Assassination Records Review Board
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After consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, the Review Board determined that the attached record from the House Select Committee on Assassinations may now be opened in full -- as referenced in the Federal Register notice for the Board's 12/13/95 meeting.
JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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HEARINGS

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

on

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

Deposition of E. Howard Hunt

Washington, D. C.

PART I - 1:45 pm

Friday, November 3, 1978

Official Reporters to Committees
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1978

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AMEND
RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT

House of Representatives,
Select Committee on
Assassinations,
Washington, D.C.

The parties to the deposition met at 1:45 p.m., in Room
3501, House Office Building Annex No. 2, Second and D Streets,
Washington, D.C.

Present: Robert W. Genzman, Staff Counsel; Mike Ewing,
Staff Counsel.

Deponent: E. Howard Hunt. Ellis S. Rubin, Esq., counsel
for Deponent Hunt.

Mr. Genzman. My name is Robert Genzman. I am staff
counsel to the House Select Committee on Assassinations. I
have been designated as counsel, empowered to obtain statements
under oath pursuant to House Resolution 222 and Committee Rule
4. I would ask the clerk to identify herself and to state
that she is authorized to administer oaths in accordance with
the applicable laws.

Ms. Dempsey. I am reporter Shirley B. Dempsey. I am
authorized to administer oaths.

Mr. Genzman. Will you please administer the oath to the
witness.

(The deponent, E. Howard Hunt, was sworn by Shirley B. Dempsey, a Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia.)

Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hunt, will you state your full name for the record?

Mr. Hunt. My full name is Everette Howard Hunt, Jr.

Mr. Genzman. Have you been given copies of our committee rules and House resolutions 222, 433, and 760?

Mr. Hunt. I have.

Mr. Genzman. Have you read Committee Rule 4?

Mr. Rubin. Yes

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Do you understand it?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Are you making this statement voluntarily?

Mr. Hunt. I am.

Mr. Genzman. Is it true that you are not under subpoena for this statement?

Mr. Hunt. That is correct.

Mr. Genzman. Do you understand that you have the right to have counsel present?

Mr. Hunt. I so understand and I have counsel present.

Mr. Genzman. Would counsel identify himself for the record.
Mr. Rubin. Ellis S. Rubin, member of the Florida Bar
and the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, with
offices in Miami, Florida.

Mr. Genzman. The entire record of this statement under
oath will be transcribed. The transcript will be sent to you
to review, verify and sign. When a sworn statement involves
classified information, it has been the policy of the committee
to ask that the witness waive his right to receive a copy. Do
you waive your right to a copy of that portion of your sworn
statement dealing with classified information?

Mr. Hunt. I do.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any objections to the presence
of committee staff members at this deposition?

Mr. Hunt. I have no objection.

Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hunt, we are happy to have you here to-
day. We want to repeat our past apologies for any inconveniences
you may have experienced in making arrangements to meet with
us. We would like to address a number of issues involving
areas of information and allegations which have arisen in con-
nection with the investigation of the assassination of Presi-
dent Kennedy.

Mr. Hunt, have you ever worked for the CIA?

Mr. Hunt. I have. Mr. Genzman, at this point can we go
off the record a moment?

(Discussion off the record.)
Mr. Genzman. Back on the record.

Mr. Hunt. I have.

Mr. Genzman. At this time I would like to show you a document marked as JFK Exhibit 94, which is a letter from the Central Intelligence Agency to the House Select Committee on assassinations dated March 23, 1978. Have you read this letter?

Mr. Hunt. I have.

Mr. Genzman. Do you understand it?

Mr. Hunt. I understand it. My inference is that I am under no constraint as regards my prior secrecy oath with the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Genzman. Correct.

Mr. Hunt, I understand that you would like to make an opening statement.

Mr. Hunt. I would.

Not long after the onset of Watergate it became fashionable in certain quarters to suggest that those guilty of Watergate's heinous crimes might well be guilty of even worse monstrosities, including the assassination of a President of the United States: John F. Kennedy.

Photographs of myself and the other Watergate figures were published widely in this country and abroad. Meanwhile assassination buffs had developed a number of theories -- all at variance with the findings of the Warren Commission -- that
concentrated on suggested conspiracies. Books appeared, irresponsible headlines erupted in the tabloid press, and the media -- ever eager for sensation -- gave time and space to proponents of the wildest conceivable theories concerning the identity of the assassin of John F. Kennedy, his sponsors, if any, and so forth. I need hardly take your time or mine to itemize the incredible amount of trash that has been written and televised about that tragic event.

In due course a tabloid, The National Tattler sometime around March 1974, I believe, published a story implying that I had been in Dallas when Kennedy was killed, and had a hand in his assassination. In response I sued the tabloid which promptly went out of business and left me with a default judgment and additional legal costs.

In March 1974 -- four years ago -- I discussed a variety of accusations with the Rockefeller Commission. Although my testimony was not desired, I provided the commission with the following sworn affidavit:

I, E. Howard Hunt, affirm the following to be my recollections of my whereabouts on November 22, 1963:

1. On that date I was an employee of the Central Intelligence Agency assigned to the Domestic Operations Division, located in a commercial building in Washington, D.C.

2. I was driving with my late wife on H Street near 8th or 9th Street when we first heard of the Kennedy shooting on
our car radio. We had been purchasing Chinese groceries at a
to store named, as well as I can recall it, "Wah Ling." I do
not know how lon- after the initial radio reports were made
that my wife and I first heard the news. Brinkley was the
commentator I remember because of his having theorized a
"right wing plot": i.e., Dallas citizens had abused Adlai
Stevenson and the climate of Dallas extremism had caused
Kennedy's shooting.

3. From the Chinese grocery store we drove out Wisconsin
Avenue to pick up our daughter, Kevan, from Sidwell Friends
School. On joining us my daughter told us what we already
knew: that President Kennedy had been shot. She had learned
this because two of Robert Kennedy's children had been taken
from Sidwell Friends School, presumably by Secret Service
agents.

4. From Kevan's school we drove directly to our home on
Baltan Road in Sumner, Maryland (off Massachusetts Avenue ex-
tended). At home was my newly-born son, David (DOB 9/1/63), a
maid, Mary Trayner and my wife's aunt, the late Leona Drexler
of Chicago. Our elder son, St. John, a student at nearby
Brookmont Elementary School, was probably already at home.
As I recall, our eldest child, Lisa, arrived soon afterward by
bus from Ursuline Academy and joined us at the television set
in our basement recreation room where we stayed long hours
watching the unfolding of events: the swearing-in of LBJ, the
arrival at Andrews Field of the presidential coffin, etcetera.

5. As to why I was not at my office that entire afternoon, I can only presume that I had left early to help my wife shop for a planned Chinese dinner, in the preparation of which I normally assisted.

6. I was never in Dallas, Texas, until late 1971, when, at the request of Charles Colson I flew there to interview General Paul Harkins, former U.S. military commander in Vietnam.

7. I did not meet Frank Sturgis until the spring of 1972, the introduction being performed by and at the office of Bernard L. Barker.

8. I never at any time met or knew Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby, or any other person involved in the Dallas slayings.

9. I was not in Mexico in 1963. In fact, I was not in Mexico between the years 1961 and 1970, and have not been there since a weekend pleasure trip to Acapulco in July of 1970.

10. I have no diaries or other memorabilia prior to 1969, having destroyed as many outdated files and records as possible to save weight in the move to my Florida home in July, 1974. I retained only such records, bank statements, etcetera, as are required by the 5-year Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes.

That was signed, notarized and sworn to at the time.

To that affidavit I would add only that the name I accorded the Chinese grocery store was mistaken. Since revisit-
Also in March, 1974, I provided the Rockefeller Commission with 17 different photographs of myself taken during the period 1961-1964. It is my understanding that these photographs were compared with those of the so-called Dallas tramps by FBI Photoanalyst Lyndal Shaneyfelt who determined with professional finality that the tramp photos were not of Frank Sturgis or myself.

Then in October, 1974, assertedly at the request of then FBI Director Kelley, I assented to an interview by agents of the FBI's Baltimore office. Their memorandum of the interview was made public last January.

But even that did not end the continuing harassment. Early in 1975, political activist Dick Gregory was given a series of photographs of the Dallas tramps together with several of Frank Sturgis and myself. In press conferences and talk shows Gregory professed to see unmistakable similarity between the tramp photos and those of Sturgis and Hunt, and pressed the photographs upon the Rockefeller Commission with demands for satisfaction.

Shortly thereafter in a timing sequence not entirely coincidental, a book by Alan Weberman and Michael Canfield was published: "Coup d'Etat in America," which relied heavily on a presumptive likeness of Sturgis and myself to the so-called
Dallas tramps. The defamatory intent of the book was so clear that I sued authors and publisher of the book for libel. The publishing company went out of business, and the publisher returned to his native Nigeria. Litigation against the two authors is active to this day.

That these smears have staying power was reflected during a series of lectures I gave to college audiences last year; invariably some questioner would advert to my supposed involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy on the assumption that I had occult knowledge of the tragedy.

From time to time magazine articles rake over the cold ashes of my supposed involvement in the Dallas assassination. And the more malicious underground press frequently dwells boldly on the subject, maligning and defaming me to my continuing detriment. Against these injurious falsehoods I have found myself helpless, for the agitators and profiteers accept no answers are those they prescribe in advance.

Last August two newspapers: "Spotlight," published in Washington, D.C., and the "News-Journal" of Wilmington, Delaware, printed similar stories concerning me that I found profoundly disturbing. Their burden was that this committee had received from the Central Intelligence Agency a memorandum purportedly initialed by Director Richard Helms in 1966 stating that some day it might be necessary to reveal that Howard Hunt was in Dallas on the day of President Kennedy's assassination.
copies of both stories have been furnished this committee together with my request that a copy of the alleged memorandum be furnished me.

To date, the committee has not responded to my request and I now renew it: I demand that the committee confirm or deny receipt of such a memorandum, and if the memorandum indeed exists that it be furnished me so that I may refute its contents in their entirety.

Because I was not in Dallas on the day President Kennedy was killed, I know that the purported memorandum is spurious. The veil of mystery surrounding it, however, is exceedingly damaging to me. The charge has been made; the committee is said to be the source of the false information, and it is within your power to set the matter straight once and for all.

Fair play demands it, and simple justice requires it.

Thank you.

Mr. Genzman. Thank you, Mr. Hunt.

For the record, do you affirm the truth of your opening statement?

Mr. Hunt. I do.

Mr. Rubin. May I pose a question on behalf of Mr. Hunt?

