-78~~

7. Howard M. Orr, DOB 22 Jul 22,  
SSN 275 12 4377, address 8405 Weller Ave,  
McLean Va, telephone 893-3325, presently  
retired. Positions with CIA, HQS 59-61 (SR Div)  
<sup>13</sup>[Tokyo] 61-63 (case officer: SB.), <sup>13</sup>now 63 HQS, SR  
Div, desk officer for Japan. interviewed 4-11-78

8. George A Fiel, DOB 29 May 21 SSN \_\_\_\_\_  
address 27 Bay Tree, North Myrtle  
Beach, South Carolina 29582, telephone  
# 403-249-3193. Presently retired.  
Fiel was chief of the Soviet Branch at  
the <sup>13</sup>[Tokyo] station from June 1960 to June 1965  
interviewed 4-29-78

4/MC

9. Robert N. Keith, DOB 11 Aug 27, SSN 257-78-6051, address 2011 Glen way Dr. Sanford, Fla. 32771, telephone - 305-323-7434 former <sup>CIA</sup> case officer at [Tokyo] Station, SR Branch Jan 59 - 6 Oct 63, interviewed 4-30-78
10. Jerome E. Fox, DOB 9 Oct 18, SSN 102-22-9186 address 3663 NW 21 st, Miami, Fla. telephone 305-634-2997. former CIA intelligence analysis at [Tokyo] station from Jul 1959 to Dec 1962, worked in program involving military intelligence. interviewed 5-1-78
11. William V. Broe, DOB 24 Aug 18, SSN 032 01 8164 address 111 Indian Trails, Scituate, Mass telephone 617-545-6113. former ~~CIA~~ CIA COS [Tokyo, Japan] from 1961 to 1965 interviewed 5-15-78
12. William Crawford, DOB 19 Sept 24, SSN 429-26-4954 address 4944 Cass St, Apt 806 San Diego, Ca. 92109 telephone 714-272-2770 former CIA executive officer at Atsugi air base in charge of the U-2 program. (Details of interview conducted 5-14-78 submitted in separate report)

3/mc

Subject Jerome E. Fox was ~~supposedly~~ one person who Wilent could remember ~~with~~ who he had conversation ~~with~~ concerning the speculation that LHO was an agent for the CIA. The conversation supposedly took place in [Japan] after the information was received that LHO was the assassin of JFK. Fox advised investigator Leap that he was in the U.S. at the time of assassination on 23 Nov 63. Fox's CIA personnel reflects he was transferred from the [Tokyo] station to the U.S. in 1962.

Subjects 2, 7, 8, 9 and 11 all thought they would have known if LHO had been recruited as a CIA agent while he was in Japan. All the subjects worked within the SR Branch of the [Tokyo] station and theoretically ~~would have~~ one of them would have handled or had knowledge of the recruitment. All thought if Oswald had been recruited without their knowledge it would have been a rare exception to the working policy and guidelines of the station.

3/4 MC

CIA employees

The above ~~individuals~~ were selected for interview because of the position they held ~~at the time~~ with the CIA at the [Tokyo] station ~~during the time~~ ~~period~~ frame of 1959 to 1964.

James Wilcott ~~made~~ gave testimony in a closed hearing before the SCA that a CIA case officer ~~told him~~ stationed in Tokyo, Japan told him that LHO was a CIA agent and ~~also~~ also mentioned LHO's crypto ~~map~~. The ~~conversation~~ ~~that~~ took place in the Tokyo station shortly after the word of the JFK assassination was received on 23 Nov 63. Wilcott ~~also~~ ~~stated that~~ could not recall the name of the case officer or the cryptographer. Wilcott also advised that considerable conversation ~~took place~~ <sup>took place among CIA employees</sup> concerning the Oswald-CIA agent issue.

Tokyo at the time

The basic questions asked of the CIA employees selected were as follows

and indicate

- (a) Have you ever seen written documents which <sup>indicated</sup> that LHO was a <sup>intelligence</sup> CIA agent or a source of information?
- (b) <sup>Where</sup> ~~Have~~ you ever heard advised orally that LHO was an agent?
- (c) Have you ever heard conversation or heard <sup>conversational</sup> speculation that LHO was a CIA agent or intelligence source for any government <sup>service</sup> ~~agency~~?
- (d) Were you in a position to know if LHO was recruited as an <sup>CIA</sup> agent during his tour of duty with the military in Japan.

(YMC)

(e) When was the first time you ever heard the allegation that LHO ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> a CIA agent.

(f) Did you know James & Elsie Wickoff in [Japan]<sup>10</sup>?

~~None of the~~ ~~above~~ all individuals interviewed stated they never saw any documents nor heard any information that LHO was a CIA agent while stationed in [Tokyo]<sup>13</sup>. Only after ~~these reports~~ the critic publication and the Service investigation in the late 60s were they ~~so~~ ~~are~~ aware of the ~~past~~ allegations.

Subjects 2, 7 & 8 expressed belief that LHO ~~could~~ <sup>may</sup> have been recruited by the KGB during his tour of duty in Japan. They based their belief on the fact that during the period of time that LHO was in Japan, the CIA station in [Tokyo]<sup>13</sup> had identified a KGB program specifically ~~designed~~ <sup>designed</sup> designed to recruit U.S. military personnel in Tokyo. However they had no information that the recruitment of LHO by the KGB did in fact take place.

(3/10)