

KENNEDY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Name Robert E. Jones Date 4-4-78 Time 10:00 a
Address 113 Remington Road Place Residence
Hopkinsville, Kentucky

Interview: On 4-4-78 at 10:00 a.m. Staff Investigator Leap, SCA interviewed Robert E. Jones at his residence, 113 Remington Road, Hopkinsville, Kentucky concerning his knowledge of LHO and the events related to the assassination of J.F.K.

Mr. Jones is a retired army intelligence officer. He retired with the rank of Colonel in February 1971. At the time in question (1963), Colonel Jones was Chief of Intelligence, 112th Group Headquarters at San Antonio, Texas. In his command were intelligence units in the following states: Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

During the course of the interview Investigator Leap asked Mr. Jones the following questions:

Q. Did you personally know LHO?

A. No, only by name.

Q. When did you first hear the name LHO?

A. *New Orleans*
My (N.O.) Intelligence unit reported an interest in LHO

due to his FPC activity and his background as a defector.

Q. When was this?

A. I don't remember.

Interviewer Signature Harold D Leap

Typed Signature Harold Leap

Date transcribed Rife 4-5-78

By: _____ Form #4-A

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Q. Was it when LHO was arrested in N.O. for disturbance of the peace?

A. Yes, when he was passing out FPC literature.

Q. When you received the report, did you consider LHO a security risk?

A. Certainly. No question that subject was a security risk.

Q. Did you initiate an investigation?

A. Yes. We developed all the information we could on LHO.

Q. What kind of information?

A. Military background, defection, marriage, return to the U.S., addresses, activity with FPC. We also developed a personality profile.

Q. Was this information given to the FBI at N.O.?

A. I cannot say for sure, however, the Colonel in charge at N.O. met monthly with the FBI, Navy Intelligence and Air Force Intelligence to exchange intelligence of mutual interest.

Q. Who was the Colonel in charge of the N.O. unit?

A. I don't recall his name at the moment.

Q. Did you suspect that LHO was an intelligence agent?

Q. Yes, either for a U.S. Agency or the K.G.B. I worked counter espionage in Europe for a number of years. I also did not disregard the possibility that he was a double agent.

Q. Did you receive any information from your investigation to support such a belief?

A. No, my experience, events, and lack of concern by other agencies influenced my opinion.

Q. How did you learn so quickly that LHO had shot the president?

A. I received a telephone call from an army intelligence source in Dallas.

Q. What did you do upon receipt of the information?

A. Immediately reviewed his file, called the available information to the F. B. I. in San Antonio and Dallas.

Q. Did you send a telegram to F.B.I. Headquarters?

A. No. All my contact was by phone.

Q. Did the F.B.I. ever request your files?

A. Not to my knowledge. They really wanted to forget that the Army provided any information concerning L.H.O.

→ You are the only Government official who has ever contacted me relative to the assassination.

Q. Did you have an Agent at the TSBD immediately after JFK was shot?

A. Yes. It was routine. We normally assist the SS upon request for protection of the President. We had the same situation in San Antonio the day before. The Dallas agent reported by phone that the individual who fired the rifle was suspected of eating fried chicken as he

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waited for the President to appear. I wanted someone to pump LHO's stomach when he was arrested. It was not done.

Q. Who was the agent in Dallas?

A. I don't remember the name today. I would have to review the records in San Antonio.

Q. What reports did you prepare after the assassination?

A. I am sure I prepared an "after action report."

Q. What kind of a report is that?

A. A summary.

Q. Where could I get a copy?

A. San Antonio.

Q. Do you have any document, related reports, etc. in your possession?

A. Absolutely not. I would never take official reports for personal use.

Q. Did you at one time believe that Oswald and Hidell were two people?

A. No. We knew that Hidell was an alias.

Q. Would you necessarily know it if LHO was a military source of information?

A. Yes, he was not a coded source of information. All coded source of information are reported to ASCI (Pentagon). There would be source reports and Agent contact reports. I would have known if LHO was a source for the military.

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Q. Would you be willing to appear before the SCA and give testimony relative to your knowledge of the subjects we have just covered?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you aware of LHO's trip to Mexico prior to the assassination?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you believe that LHO acted alone in the assassination?

A. No. To believe that you would have to assume it was a suicide mission. He probably would have used a hand grenade if he did not have an escape plan.

The questions and answers above are not in the exact order of the interview. However, the order given in the report does not change the intent or meaning of the discussion.