On page 4 of his written statement, the middle paragraph requests that the committee confirm or deny receipt of such a CIA 1966 memorandum, and if the memorandum indeed exists, that it be furnished to Mr. Hunt so he may refute its contents in its
entirety. I respectfully ask whether or not the committee intends to respond to this request.

Mr. Genzman. For the record, the committee is aware of Mr. Hunt's request, and we will make every effort to respond to it.

Mr. Rubin. Thank you.

Do you have copies of the articles? There is the August 14, 1978, edition of Spotlight News Magazine, and August 20 front-page story in the Wilmington News-Journal concerning this alleged secret 1966 CIA memo.

Mr. Genzman. I can confirm that we have copies of these articles which were sent from you by letter to the committee.

Mr. Rubin. Thank you.

Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hunt, were you in Texas at any time in 1963?

Mr. Hunt. No. That was part of my preliminary statement.

Mr. Genzman. Did you at any time in your life receive a letter or any other form of communication from Lee Harvey Oswald or anyone claiming to be him?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to ask you some specific questions dealing with some allegations which have been made. Some may be repetitive since you have covered some of these issues in your opening statement. Did you ever agree with one or more persons to take any actions to bring about the death of
President Kennedy?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Did you and one or more persons ever agree to take such actions and then in fact take such actions to bring about the death of President Kennedy?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any knowledge whatsoever that more than one person ever took action to bring about the death of President Kennedy?

Mr. Hunt. I have no knowledge at all, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any knowledge of any discussions that one or more people had about the consideration of agreeing upon actions to bring about the death of President Kennedy?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Has any person at any time since the death of President Kennedy ever informed you or told you in any way that they believed they had information concerning a conspiracy between two or more people to bring about the death of President Kennedy?

Let me specify that I am not now referring to public allegations by Warren Commission critics and the like.

Mr. Hunt. Oh. No.

Mr. Genzman. Have you ever at any point learned of or been informed about information that two or more persons agreed to
take action to bring about the death of Lee Harvey Oswald?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Do you believe or have you any knowledge that would indicate there are circumstances relating to the Kennedy assassination which have been covered up or in some way not disclosed by either the CIA, private individuals or any other agency of government?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir, I have no such knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. You confirmed during the investigation of Watergate that on one or more occasions during your tenure working for President Nixon that you were ordered to personally fabricate some evidence or information that would falsely implicate a person in the assassination of a head of state. I am referring to the Diem cables incident. Have you at any point in your past career been involved in any manner in the fabrication or dissemination of evidence which linked any person to any assassination?

Mr. Hunt. Other than the matter you have described, no.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to ask an opinion of you. Who do you think was responsible for the assassination of President Kennedy?

Mr. Hunt. Lee Harvey Oswald.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any suspicions whatsoever that others were involved?

Mr. Hunt. Well, I think some ties have been established
for argument's sake, let's say, between Oswald and the KGB.

I am not unmindful from recent literature on the subject. I don't know whether all those ties have been explored. Other than that, what is available in the public record, I have no particular thoughts about.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any suspicions whatsoever that others were involved with Jack Ruby in the killing of Lee Harvey Oswald?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Do you believe that the Warren Commission did a thorough job in investigating the assassination of President Kennedy and the killing of Lee Harvey Oswald?

Mr. Hunt. Well, that is almost a hypothetical question. I have seen the immense amount of material published in the Warren Commission report. I have never read it. I wouldn't know. I would have to say this, that I regarded the composition of the Warren Commission as being an august body of responsible men who were working under some difficulties, and I think they did as well as humans could do in the circumstances.

Mr. Genzman. Did you play any role in the Central Intelligence Agency's investigation of the Kennedy assassination?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Did any information about the assassination or the investigation of the assassination pass your desk during the period 1963 to 1964?
Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. During any later period do you recall any information concerning the Kennedy assassination passing your desk?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. During the period of 1963 to 1964, what was your relationship with James Angleton?

Mr. Hunt. I don't know that I had any dealings with Angleton's staff or whatever in the period '63 to '64. I knew Mr. Angleton was the chief of the counterintelligence-counterespionage staff, and over my long career with the CIA I had occasion to deal with him perhaps twice. I had more frequent occasions, perhaps twenty or thirty times, that I applied to the CIA staff working members about a particular problem, but I don't think I ever dealt personally face to face with Angleton more than twice in a period of twenty-one years.

Mr. Genzman. During that same period, 1963 to 1964, what was your relationship with Raymond Rocca?

Mr. Hunt. I would have to say that I knew Ray Rocca was his deputy and had no dealings with Ray Rocca at all.

Mr. Genzman. Have you ever discussed the assassination or the assassination investigation with either James Angleton or Raymond Rocca?

Mr. Hunt. No.
Mr. Genzman. During your work for President Nixon in the so-called "plumbers unit," did you and your colleagues ever investigate information provided by a woman who claimed to have data related to Fidel Castro's personal reaction to the Kennedy assassination?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Could you describe this incident?

Mr. Hunt. I had done so, I believe, for the Watergate special prosecutor or the Ervin committee, one or the other.

I was in Miami with or without Gordon Liddy late '71 or early 1972. I was in a hotel room, I think in the Dupont Plaza in Miami, and I was meeting with Mr. Bernard Barker and another member of our team, Martinez, Mr. Martinez, and Martinez mentioned that he had available a woman who was a recent arrival in the United States. I did not know at that time that Martinez was a contract agent for CIA. He said that he had escorted this woman around different places and I might be interested in hearing her story. But there seemed to be no palpable reaction, and he said she was present in Fidel Castro's household when the news came over the radio that President Kennedy was shot, would I like to talk with her.

I said, sure, I would be perfectly happy to.

So he brought to my suite within a half-hour or so a middle-aged lady, sort of nondescript appearance, I can't even recall her name now. Mr. Martinez supplied a tape recorder
and I interrogated her, asking her to tell her story to me, asked her a few questions, much as we are engaged in a colloquy today. And then in due course I took the tape cassette with me to Washington and had either all or part of it transcribed in the White House.

The burden of her story was that a pall of gloom had settled over the Fidel Castro household on the announcement of President Kennedy's death because, according to her -- and again this is unverifiable information, as far as I know -- Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Castro were on the verge of working out some sort of an agreement, a détente, if you will, an arrangement which would permit both countries to live without the tensions that had existed.

I think I transmitted either a transcript of that tape or the tape cassette or both to the Central Intelligence Agency, and I can't recall the recipient at the other end, but I used the regular White House CIA pouch for that purpose.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever prepare a report on the information which the woman provided?

Mr. Hunt. I think I did a summary of it for Charles Colson.

Mr. Genzman. Did you also send a copy of the report to the CIA?

Mr. Hunt. As I have said, I either sent a transcript of the tape itself, the Q and A, or the cassette or both. I do not
think I supplied them with the summary that I supplied Colson.

Mr. Genzman. Did your report, if you wrote one, contain any interpretations or analysis of her statements?

Mr. Hunt. I don't recall. That has been about seven years ago.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know the name of the woman?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know who would know the name of the woman?

Mr. Hunt. Certainly the CIA must have a record. Martinez or Bernard Barker. She was apparently fairly well known in a particular area of the Cuban colony there.

Mr. Genzman. Did you take any other steps to investigate the information which you received from her?

Mr. Hunt. Not to the best of my recollection, no. I thought by turning it over to the CIA that sort of put the thing in the right channel if it was viable information.

Mr. Genzman. In addition to the people who you have named as being involved, were there any other people who had knowledge of this project?

Mr. Hunt. Well, one or two typists who helped me with the transcription in the White House. I don't know that anybody in the CIA liaison office would have known of it because a sealed envelope went over, and obviously people at the other end in CIA must have known about it.
Mr. Genzman. Do you recall any particular names?

Mr. Hunt. No. I haven't thought about this for a long, long time. I think I must have addressed it to the Chief Reports Officer, Western Hemisphere Division.

Mr. Genzman. Would Richard Helms have been one individual?

Mr. Hunt. I don't think so, unless it was bucked up to him because it would come from the White House.

Mr. Genzman. Did you or anyone else ever undertake or consider any other investigation of any information pertaining to the Kennedy assassination during your period of working for Richard Nixon?

Mr. Hunt. Beyond the incident I have reported, I can't recall anything, no.

Mr. Genzman. Was there ever any interest among the people working in the Nixon administration concerning new information about the Kennedy assassination?

Mr. Hunt. Well, that is kind of a blanket question. I can only answer it in terms of my contact with Charles Colson, who was not particularly interested in it but he may have discussed it with others in the White House to indicate or to explore the matter for some possible political advantage, i.e., if it could be shown ex post facto that Mr. Castro and President Kennedy had a working relationship, this might have been of some potential value, although I didn't collect the information for that purpose initially, I just did it as a byproduct
of my presence in Miami with the CIA as the immediate destination.

Mr. Genzman. You stated that you gave Charles Colson a copy of the summary pertaining to the information which this woman had provided you?

Mr. Hunt. May I be just a little more precise? If I said that, I think that was imprecise. I think I summarized the information in English for Mr. Colson.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever provide a summary to President Nixon or to Robert Haldeman?

Mr. Hunt. No. That is not to say, of course, Mr. Colson didn't pass along in one form or another the information I forwarded to him.

Mr. Genzman. In your interview in the Providence Journal in 1975 and in comments since, you have stated that your summary and the tapes you made of this interview with this woman were kept in your office in the Executive Office Building. Do you know what happened to this summary and to the tapes?

Mr. Hunt. Well, my best recollection now is I sent the actual take cassette over to CIA. My safe was violated, as you know, about the 19th of June, 1972, and various disruptions were made of the material that contained therein. At the time of discovery by Mr. Silbert here of the federal courthouse, I was shown some material that was extracted from my safe, but I don't recall that particular item being one of them. There would be an inventory, of course, of whatever was not destroyed
by Mr. Colson, Mr. Dean, Mr. Erlichman or Mr. Patrick Gray.

There was a lot of pilferage along the line. This is history, but I am just repeating it for the record.

I don't recall that particular summary being part of the discovery material.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know for a fact who was responsible for taking this material and destroying it?

Mr. Hunt. No. I know that Mr. Dean has taken some material, squirreled some of it away, other portions he destroyed. Mr. Erlichman is said to have destroyed some. These matters were explored to some extent during the coverup trial in 1974, and I think what happened to some of those things will be a matter of contention for a long time. I don't know. I didn't have any particular interest at the time.

Mr. Genzman. Why did you wait until 1975 to talk about the information which this woman had provided?

Mr. Hunt. Well, it may have just been in response to a question. After all, it was about 1974 while I had been in prison before any of these charges began arising associating me in any way with the death of President Kennedy, so there would have been no reason for me to go into something that did not evidently receive any kind of echo from the agency or the White House itself. I recall, of course, the interview with the Providence Journal. It was a very long one. I think it occupied about two days and I just assume they asked me some-
thing that brought that incident to mind.

Mr. Genzman. Are you stating that you never consciously
decided to withhold this information until 1975?

Mr. Hunt. Yes. In fact, I think that information was
available in executive session because at that time I had to
search my mind before some investigative body to determine
the name of the White House secretary who had done the typing
for me. And that became part of the official record.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall whether Charles Colson's sec-
retary did the typing work related to this project?

Mr. Hunt. No, she did not. The girl who did it was the
daughter of a CIA employee in Japan. His name was Joseph
Kayonaga, K-a-y-o-n-a-g-a. His daughter was working in the
White House, and soon after my arrival identified herself to
me, recognized me from Japan, and she had also been in South
America with her father. She spoke Spanish and Portuguese,
and so I had her do, I guess, all of the transcribing.

Mr. Genzman. Is it true that this information was taken
from your safe soon after the Watergate breakin?

Mr. Hunt. Well, my safe was broken into by GSA people
acting for John Dean sometime I believe Monday morning of June
19, 1972, so we are talking about within a 48-hour period, yes.
This is on the assumption that it was taken out.

Mr. Genzman. Do you feel there was any connection between
the two events?
Mr. Hunt. No, none at all.
Mr. Genzman. Because the two events occurred in such a short time period, do you believe that the information which you received from this woman on the Kennedy assassination was discussed in the Nixon circle during the days immediately following the Watergate breakin?

Mr. Hunt. I don't think there was quite as sequential a tie as you suggest. My recollection is there was between a six and seven-month interval between the time I took the woman's statement and the time that my safe was violated in my White House office. I don't think there was any causal connection at all.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any reason to believe that this information or anything relating to it was discussed on the so-called 18-minute gap on the Nixon tape of June 20, 1972?

Mr. Hunt. No, because I never heard any echoes from Mr. Colson or from the CIA about the material. It served whatever purpose it was to have served; nobody was really interested. In any event, I wasn't really in that kind of investigatory capacity.

It happened I was in Miami when the woman was found and brought up to see me, and I performed the service. The CIA never, I think, acknowledged receipt of the memorandum of the tape or heard anything about it again.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any reason to believe this information was discussed in the so-called "smoking gun" tape
of June 23, 1972, the tape which forced Nixon to resign?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall filing a motion in 1972 for
the return of the documents which were taken from your safe?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Is it true this motion, had it been acted
upon, would have resulted in a court hearing about the contents
of your safe, the substance of those contents and the chain
of custody of those contents once the safe was drilled open?

Mr. Hunt. That is my understanding. I am not an attorney,
but to the best of my recollection that is what would have
ensued.

Mr. Genzman. Was this the purpose of your filing the
motion?

Mr. Hunt. Well, the motion -- was this the motion for
suppression?

Mr. Genzman. I am speaking of the motion to obtain the
contents of the safe.

Mr. Hunt. A motion for suppression was filed, and Mr.
Colson evidently persuaded my then attorney to withdraw that
motion because it would have been embarrassing for the White
House. Is that the one we are talking about?

I might add that the motives my then attorney had for
acceding to Mr. Colson's request are now among counts in a
malpractice suit which you may or may not be aware of.
Mr. Genzman. Do you recall filing more than one motion on the issue of obtaining the contents of the safe?

Mr. Hunt. No, I don't, really.

Mr. Genzman. Fine.

I believe that Charles Colson spoke to you concerning the withdrawing of this motion several days after meetings in which the impeachment committee, Ervin committee, and special prosecutors concluded that there were discussions between Nixon, Colson and others about paying you large sums of money in an effort to keep you silent.

Do you know whether these events had any relevance to Colson's desire to have you withdraw your motion?

Mr. Hunt. I think we ought to examine the sequence just a little more precisely. It was in late December or very early January, late December, 1972, very early January, 1973, that my then attorney had spoken to Mr. Colson about the motion to suppress, and Mr. Colson, in due course, consulted with the White House, I believe history indicates, and came back to my then attorney and said we will request, wherupon my attorney notified me that he had decided to accede to the White House suggestions and not pursue the motion.

I don't think there was any chain of events at that time that would suggest that an impeachment committee was in motion. Haldeman and Ehrlichman hadn't even been fired at that time.

Mr. Genzman. Let me try to make my question clearer.
Mr. Hunt. Perhaps you could chop it into a couple of segments.

Mr. Genzman. In the impeachment final report it is noted that on January 9, 1973, your motion for return of the documents was withdrawn. This was several days after the meetings which the impeachment committee, Ervin committee and special prosecutors concluded had involved discussions by Nixon, Colson, and others about paying you another large sum of money in return for your silence.

As you know, the investigations concluded that a secret plan to offer you executive clemency was discussed during those days by the Nixon circle. Is there any relationship between those events and your decision to withdraw your motion?

Mr. Hunt. The decision was not made by me. The decision was made by my attorney.

Mr. Genzman. Was it ever your purpose to avoid having this information concerning the Kennedy assassination be made public?

Mr. Hunt. No, it was never a matter of any interest to me one way or another.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know what Colson was concerned about with regard to the information in the safe?

Mr. Hunt. Well, not specifically. He should have been very concerned; in fact, I think his concern manifested itself in his being party to the safe's having been opened and the
As I pointed out many times on many occasions, examination of what was left behind was all highly incriminatory leads to other people. So obviously there was a kind of division of the spoils by interested people in the White House to take their names out of the folders and leave my name in. That is what happened.

Mr. Genzman. John Ehrlichman, in some notes which he made in 1971, made reference to an episode in which Nixon was trying to get Director Helms to provide his aides with a copy of a secret internal CIA report relating to the Bay of Pigs. Helms evidently was refusing to make a copy available. In his notes of September 18, 1971, Ehrlichman wrote that Nixon was going to tell Helms that "the President is to have the full file or else. Nothing withheld."

In those same notes Ehrlichman wrote that the President stated that "Liddy and Hunt" were to help read or analyze the material once it was obtained. Do you recall this episode?

Mr. Hunt. No, this is the first time I heard of it.

Mr. Genzman. Was any such material made available to you on the Bay of Pigs or on Cuban matters?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. You stated earlier that you had tape-recorded your conversations with the woman regarding her information on the Kennedy assassination?
Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall how many tapes were made?

Mr. Hunt. One cassette, to the best of my recollection.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have any other tapes in your safe?

Mr. Hunt. I don't think so.

Mr. Genzman. In a CIA employee's affidavit published by the impeachment committee the employee disclosed that you had "transmitted sealed envelopes" to the CIA during the Watergate period and that some of these envelopes went to Director Helms. Is this true?

Mr. Hunt. What is the Watergate period supposed to consist of?

Mr. Genzman. The period would be 1971 to 1972.

Mr. Hunt. Well, that was the period I was at the White House. Yes, I sent occasional things over to the CIA. I was concerned about my -- I had an annuity problem, if I remember, that I wanted resolved. I sent materials over in sealed envelopes, certainly, but I don't recall, inasmuch as I wasn't the one who ever addressed the external envelope -- you are familiar with the courier system?

I provided the sealed envelope to the CIA liaison office, chief reports officer, W.H. Division. They would put that in another envelope and perhaps have Richard Helms' name on it or chief registry; I don't know. That was a mechanical thing, but to the best of my recollection I never addressed in my
own hand or instructed anyone else to direct any envelopes from myself to Richard Helms.

Mr. Genzman. I believe the affidavit implied that the envelope was personally directed to Mr. Helms. Does that refresh your recollection?

Mr. Hunt. No, it doesn't. Mr. Colson has in the past adverted to a supposed continuing intelligence liaison between then-Director Helms and myself, which, in fact, did not exist.

Mr. Genzman. Did any envelopes from you to Mr. Helms contain either the summary of the tapes of this conversation with the woman or the tapes, themselves?

Mr. Hunt. Well, since I never directed anything to Director Helms, but rather, as I explained a moment ago, I have prepared an envelope containing either a transcript of the tape, or transcript and the tape, itself, and addressed the envelope to probably the chief reports officer, W.H. Division, and turned it over to the liaison office which then had its own pouch and courier service out to the agency. How they addressed it, I don't know.

Mr. Genzman. It is your testimony you never addressed this material to Mr. Helms directly?

Mr. Hunt. That is correct.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to quote an excerpt from an interview with Charles Colson conducted by Senator Lowell Weicker and Howard Baker. In the interview, Colson speaks of
a meeting which his lawyer, David Shapiro, had with you during the Watergate period, a meeting in which Colson says you were making demands for more payment.

Let me quote the report of this Colson interview.

"Hunt met with David Shapiro while trying to see Colson to pass on a request for money. When Shapiro would not let Hunt see Colson, Hunt said the White House better get on the stick; that he had things on Ehrlichman, Krogh and Young, and that he had tapes."

This implies you were saying that you possessed tapes which would be threatening to the Nixon Administration?

Mr. Hunt. Well, first of all, the assertion is false because I never made any such statement, and I did meet with Mr. Shapiro, and he wrote extensive and rather self-serving accounts of that interview. I don't think even his account of the meeting held any such allegation.

Mr. Genzman. In 1977, in an interview in Boston, you stated that you knew of a reported plan to "eliminate" Omar Torrijos in Panama. The report of this interview states, "Hunt was asked, did you know of anything about a project to eliminate Panamanian dictator Torrijos. In response the convicted Watergate conspirator answered, Panama was a drug traffic area where the drug could move easily, the CIA said with mixed blessings of the Panamanian Government. There was mixed concern on the part of drug officials and certainly on the part of some of the Latin
American drug informants. I think the feeling was if Torrijos
didn't shape up and cooperate, he was going to be wasted.
That never happened. I didn't know any of the people asked to
participate other than the people in the Plumbers Unit. They
have that as part of their brief."

What were the circumstances of these discussions?

Mr. Hunt. What discussions, sir?

Mr. Genzman. In this quoted section it states, "I don't
know any of the people asked to participate other than the
people in the Plumbers Unit."

Do you recall a discussion where the people in the Plumbers
Unit were asked to participate?

Mr. Hunt. No, not at this point, I don't. All I recall
about that is that there were people within the Special Investi-
gations Unit who did nothing but concern themselves with the
drug traffic, and they were in liaison with the CIA. One was a
gentleman named Minnick, and another was Lucien Conein. It was
more an impression I had than anything else.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know who else was involved in these
discussions?

Mr. Hunt. I think it is a matter of record that Mr. Liddy
was active in the drug matters and, in fact, during his previous
incumbency as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Treasury,
had initiated or at least been one of the prime movers behind
Operation Intercept, which, for a substantial period, seriously
reduced the drug flow from Mexico.

Mr. Genzman. Was anyone else in the Plumbers Unit contacted with regard to this plan?

Mr. Hunt. To what plan, sir?

Mr. Genzman. Again, I am speaking of participation in a plan to waste Torrijos.

Mr. Hunt. I don't know whether that ever reached fruition. If you go back over the original responsibilities of the White House at that time, Bud Krogh not only had responsibilities for the Special Investigations Unit, but also was extremely active in connection with the formation of the then Drug Enforcement Agency, and it was my impression that drug problems centered around his office in the White House.

Mr. Genzman. Was it your understanding this was an assassination plan?

Mr. Hunt. I think plan perhaps suggests too great a degree of formality. I think there was more a sense of range and impotence at the persistence of Panama which was an uncontrollable center of drug importation to the United States. The people responsible within the United States for upholding the law were unable to limit the flow. Why? Because President Torrijos was uncooperative or was believed to be uncooperative, at least, and I think from that a sense of frustration and anger arose. To what extent there was any sort of a formal plan, I have no idea.
Mr. Genzman. Can you state what led you to feel that you had the authority to conduct these types of discussions?

Mr. Hunt. Well, I didn't conduct any.

Mr. Genzman. Were you part of a discussion in which people in the Plumbers Unit were asked to participate in a plan of that sort?

Mr. Hunt. No, not to the best of my recollection, I was not.

Mr. Genzman. Are you saying you have no direct knowledge that people in the Plumbers Unit were, in fact, asked to participate in a plan of this sort?

Mr. Hunt. Yes, I am saying that.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know what happened to this plan?

Mr. Hunt. Again, I don't know that it should be solemnized as a plan. I have no knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. Earlier, you mentioned the names Minnick, Conein, Liddy and Krogh. Do you know who of these people was primarily in charge with regard to this plan?

Mr. Hunt. Well, I think we have to get away from the word plan. I realize that you probably have some boilerplate here --

Mr. Genzman. Can I rephrase the question?

Mr. Hunt. Yes. In terms of the realities of the situation, as I perceive it, if you will, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know who of these individuals discussed
these types of activities the most?

Mr. Hunt. I know that Mr. Liddy and Mr. Minnick at one time or another discussed the sense of frustration not only with regard to Panama, but with regard to the Golden Triangle, and Mr. Minnick having traveled at White House expense out there to Burma, Laos, and so forth, and come back with a report that the White House found it very disturbing. It was in this context that Mr. Torrijos came in focus.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether the Watergate burglars, Barker, McCord, Sturgis, or Martinez, had any knowledge of these discussions?

Mr. Hunt. No, I have no knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to show you an excerpt from an interview with your former colleague, Manuel Artime, with the State's Attorney in Florida. In it, Artime stated that you approached him to "take care of Torrijos." Artime goes on to suggest that Barker and Sturgis were involved in a plan.

Mr. Hunt. I am familiar with a document that purports to be the one you are now showing me, sir, I believe. Is this the Dardis memorandum, so-called?

Mr. Genzman. Yes.

Mr. Hunt. Has that ever been authenticated?

Mr. Genzman. Yes, it has.

I would like to state you are being shown excerpts of the affidavit as opposed to the complete affidavit.
Mr. Hunt. If you will bear with me a moment, can we go off the record so I can search my files?

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. Genzman. Did you, in fact, ever contact Artime in regard to any operations or plans in Panama?

Mr. Hunt. No, I did not. Mr. Artime, at one time, possibly more often over a period of years, mentioned his concern as a Latin American over the drug activities that were going on in Panama, but I don't recall any threats that were ever uttered. But let me quote from a press release offered by Attorney Ellis Rubin on December 16, 1977, in response to a column written by Jack Anderson, the columnist, of the same date, December 16, and I am quoting from the press release as issued by Attorney Ellis Rubin.

"Anderson's column recites a so-called 1973 secret memo from Richard Gerstein's investigator, Martin Dardis, allegedly quoting Manuel Artime, Hunt's close friend and godfather to one of his children. This office represents both Hunt and Sturgis now, and we were the attorney for Dr. Artime over the years. I would have known of any so-called plot because Dr. Artime confided in me, and I possess the facts concerning both Hunt and Sturgis and all of their activities.

"Jack Anderson made no detectable effort to contact Howard Hunt to refute the charges. He knows I represent both Hunt and Sturgis, and he could have contacted Mr. Hunt through this
office. I now ask why did Mr. Dardis and Anderson wait until after Dr. Artime's untimely death from cancer to make Artime their sole authority for Hunt's so-called involvement in the conspiracy. Along those lines, I challenge Mr. Dardis or anyone else to produce any written memorandum, signed by Manuel Artime, or a tape recording of his voice substantiating these outrageous lies."

I would go with the response made by my attorney at that time.

Mr. Genzman. On November 14, 1972, you transmitted a confidential memorandum to the Nixon circle which asked for further support payments for you and the other Watergate burglars. In the memo you stated, "The Watergate break-in was only one of a number of other highly illegal conspiracies undertaken at the behest of the White House."

Have all of these other illegal acts now been publicly disclosed?

Mr. Hunt. As far as I know, they have.

Mr. Genzman. Would you briefly describe these other illegal activities?

Mr. Hunt. I suppose the principal one was the Ellsberg affair, which didn't surface for four or five months. I think the fabrication of the Diem telegrams was another. There were probably other things, but I can't recall them now.

Mr. Genzman. Are you sure that there are no other illegal activities which have not yet been disclosed?
Mr. Hunt. I wouldn't have any knowledge because I have to answer this in the positive sense that everything I knew about has been disclosed. But I can't substantiate there were not other things beyond my knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. What was highly illegal about the Diem cables?

Mr. Hunt. That perhaps may have been the hyperbole of the moment. It was certainly discreditable, and there was a good deal of public outrage when it was made known.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any recollection of a proposed covert action plan called Operation Diamond from 1971 to 1972?

Mr. Hunt. Well, I know that Operation Gemstone was the umbrella project, if you will, for a lot of sub-projects which Mr. Liddy had drawn up and presented to the Attorney General and Mr. Diem and Mr. Magruder for their approval. Which one Diamond was, I haven't any idea at this time.

Mr. Genzman. In an interview Bernard Barker stated Operation Diamond was a plan to take strong action against drug smugglers, and he also stated that you approached him concerning this plan. Does that refresh your recollection?

Mr. Hunt. Not particularly. I think I now recall Barker having made that statement, but I don't subscribe to it.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any recollection about any of the details of the plan?

Mr. Hunt. No.
Mr. Genzman. Do you know what happened to the plan?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. What is your knowledge of a Miami real estate firm called Ameritez?

Mr. Hunt. Only that it was a dead corporation which was resurrected briefly by Bernard Barker to provide cover for the Watergate entry. This was a matter of public record. There is nothing hidden about that. Miguel Suarez allowed his corporation to be used as the apparent renter of the suite that was used by the break-in people.

Mr. Genzman. What was your relationship with Miguel Suarez?

Mr. Hunt. Never knew him in my life.

Mr. Genzman. During your work for the Nixon circle, did you ever have contact with Daniel Hofgren?

Mr. Hunt. Not to the best of my recollection; not by that name. Could you identify him further?

Mr. Genzman. Would it refresh your recollection to know that he worked in the White House under Colson?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall ever discussing Panama with a Daniel Hofgren?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever know a Miami man named Edmond H. Hill?
Mr. Hunt. Not that I recall.

At what time in my life? I lived there as a child, among other things. My father was in law practice then.

Mr. Genzman. This would have been 1971-1972.

Mr. Hunt. No, I have no recollection.

Mr. Genzman. Would it refresh your recollection to know that his nickname was Skipper Hill?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you travel to Nicaragua in July of 1971?

Mr. Hunt. Yes, I did. Probably. I know I traveled there with my wife and one daughter.

Mr. Genzman. Was this the first month when you worked for the Plumbers?

Mr. Hunt. I don’t think I was even working for the Plumbers then. I think I was working for Colson. The Plumbers, I don’t think, came into being until the end of that summer.

Mr. Genzman. What was the purpose of the trip?

Mr. Hunt. Pleasure. Artime had large investments in Nicaragua. He was an intimate friend of President Somoza. The airplane tickets were provided free of charge by Dr. Artime, and it made a pleasant weekend.

Mr. Genzman. Did you travel to the neighboring country of Panama during this trip?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. At any time during the 1970s have you ever been in Panama?
Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. In your opening statement, you mentioned that you flew to Dallas in late 1971 on Charles Colson's directions to interview a General Harker?

Mr. Hunt. Harkins.

Mr. Genzman. How long were you in Dallas?

Mr. Hunt. I got there late at night, about two o'clock in the morning, interviewed General Harkins at breakfast, and was out of town by mid-morning.

Mr. Genzman. Was this during the period of the Diem cables episode?

Mr. Hunt. Well, it was in the period of what you have referred to as the Watergate period; yes.

Mr. Genzman. What was the purpose of the trip?

Mr. Hunt. Mr. Colson felt that General Harkins, as troop commander there, taking issue with some of the policies of the previous administration, might be useful to the then Nixon Administration in terms of establishing just who had started the war and just who had finally lost it. It was not a very rewarding interview. If you want the dates of that travel, I suppose General Harkins could provide it. Or since it was done on White House travel vouchers, it is probably a matter of record.

Mr. Genzman. Did you discuss the Kennedy assassination with anyone in Dallas?

Mr. Hunt. No.
Mr. Genzman. I have no further questions at this point.

At this time I would like to offer you five minutes to
clarify or amend your previous answers or to offer any fur-
ther information which is relevant to the issues we have dis-
cussed.

Mr. Hunt. I have one or two matters, sir, that I would
like to reiterate rather than introducing any new material at
this time. I would like to advert to a matter already men-
tioned, and that is to say the publication in the 'Spotlight'
Magazine of libelous material which involves both this com-
mittee, myself and the CIA, and state that I have made every
effort that I conceive to be feasible to get to the bottom
of this material to determine why author Victor Marchetti pub-
lished the article, where he obtained the memorandum, if in fact
such a memorandum exists, and to state that this newspaper
article and its successor, the one we have already mentioned,
the Sunday News-Journal in Wilmington, has had a chilling ef-
fect upon me, just at a time when I was beginning to get my
life reorganized again after almost three years in prison and
about six years of day and night involvement in the Watergate
matter, something like this comes out.

I can only conclude that a spurious memorandum has been
foisted off on this committee, whether by the CIA or by a
private individual I don't know, but I want to reiterate my
intense desire to have the committee either confirm or deny
the existence of such a memorandum, and if in fact there is a memorandum, spurious or not to make it available to me for my perusal so that it can be subjected to the normal technical tests and I can refute it by means already at my disposal.

I would like to consult with counsel for a moment, if I might. I see that in Rule 3 of the hearing procedures the chairman may subpoena additional witnesses. I wonder if it would be out of order for me to suggest the subpoenaing of one or more additional witnesses?

Mr. Genzman. Feel free to.

Mr. Hunt. In that case I would recommend that the committee subpoena for testimony Victor Marchetti, who seems to have by his own hand some occult knowledge of the Kennedy assassination. I would suggest that the committee subpoena Mr. Joe Trento and Miss Jacquie Powers, staff correspondents of the Sunday News-Journal, Wilmington, Delaware, and the people and the staff of this committee who are referred to anonymously in the two articles, for the reason that passage to the press of material such as described in these two journals is prohibited by the committee's own rules, and any staff member, technical person associated with the staff, is in violation of standing rules of the committee.

I would like to add just one more paragraph, sir, and hark back to a period seven or eight months ago when Mr. Benjamin Civiletti was appearing before the Senate Judiciary Com-
mittee in his successful attempt to be confirmed as deputy attorney general. If you will recall, Mr. Civiletti experienced calculated harassment in his hearings. But periodically, according to a press report, the chairman cut through the verbiage of Mr. Civiletti's tormentors with the question, "What have you got to do with this?" To which the witness wearily replied, "Nothing."

Far be it from me to instruct you gentlemen on how to examine a witness. "But if you were to ask, "Mr. Hunt, what have you got to do with this?" my reply would be, "Nothing."

In closing, I want to thank the committee, the staff members, for affording me this opportunity to appear as a witness before the committee and to express my hope that the material that we have just covered will indeed find its way into the media for our mutual benefit.

Mr. Genzman. Why don't we take a 10-minute break.

(Recess.)

3:20 p.m.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

on

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

Deposition of E. Howard Hunt

Washington, D. C.

PART II - 3:30 pm

Friday, November 3, 1978

Official Reporters to Committees
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1978

House of Representatives,
Select Committee on
Assassinations,
Washington, D.C.

The parties to the deposition resumed at 3:30 p.m., in Room 3501, House Office Building Annex No. 2, Second and D Streets, Washington, D.C.

Present: Robert W. Genzman, staff counsel; Mike Ewing, staff counsel.


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Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hunt, you understand you are still under oath for this segment?

Mr. Hunt. I do.

Mr. Genzman. Just to reiterate, you waive your right to a copy of the transcript of this portion of the deposition?

Mr. Hunt. Yes, sir.

Mr. Genzman. Mr. Hunt, would you briefly relate to us what your contact with Richard Nixon was, if any, during the Bay of Pigs period.

Mr. Hunt. None directly.
Mr. Genzman. Could you amplify that last comment?

Mr. Hunt. As I have testified on numerous occasions, and I have written in two books, I had a meeting at the request of Mr. Nixon's then military aide general who was then Colonel Robert Cushman, who had served with me in the CIA some ten years previously and who told me at a luncheon that Mr. Nixon was the action officer on the National Security Council for the Cuba project and wanted me to go along and if any help was necessary I should get in touch with Cushman. He gave me his private phone number and that was the last I ever heard of it.

Mr. Genzman. How many times have you spoken to Richard Nixon?

Mr. Hunt. I spoke to President Nixon first in approximately 1950 with my first wife when he was still a congressman. This was on the heels of the Hiss affair. I next saw Mr. Nixon in Montevideo, where I briefly translated for him at the embassy before his official translator, General Walters, arrived.

I next saw Mr. Nixon at a social function at the White House. I may have seen him at the White House Christmas party, a possible total of four times over a period of, what, fifteen-sixteen years.

Mr. Genzman. What was Mr. Nixon's role during the Bay of Pigs?

Mr. Hunt. I have attempted to describe that. I can only
give it to you as described to me by General Cushman, that he
was the action officer on the National Security Council for
the Cuba project.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any information that would indi-
cate Mr. Nixon was ever aware of the CIA-Mafia assassination
crashy direct against Castro?

Mr. Hunt. No, but that is certainly not conclusive.

What the President's knowledge is -- I have no knowledge that
he knew anything one way or the other about it.

Mr. Genzman. During the Bay of Pigs period did you at
any time learn that your colleague Tony Verona was being con-
tacted by a member or members of the Mafia?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether any Mafia figures were
involved in the Bay of Pigs planning or actual invasion?

Mr. Hunt. No, I never heard any Mafia presence within the
project until I guess the Church committee began bringing it
out.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know of the CIA's hiring of Mafia
figures in an attempt to assassinate Castro during the Bay of
Pigs period?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know of the CIA hiring of Mafia fig-
ures in an attempt to assassinate Castro in a later period?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir. Again, this goes back to my umbrella
answer that I had no knowledge of any organized crime, Mafia
involvement with the Bay of Pigs project or targeted against
Castro. As I said, my first knowledge came at the time the
revelations were made public by the Church committee.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have any knowledge that the CIA
was using the Mafia or organized crime in any way during the
Bay of Pigs period or in the years following?

Mr. Hunt. No, sir.

Mr. Genzman. When did you first learn of the CIA-Mafia
plots against Cuba?

Mr. Hunt. I was in prison at the time. I think they
were published by the Pike committee or the Church committee,
both.

Mr. Genzman. What year would this have been?

Mr. Hunt. '76.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to ask you about your contacts
or relationship with the following people, and I would ask
that you give a short comment about your contacts or your re-
lationships, if any:

James O'Connell.

Mr. Hunt. The name is unknown to me.

Mr. Genzman. Robert Maheu.

Mr. Hunt. No contact.

Mr. Genzman. Edward Lansdale.

Mr. Hunt. Well, I knew Ed Lansdale from the time he was
an Air Force lieutenant colonel up through his retirement period -- met him, interviewed him in the White House.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know of any role which he played in the Bay of Pigs invasion or in the CIA-Mafia plots?

Mr. Hunt. No, none. I had not seen Ed Lansdale for many years and then about fall, I think, of 1962 Dick Helms called me in and there was General Lansdale working for MacNamara, I guess, in Defense. He said, "Can you just briefly tell Ed about the Bay of Pigs, and tell him in your opinion what went wrong because he is going to do something else that would have relevance to it."

So I did, in about twenty minutes, and Helms said, "That is the best briefing on the subject," because Helms was not involved in the Bay of Pigs. I didn't see Lansdale for another ten years.

Mr. Genzman. Sheffield Edwards.

Mr. Hunt. Sheff was Director of Security. I had no personal contact with him as such.

Mr. Genzman. I would ask the same questions about the Bay of Pigs or the CIA-Mafia plots with regard to Edwards.

Mr. Hunt. I just never had any contact with him on those subjects.

Mr. Genzman. William Harvey.

Mr. Hunt. I think I officially met Harvey once after he took over the remnants of the Bay of Pigs project. I had no
personal contact with him. I didn't know what he was really involved in until the Church committee began revealing some of those things.

Mr. Genzman. Charles Cabell.

Mr. Hunt. Charles Cabell -- I have no knowledge of his involvement in anything except as portrayed in my book, "Give Us This Day." Cabell came into our war room at an unfortunate moment and delayed the take-off of our strike plans. He was then the Acting Director of CIA.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have any other contacts or any type of relationship with Cabell?

Mr. Hunt. Only when I was on Dulles's staff. I would see the Deputy Director occasionally.

Mr. Genzman. Which years were you on Dulles's staff?

Mr. Hunt. I think that was from late summer of '61 until Mr. Dulles' retirement, which I think was in '62, if I am not mistaken.

Mr. Genzman. At this point I would like to ask during which years did you work for the CIA as either an employee, contract employee agent, or as either of any sort?

Mr. Hunt. You mean you want me to indicate classification?

Mr. Genzman. Just the years for any of those possible relationships.

Mr. Hunt. Well, I had some of those relationships but I
worked for the CIA from October 1949 to May 1, 1970, in a continuous relationship.

Mr. Genzman. Have you had any employment relationship with the agency or asset relation with the agency since your retirement?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. The next name I would like to ask you about is James McCord and in asking you to comment about your contacts and relationship with McCord, I am referring to the period before Watergate.

Mr. Hunt. None. Never heard of the name.

Mr. Genzman. Frank Sturgis.

Mr. Hunt. Before Watergate.

Mr. Genzman. Before Watergate again?

Mr. Hunt. I met Frank in late December '71, or January '72, for the first time.

Mr. Genzman. Are you sure of that date?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. That year?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Victor Espinosa.

Mr. Hunt. I don't know him.

Mr. Genzman. Edward K. Moss.

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether Tony Verona knew Edward
Moss?

Mr. Hunt. No. Tony and I had kind of an adversary relationship during the Bay of Pigs period and tended to keep things from each other.

Mr. Genzman. When did you serve in Mexico as a CIA employee?

Mr. Hunt. Let's see, from December 1950 until March '53 I then went down to the Cuba project in the summer of 1960 and stayed for several months and then left.

Mr. Genzman. Is it your testimony that you were never in Mexico in 1963?

Mr. Hunt. Yes, that is my testimony.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have knowledge about the CIA's maintenance of secret photography and wire-tap surveillance operations at foreign embassies in Mexico City?

Mr. Hunt. Oh, yes.

Mr. Genzman. Would you describe these operations.

Mr. Hunt. Well, there was photo surveillance and physical surveillance of the Iron Curtain embassies, the Soviet and Cuban embassies. Of course in 1953 when I left there it was pretty primitive. In those ten years a great deal of enhancement took place. When I went back in 19 -- I have to be careful about this. I went back in 1959. In that 6-year period a great deal of enhancement has taken place and the physical and photo surveillance of all the target countries, at the
station had increased enormously in size, and of course in that period I was on the outside. I was there as a private U.S. citizen, so I don't really know what they had. But we had sporadic surveillance in the early '50s. I think it was pretty much full time by 1959.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have specific knowledge about the surveillance operations in Mexico City in 1963?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any knowledge about the CIA's surveillance of Lee Harvey Oswald when he made his trip to Mexico City in the fall of 1963?

Mr. Hunt. Only what I have read in such books, for example, as "Night Watch" by David Phillips.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether the CIA ever obtained a photograph or photographs of Lee Harvey Oswald during his visits to the Soviet-Cuban embassies in Mexico in 1963?

Mr. Hunt. I have heard it alleged publicly. I have no knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to show you an excerpt from your book, "Undercover," your autobiography. This deals with the break-in which you conducted for the CIA in Mexico City at a foreign embassy. In this excerpt you stated that your CIA burglary team flew from Mexico City to Dallas after the job, changed identities in Dallas, and then returned to Washington. Can you tell exactly what this change of identities
in Dallas consisted of?

Mr. Hunt. No, I can't. I didn't, of course, go. I think that was the Guatemala embassy. I think in those days you had to change planes in Dallas. There were no direct flights -- or Fort Worth.

Mr. Genzman. For the record, I am referring to page 88 of your book "Undercover."

Can you tell how this change of identities was accomplished?

Mr. Hunt. Well, obviously the team had two sets of identities. They had their own and fictitious identities supplied by the agency.

Mr. Genzman. Was Dallas used as a particular point for such a change of identity operation?

Mr. Hunt. No. It just happened that was the first American port where the plane landed after leaving Mexico, and in order to get through customs and immigration they had to revert to their own identities.

Mr. Genzman. Did this change of identities involve any physical changes?

Mr. Hunt. I have no idea. It was a Staff D team.

Mr. Genzman. Can you explain what you mean by Staff D?

Mr. Hunt. Yes. That was the name associated with the National Security Agency.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any other knowledge of the use by the CIA of false identities in operations conducted in
Dallas or through Dallas?

Mr. Hunt. No. I was not particularly sensitive to the name Dallas. I could have just as easily have said Fort Worth or Houston, for all I know.

Mr. Genzman. Former CIA Director Richard Helms testified in 1973 before a Senate hearing that Bernard Barker was fired from the agency in late 1966 because of his involvement "in gambling and criminal elements," end quote, in Miami with reference to organized crime. Do you have any knowledge of these alleged Barker connections?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know what Helms was basing his statement on?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. That FBI memorandum written two days after the Watergate break-in, FBI Director Gray stated that Frank Sturgis was, quote, "involved in organized crime activities the details of which are not available," end quote. Do you know what these alleged Sturgis activities were?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know what Gray was basing his statement on?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. I believe you testified earlier that you did not know Frank Sturgis before 1971?
Mr. Genzman. Had you ever heard of Frank Sturgis or heard of any of his pseudonyms?

Mr. Hunt. Let me help you on this. There came a time during the Bay of Pigs operation when I heard of a man named Frank Fiorini who had powered a plane with Pedro Diaz Lanz dropping leaflets on Havana, and that was the only reference I had heard to Frank Fiorini. Later on when Barker and I were casting about for people to use in connection with GEMSTONE, Barker mentioned the name Sturgis. And I said, "I don't know anybody named Sturgis."

And he said, "Oh, during previous times he was known as Frank Fiorini. You remember he was Pedro Diaz Lanz."

Mr. Genzman. Have you ever been associated with or involved in any way with organized crime?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever know Sergio Arcacha Smith Smith of the New Orleans branch of the Cuban Revolutionary Council?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever receive mail or other communications from him?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever know Guy Bannister in New Orleans?
Mr. Hunt. No, or anywhere else.

Mr. Genzman. What was your relationship during the late '50s and early 1960s with David Phillips?

Mr. Hunt. I first met Dave when he was a contract agent. He was on the Guatemala project, and at that time we were co-directors on the project. He was the Chief of Propaganda and I was the Chief of Political Action. Later on I saw Dave in Havana, where he was an undercover agent. It was a meeting of chief of stations just before the Castro takeover. I saw Dave again in Mexico City sometime -- I can't remember whether I saw him in 1960 or not, but in any event Dave was a familiar figure in Western Hemisphere operations. Then he showed up on the Cuba project and first he worked in Washington and I worked in the Miami area and then when I left the Miami at the end of things and came up to Washington I worked with Dave for about a week.

Mr. Genzman. Where did you work with Dave Phillips for about a week?

Mr. Hunt. In Washington.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever meet David Phillips in Dallas?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever use the alias Knight for a cover name?

Mr. Hunt. For him, for my book, "Give Us This Day."

Mr. Genzman. Did he himself ever use that alias?
Mr. Hunt. No. That was assigned officially to Dick Helms -- Knight. He was Fletcher L. Knight.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever use the alias of Bishop?

Mr. Hunt. I don't think so.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know anyone who did?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know anyone by the name of Maurice Bishop?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Does the name mean anything to you?

Mr. Hunt. I think that on a deposition in a civil matter I was once asked if I knew an individual by that name. I think the name was given to me as Morris. M-o-r-r-i-s.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know anyone who ever used the name Morris Bishop?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Does that name mean anything to you?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Within the last six months or a year have you spoken with David Phillips?

Mr. Hunt. I haven't spoken with Dave. We exchanged some letters -- I haven't spoken with him on the phone at all. I think I was still in prison in '76 when his book came out and we had an exchange of correspondence about it. I don't think we have spoken at all in many years but we had an exchange of
correspondence in about '76.
(At four o'clock, Mr. Rubin left the hearing room.)

Mr. Genzman. In any event, contacts with David Phillips, was the name Maurice Bishop mentioned?

Mr. Hunt. No, there have been no recent contacts with him.

Mr. Genzman. Let me rephrase. In any of your last contacts with David Phillips, was the name Maurice Bishop mentioned?

Mr. Hunt. No; nor at any time.

Mr. Genzman. How and when did you first meet Bernard Barker?

Mr. Hunt. Barker was assigned to me in Miami, when I went down there to take over the Revolutionary Democratic Front in the fall of 1960, I guess it was. He was identified to me by the man I replaced as a Cuban who had been an asset of the Havana station, and he was going to be my general, de facto.

Mr. Genzman. Did he continue in this relationship with you during the period of preparation for the Bay of Pigs' invasion?

Mr. Hunt. He did.

Mr. Genzman. And after the Bay of Pigs' invasion?

Mr. Hunt. I left the Miami area shortly before the Bay of Pigs' invasion, and I think Mr. Barker stayed on. Later, I tried to help him regain his American citizenship through the Office of the General Counsel of the CIA. I next heard Mr. Barker had been redeployed, as it were, to Chicago for
training and employment by the agency, since he and many other Cubans were surplus to agency needs at that time.

I sort of lost track of him, and it wasn't until I came in the Miami area in, I think, 1971 that I resumed contact with Mr. Barker.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Pedro Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Hunt. I met Pedro on one occasion fully described in my book, Give Us This Day.

Mr. Genzman. Did Bernard Barker introduce you to Pedro Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Hunt. More properly he introduced Pedro Diaz Lanz to me.

Mr. Genzman. Could you give the exact details of this meeting?

Mr. Hunt. Yes, although they are a matter of record in my book. I knew, as I mentioned, Pedro Diaz Lanz' name from the Frank Fiorini episode of the leaflets. Getting into the pre-convent period of the Bay of Pigs, I heard our Air Force, Cuban exile air force, needed more pilots. Barker mentioned that Diaz Lanz was living in abject poverty, had a lot of debts and his wife had just had a baby, or was about to have a baby, and that Diaz Lanz, as a former head of the rebel air force, would be a good candidate.

I said bring him to talk to me. He did. I arranged that Pedro be given a stipend by the Revolutionary Democratic Front,
and it was to take care of his immediate bills, get food in
his house, and recommended to Dave Phillips, I think it was,
that Diaz Lanz run leaflet flights for Dave Phillips' particular
interests, and I think there was a good deal of resistance to
that in Washington, and about that time I left the area and
never knew what happened to Diaz Lanz.

Mr. Genzman. How did you introduce yourself to Pedro
Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Hunt. I didn't. He was introduced to me. This was
Eduardo.

Mr. Genzman. Was your conversation with Diaz Lanz in
English or Spanish?

Mr. Hunt. I imagine it was in Spanish. I don't know
whether Pedro speaks English at all. I normally spoke Spanish
with the Latinos.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall anything more about the con-
tents of that conversation?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did your relationship with Diaz Lanz ever
involve any B-25 aircraft?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Would you explain the details?

Mr. Hunt. Again, I published the whole thing in my book,
Give Us This Day. And he had an aircraft available. It was
under a sheriff's lien. I suggested to Dave Phillips and others
that the lien be reduced or eliminated and the aircraft outfitted and used for propaganda overflights.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever arrange for funds for Pedro Diaz Lanz so that he could effectuate the release of any equipment which was held by the U.S. Customs?

Mr. Hunt. Customs, no. My impression was there was a sheriff's lien on the aircraft.

Mr. Genzman. Were you aware that the plane was not owned by Pedro Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Hunt. I think in subsequent years Frank Sturgis has indicated to me that he was part-owner of the aircraft. I didn't know that at the time.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have any knowledge of Sturgis or his role in any of these matters at the time?

Mr. Hunt. No, except as heretofore described.

Mr. Genzman. Were you ever involved on behalf of the CIA in an investigation into allegations of CIA assistance to Pedro Diaz Lanz in the release of the B-25 aircraft in 1961?

Mr. Hunt. No, I didn't know it was ever released.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever question Barker or Diaz Lanz concerning allegations of CIA assistance to Pedro Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Hunt. I don't know what you mean by CIA assistance. I hoped that the agency had assisted him, that they had released the plane and had utilized the aircraft, which was a scarce type.
Mr. Genzman. I was specifically referring to the aircraft.

Mr. Hunt. Yes. I never heard any controversy about it.

I didn't think it had been done.

Mr. Genzman. Were you aware of the individual who made the allegations?

Mr. Hunt. Well, sir, the allegations being that CIA helped Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Genzman. The allegations of CIA assistance to Diaz Lanz to effectuate the release of the aircraft in 1961?

Mr. Hunt. Again, I didn't know that the CIA had done it. I had recommended it, but I didn't know it took place. I don't know the name of anybody who would make the allegation that would really have an interest in the matter.

Mr. Genzman. Are you stating that you didn't know Frank Sturgis had made the allegation?

Mr. Hunt. Allegation is a pejorative. I don't to this day know either that the aircraft was released, that CIA provided money for it as I recommended, or that Sturgis talked about it at all. I talked about it with Sturgis a little, but I don't think I even learned from him that the aircraft had been released or used during the Bay of Pigs' operation.

Mr. Genzman. When did you talk to Sturgis about this?

Mr. Hunt. I think this was when we were in Danbury. Our bunks were beside each other. It was the first time I had a chance to talk to Frank. He was depressed. I used to talk to
him a good deal. He said, gee, Pedro is such a great guy, but

blah, blah, blah.

Mr. Genzman. What was the year?

Mr. Hunt. I think it was 1973 when we were in Danbury in Federal prison together.

Mr. Genzman. In 1961, did you ever question Pedro Diaz Lanz or Bernard Barker about Sturgis or about the person who later turned out to be Sturgis?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Aside from this aircraft incident, was there any other connection between you and Sturgis before you actually knew Sturgis?

Mr. Hunt. No, I just had knowledge that Mr. Fiorini was the co-pilot of that plane. There was no connection. I had a collateral piece of information on a man named Fiorini, known as a soldier of fortune in the area. Years later, I was to learn, 1971 or 1972, that Frank Fiorini became Frank Sturgis, who was about to be introduced to me by Bernard Barker.

Mr. Genzman. What was Operation Forty?

Mr. Hunt. I don't know.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever know of a boat named Cusa?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any knowledge about CIA training operations in New Orleans in 1961?

Mr. Hunt. In New Orleans; no. Are you talking about Lake
Pontchartrain? That is something else.

Mr. Genzman. Lake Pontchartrain, Houma, Louisiana?

Mr. Hunt. Yes. Well, part of the exile navy was trained up at that area; that is all I know. And some of the LSTs were maneuvered around the lake, and I think brought down finally.

Mr. Genzman. Let me ask you about the locations Belle Chase and Covington.

Mr. Hunt. The names don't mean anything to me.

Mr. Genzman. Could you speculate as to why Pedro Diaz Lanz would deny ever having met you?

Mr. Hunt. You mean he has denied it? He is one of the few Cubans who has denied it. Most Cubans claim they knew me, knew me intimately, during the Bay of Pigs. It is refreshing. No, I don't, except that I have been in a lot of trouble, and I don't think Pedro would gain anything from associating himself with me in any way. Too, there is the aspect he is probably a pretty proud individual, and he was first brought to my attention as literally a charity welfare case, although I had ulterior interests in him as a pilot, and I think he realized it, and he doesn't want to look back on those days when he didn't have enough food in his house for his wife and child. Again, that is speculation.

Mr. Genzman. Did Pedro Diaz Lanz ever work for the CIA?

Mr. Hunt. I don't know.
Mr. Genzman. Did Pedro Diaz Lanz ever receive money from the CIA?

Mr. Hunt. Well, as I have stated a little earlier, I arranged that money be given to him to settle his immediate needs, and beyond that I have no knowledge of any money that was paid to him. I recommended again that he be taken under the Cuban exile air force at the appropriate rank and be paid the normal stipend paid Cuban exiles.

Mr. Genzman. Are you testifying that the money you arranged for him to receive after you had first met him was CIA money?

Mr. Hunt. Had to be. Again, I don't know that it was paid. I assume it was paid.

Mr. Genzman. When did the CIA activity at Lake Pontchartrain cease, to your knowledge?

Mr. Hunt. I have no idea. It was a maritime operation. I was political; I had nothing to do with the military. I handled the political aspects of it, the government in exile.

Mr. Genzman. Were you ever involved in the Frente Revolucionario Democratico?

Mr. Hunt. Intimately?

Mr. Genzman. Did you have a role in the formation of this organization?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Could you give us details about the formation of this organization?
Mr. Hunt. It is covered in great detail in my book, Give Us This Day.

Briefly, when I was brought into the project, I was told I was to be the political liaison with this government in exile, and we met at the Hotel Ambassador in New York City, and I met the members of the junta at that time, including Manuel Artime for the first time, and they and I worked out a rationale, a modus operandi. I approved their articles of incorporation, as it were.

Mr. Genzman. What year are you referring to?

Mr. Hunt. Summer of 1960. And told them that we would be moving down to Mexico City from there, as indeed we did.

Mr. Genzman. What were the major activities of this organization?

Mr. Hunt. Well, it sponsored all of the military activities; it dealt with friendly governments through me. I was the liaison between the United States Government and the Cuban exile movement, and what can I say? It did the normal activities of a government in exile, its representatives, its military forces, and so forth.

Mr. Genzman. Did the CIA sponsor this organization?

Mr. Hunt. Oh, yes. Through me. I set their budget and exercised a degree of control that one could exercise over the spending of the moneys that we provided.

Mr. Genzman. When did CIA sponsorship of this organization
end?

Mr. Hunt. Well, the new frontier came in and decided that the FRD was too archaic; it wasn't progressive enough; and it would be supplemented by a new breed of politicians from Cuba, many of whom had arrived recently from a close embrace with Castro.

I was unwilling to bring these elements into the FRD and requested reassignment to Washington, which was granted me. My successors developed the Cuban Revolutionary Committee out of the ashes of the FRD.

Mr. Genzman. What was the date of the formation of the Cuban Revolutionary Committee?

Mr. Hunt. I would place it about a month before the invasion; I would put it in March sometime, of 1961.

Mr. Genzman. Did you testify that you handled the formation of this organization?

Mr. Hunt. I don't think I did. I think that was your question. I was being as responsive as I could. What I am saying is that most of the people that I was dealing with in the FRD went on into the CRC, which was a broadened group. I, however, had no part of that. And feeling -- well, we don't need to get into that. In any case, I came back to Washington, and a successor of mine took over the liaison for the CRC.

Mr. Genzman. Did you think that the FRD was archaic?

Mr. Hunt. No. I thought it was constitutional.
Mr. Genzman. Did the CIA sponsor the CRC?

Mr. Hunt. To the best of my knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know how long this sponsorship lasted?

Mr. Hunt. Very brief. I would say two months or so.

Mr. Genzman. What was the relationship between the CRC and its New Orleans branch?

Mr. Hunt. I have no idea. I didn't know they had a New Orleans branch.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever have contact with the Cuban revolutionary delegates?

Mr. Hunt. I don't know who they would be. The name doesn't mean anything to me.

Mr. Genzman. Let me give you some names and have you comment.

Luis Rabel?

Mr. Hunt. Unknown.

Mr. Genzman. Serigio Arcacha Smith?

Mr. Hunt. Unknown.

Mr. Genzman. Arnesto Rodriguez?

Mr. Hunt. Unknown.

Mr. Genzman. Manuel Gil?

Mr. Hunt. Unknown.

Mr. Genzman. Frank Bartes?

Mr. Hunt. Unknown.

Mr. Genzman. Augustin Guitart?
Mr. Hunt. Spell it.

Mr. Genzman. G-u-i-t-a-r-t (spelling).

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Frank Delabar?

Mr. Hunt. Never heard of him.

Mr. Genzman. Would you repeat how you knew about the Lake Pontchartrain operations?

Mr. Hunt. Because I was present at the briefings at headquarters when Mr. Dulles and other high officials of the agency were briefed on the project and status of each aspect of the operation.

Mr. Genzman. Who was in charge of the operation?

Mr. Hunt. Who was in charge of the paramilitary operations? I have forgotten his name.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to ask you about your knowledge of or involvement in some of the following: Alpha 66?

Mr. Hunt. Just a name to me. I have heard it; that is all.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Antonio Carlos Veciano Blanch?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Movimento Revolucionario del Pueblo?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Jose Miro Cardona?

Mr. Hunt. Very well.
Mr. Genzman. Could you give the details of your relationship?

Mr. Hunt. Yes. Dr. Miro was a former, I think, chief justice of the Cuban Supreme Court, a very distinguished barrister. He had been counselor-ambassador to Spain and had taken refuge in the Argentine Embassy. I had him brought up from Argentina, when I thought the time was right, and inserted in the FRD leadership as the compromise chief.

Mr. Genzman. How about Agrupacion Monte Cristi?

Mr. Hunt. The Monte Cristi had delegates in the FRD. I can't remember the name of the representative.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Jorge Nobregas?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. The next organization is JURE.

Mr. Hunt. I have heard of it, but the name doesn't mean anything to me. I think it is an acronym.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Sylvia Odio?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Rogelio Cisneros Diaz?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Duney Perez Alamo?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Luis Bal Cuena?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. The next organization is Directorio
Rivolucionario Estudiantil?

Mr. Hunt. The DRE. Dave Phillips ran that for us.

Albert Muller is still in prison over there. But that is classified, I think. He was the head of it. He went into Cuba and was captured.

Mr. Genzman. Who are you speaking of?

Mr. Hunt. Albert M-u-l-l-e-r (spelling).

Mr. Genzman. Did you testify he went into Cuba and was captured?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Carlos Bringuier?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. The next organization is Movimento Democrata Cristiano.

Mr. Hunt. The Christian Democratic Movement. I have heard of it. It had a delegate in the FRD.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Laureano Batista Falla?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Victor Paneque?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. The next organization is Movimento Revolucionario Treinta de Noviembre.

Mr. Hunt. Thirtieth of November. No, I never heard that.

Mr. Genzman. Carlos Rodriguez Quesada?

Mr. Hunt. No.
Mr. Genzman. The next organization is --

Mr. Hunt. Just a minute. No, I know Felix, but not Carlos.

Mr. Genzman. The next organization is International Anticommunist Brigade/Interpen.

Mr. Hunt. I have heard of it. That is all.

Mr. Genzman. Gerald Patrick Hemming?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Howard Kenneth Davis?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Frank Sturgis as a member of that organization?

Mr. Hunt. Of the Anticommunist Brigade? No, I didn't know Sturgis was connected with it.

Mr. Genzman. Roy Emery Hargraves?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Lawrence Howard?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. William Seymour?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Pedro Diaz Lanz as a member?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Marcos Diaz Lanz?

Mr. Hunt. He is a younger brother, I think, of Pedro. I didn't know he was in the brigade, and I never met him.
Mr. Genzman. Mike McLaney?

Mr. Hunt. I met Mike McLaney once at Joe's Stone Crabs in Miami. He was then dating a girlfriend of a friend of mine. That is all. This was sometime in 1960.

Mr. Genzman. Max Gorman Gonzalez?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know Orlando Bosch?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. During the time period 1962 to 1965, where were you stationed specifically?

Mr. Hunt. After Allen left, I joined Tracy Barnes' new Domestic Operations Division, which should have been called the commercial operations division, and I worked for them in Washington until sometime in 1965, when we left for Spain under cover. I think the division had three different locations while I was with them.

Mr. Genzman. What were the details of your undercover operation in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. Very little. I spoke Spanish. I wanted to get out of Washington. I was looking to Spain as a retirement post. Helms thought it would be a good idea that I get out because my name had become included in the Library of Congress card system. I had written numerous books under pseudonyms and somebody made a mistake and put my true name down. Helms thought this was a bad idea. I thought it was a great idea to
get to Spain. My specific purpose for the record -- this is classified, isn't it?

Mr. Genzman. Yes.

Mr. Hunt. Okay -- was to develop working relationships to the extent possible with people who would be in a successor government to Franco.

Mr. Genzman. Have you ever heard of AMLASH, a cryptonym?

Mr. Hunt. Yes, but only when the Church revelations began.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have any knowledge of the AMLASH operations, or AMLASH-1?

Mr. Hunt. No. Let me interject this, if I may, that at the time I left the Bay of Pigs' operation in the wake of the failure of the Bay of Pigs and joined Allen Dulles' staff, it was principally to help Allen explain some of the things that went on that he hadn't known before in his exalted position, and it was made abundantly clear to me in a very pleasant way that having been stained with the failure of the Bay of Pigs that I was to have nothing further to do with Cuban operations, and that it would be probably a good many years before I could expect reassignment to Latin America, if ever.

So my point is, from 1961 on, I had no current knowledge of anything that was going on in Latin America, no personal knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Rolando Cubela?
Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever come into contact with AMLASH-1 or other persons connected with the AMLASH operation while you were stationed in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Were you ever stationed in France?

Mr. Hunt. By CIA?

Mr. Genzman. Yes.

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever participate in or have any knowledge of CIA assassination conspiracies against Castro which were directed from Spain during the period 1964 to 1967?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Were you in Spain working for the agency during the period 1964 to 1967?

Mr. Hunt. I think it was summer of 1965 to summer of 1966, to the best of my recollection.

Mr. Genzman. What were your duties in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. I described them a little earlier.

Mr. Genzman. Would you repeat your description of your duties?

Mr. Hunt. Yes. I was supposed to attempt to develop working relationships, confidential relationships with Spaniards of position who might some day form or be in the government that would be successor to that of General Franco.
Mr. Genzman. Thank you. I am sorry I missed your answer earlier.

A Senate investigation determined that your close friend, Manuel Artime, was involved in Castro assassination plans in Spain during the period 1964 to 1967. Were you in contact with him in Spain at that time?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have any knowledge of these plans?

Mr. Hunt. Not at that time; no.

Mr. Genzman. When did you first find out about these plans?

Mr. Hunt. When the Church Committee began to expose them.

Mr. Genzman. Is it your testimony --

Mr. Hunt. We are talking about the post-Bay of Pigs plan, right?

Mr. Genzman. I am speaking of the time period 1964 to 1967.

Mr. Hunt. Okay, my answer stands.

Mr. Genzman. Is it your testimony that Artime never talked to you about these plans?

Mr. Hunt. That is correct, at any time.

Mr. Genzman. Does the name Terrence Crabanan mean anything to you?

Mr. Hunt. Would you spell that?

Mr. Genzman. C-r-a-b-a-n-a-n (spelling).
Mr. Hunt. No, I don't know him.

Mr. Genzman. Who were your superiors during the time you were working for the CIA in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. Mr. Thomas Karamessines.

Mr. Genzman. Did he specifically give you your assignments?

Mr. Hunt. Yes.

Mr. Genzman. Are you aware of the allegation that the CIA conducted a substantial investigation during 1974 and 1975 to determine what you were doing in Spain during that period and reportedly concluded it was not possible to determine your assignment there?

Mr. Hunt. No, I wasn't. All they had to do was ask Tom Karamessines. He was the Deputy Director of Plans. They must have asked the wrong man. Helms certainly knew.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know George Robreno, in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know El LOCO?

Mr. Hunt? No.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know El Mago?

Mr. Hunt. No. These are all street names, I gather, sinister people.

Mr. Genzman. Do you think that the agency would have full records of what your duties in Spain were during this period?
Mr. Hunt. It might be in a private file called a bigot
file maintained by Karamessines.

Mr. Genzman. Why do you think the records might be in
that type of file?

Mr. Hunt. Because my assignment was a bigot assignment.

Mr. Genzman. Why was it a bigot assignment?

Mr. Hunt. Because of the high sensitivity. I was going
over to deal with people who were to be successor to the
Franco government. That was a highly sensitive thing.

Mr. Genzman. Did your functions include anything besides
which you have stated?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. During this period, were you paid by the
same system of pay vouchers which were standardly used for such
overseas assignments?

Mr. Hunt. Well, I guess I don't know what a standard
voucher form is. I was paid through, I think, a commercial
bank in New York, to the best of my recollection.

Mr. Genzman. Were any unusual payments made to you while
you were in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. What do you mean by unusual? I got my salary
and living allowance; that is all.

Mr. Genzman. Did you have a life insurance policy in
Spain?

Mr. Hunt. Probably; I have had life insurance policies
for many years.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall in what name the policy was issued?

Mr. Hunt. Well, can we get to the heart of your question? Are you inquiring whether in Spain I took out a life insurance policy I hadn't previously had?

Mr. Genzman. My question was whether you took out an additional life insurance policy in Spain, and I would broaden the question to ask you in what names you have taken out life insurance policies?

Mr. Hunt. E. Howard Hunt, Howard Hunt, Everett H. Hunt, Jr., depending upon the will of the particular insurance company.

Now, I remember that before I left for Spain, I think I made application with Mutual of Omaha, or United of Omaha, for enhanced amounts of insurance on my life. The agent quoted one figure, and when I got to Spain, I got a communication from him, saying that because I had been recently hospitalized for ulcers, they would have to up the premium, and how did I feel about that. I wrote back and said I didn't like it, and I think I cancelled that policy and took out a different one to supplant the one I had applied for. That is my only recollection of insurance deals in that period.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Victor Espinosa?

Mr. Hunt. No. You asked me that before.

Mr. Genzman. Did you know Victor Espinosa in Spain?
Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. To your knowledge, was the AMLASH operation ever subject to security problems, specifically leaks by the participants in the operation?

Mr. Hunt. I have no knowledge of the AMLASH operation beyond what has been revealed to the press. Again, I had nothing to do with those things from 1961 on.

Mr. Genzman. Do you know whether the AMLASH operation was ever subject to security problems or counter-intelligence threats relating to the Spanish intelligence services?

Mr. Hunt. I had no knowledge.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall where you were located from April 17, 1961, to June 30, 1961?

Mr. Hunt. Physically located?

Mr. Genzman. Yes.

Mr. Hunt. Well, probably at headquarters here in Washington. You mean where my home was?

Mr. Genzman. My question was addressed to your functions with the CIA.

Mr. Hunt. Well, upon my withdrawal from the FRD connection in, I guess, early April of 1961, I came to Washington to work with Dave Phillips, or for Dave Phillips at headquarters. At that time, I had a house on Tracy Place.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever travel to Europe during this period?
Mr. Hunt. During the couple-of-month period; no.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever arrange travel documents for Bernard Barker?

Mr. Hunt. What do you mean by travel documents? I don't know what you mean by travel documents. Did I buy him a ticket?

Mr. Genzman. Any type of travel document.

Mr. Hunt. During the Watergate era, sure.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall the details?

Mr. Hunt. No. I arranged for Barker to travel back and forth from Washington to Miami on numerous occasions.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever travel with McCord?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to ask you whether you know any of the following individuals: David Ferrie?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Mitchell Werbell?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Clare Booth Luce?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. William Pawley?

Mr. Hunt. I met Bill Pawley -- he is now dead, by the way -- during the early days of the Bay of Pigs' operation.

Mr. Genzman. Could you detail your relationship with him?
Mr. Hunt. I was taken out there by the project chief;—his home was on Star Island, to discuss the situation.

Apparently Mr. Pawley had an "in" with the division chief and wanted to have people talk with him from time to time about what was going on. I may have covered that in my book, Give Us This Day.

Mr. Genzman. How about Grayson Lynch?

Mr. Hunt. Never heard of him until he made the appearance on the CBS documentary, CIA's Secret Army.

Mr. Genzman. How about Joseph Shimon?

Mr. Hunt. Never heard of him.

Mr. Genzman. John Rosselli?

Mr. Hunt. I know he was killed; that is all.

Mr. Genzman. Did you ever know him?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Dino Chillini?

Mr. Hunt. No.

Mr. Genzman. Justin McCarthy?

Mr. Hunt. No, we had a Justin McDonald at the CIA. I don't know Justin McCarthy.

Mr. Genzman. Referring again to your period in Spain, do you recall which company issued your second life insurance policy in Spain?

Mr. Hunt. It was an American company.

Mr. Genzman. Do you recall the name of it?
Mr. Hunt. It would have been either United of Omaha or Mutual of Omaha. I still have it today. I don't think I cancelled it.

Is there a suggestion it was issued in a name other than my true name? I am not trying to pry. I am trying to be forthcoming.

Mr. Genzman. Would you answer that question again?

Mr. Hunt. I will repeat the question. What I am trying to do is determine if you are interested in finding out whether I have ever had an insurance policy issued in a name other than my true name.

Mr. Genzman. Since you have asked that question, I would ask you to answer it.

Mr. Hunt. My answer is no.

Mr. Genzman. Fine.

We will go off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. Genzman. During the fall of 1960 and the spring of 1961, did you have any dealings with Antonio Verona?

Mr. Hunt. Antonio Verona? Yes. I dealt with Tony right up until the Bay of Pigs on almost a daily basis.

Mr. Genzman. Do you have knowledge of Antonio Verona's dealings in any plots to assassinate Castro involving underworld figures?

Mr. Hunt. You have asked me the question previously in
just that form, and I will repeat my answer: No.

Mr. Genzman. I have no further questions.

At this time, I would like to offer you five minutes to clarify any previous answers or expand on any previous answers, or give any additional information which you feel is relevant to the investigation of this committee.

Mr. Hunt. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the committee and to be interrogated as extensively and broadly as has been accomplished here this afternoon. I think if I had an hour or so, I might go through some of these magazine articles and suggest that you ask me questions related to that, but I think we have covered the area pretty thoroughly, and if you are satisfied, then I am satisfied.

It is very hard to prove a negative, you know. I didn't have anything to do with the assassination, didn't know anything about it. It is unfortunate everything I went through in Watergate has bled over into a great national tragedy, and that was the assassination of President Kennedy, and I think that the nation is willing to forgive Watergate now. I certainly think I have paid my penalty for being involved in it, but to have this new stain attached to me, relatively new, that is in the last two or three years, this assassination of the President is something really that the nation is never going to forgive. I am afraid I will be forever stained with some kind of suspicion that I had something to do with it. It is very, very
unfair.

I did my time for Watergate. I shouldn't have to do additional time and suffer additional losses for something I had nothing to do with.

Mr. Genzman. I would like to thank you again for your appearance here today, and if at any time you have any additional information you feel would be useful to the committee, feel free to contact us.

Mr. Hunt. I will do that, and thank you very much for the courteous treatment I have received.

(Whereupon, at 4:45 p.m., the deposition was concluded.)