

a week, then ostensibly travel back to his room at the YMCA in Dallas, where everyone, including Marina, believes he was staying.

The difficulty, however, is that Lee was registered at the Y for but five days, from October 15 through October 19. In the previous week, and in the two weeks following October 19, no one knew or was ready to admit that he or she knew where Oswald lived. This gap is present despite the best efforts of the FBI and the Warren Commission to answer that question. [2]

In reading the testimony of Gary Taylor this writer found:

Mr. Taylor. I went to—uh—and looked for a place where Lee was staying in the Oak Cliff area of Dallas and tried to locate him...It had to be sometime between September and November, because my wife and I separated after that. Anyway, at some point during this period, I do remember going to an area in Oak Cliff looking for Lee. I don't think I found him. At least, not on the occasion I remember. All I had was some vague directions that...I went back to this area within the last few weeks and located a building that stuck—or I had a recollection of the building in the area and found it and gave that information to agent Yelchek of the FBI. I don't know what he—

Mr. Jenner. What location was that?

Mr. Taylor. I gave him the exact street address—but it seems to me like it was—well, the name of the apartment building was Coz-I-Eight (spelling) C-O-Z-I-E-I-G-H-T apartments and I thing (sic) they were located at 1404 North Beckley. But the address I could be off on; but the name I do remember. [3]

This is a good example of the lack of communication between the investigators and the Commission. Even after the above information was available, in the Taylor testimony, the commissioners failed to relate the information to the missing period in the life of Lee Oswald. Although Taylor was vague in pinpointing the exact date of his Oak Cliff odyssey, it had to be during the questionable gap alluded to, since the balance of the period was accounted for.

Well, for what it's worth, fans: there was a Cozy-Eight apartment building in Oak Cliff and it was on North Beckley; Taylor was correct. He was "off on the address." The correct address (as shown in City Directories

of that period) was 1306 North Beckley, not 1404. A Mrs. Ruth Walker lived at 1404 North Beckley.

In 1962, the building consisted of eight apartments, lettered from A-H, and was managed by Mr. Russ Davis. The annual census, taken in the winter of 1961 for the Polks City Directory and published early in 1962, shows four of the apartments (D-E-F-H) empty; not a good year for rentals at the Cozy-Eight. 1963 was a better year. When the poll was taken in the winter of 1962 (at about the time Lee was hiding out), there was only one apartment (C) empty.

Could it have been the vagabond Marxist who vacated apartment C? Did he pay the rent, or did he "stiff" the landlord, like he did in New Orleans? Who knows? And does anyone care?

Notes

1. Warren Report, pp. 719-720.
2. Norman Mailer, *Oswald's Tale*, pp. 452-453.
3. Warren Commission Hearings and Exhibits, vol. 9, pp. 88-89.



WILLIAM AVERY HYDE

by

Barbara LaMonica

Previous articles [1] by Carol Hewett, Steve Jones and myself have attempted to draw a more complete picture of Ruth and Michael Paine, the Dallas couple who housed Marina Oswald in the fall of 1963. Our research, based primarily on released FBI documents, led us to conclude the Paines were more than just a hapless, charitable couple who had the misfortune of befriending LHO. The State Department, the Agency for International Development (AID), the CIA, and the defense industry all form a web of connections to the Paines through their respective immediate families. This confirms that the Paines' natural habitat, like that of their erstwhile friend Lee Harvey Oswald, was a warren of government agencies and businesses, where overt and covert information gathering was conducted on behalf of the intelligence community.

The following information concerning the career of Ruth Paine's father, William Avery Hyde, is another

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brick in the edifice of government agencies surrounding the associates of Oswald. Based on research done by Steve Jones and myself in the AID Library in Washington, D.C., this serves as an addendum to the previous Paine materials. In addition it will attempt to clarify the identity of the "mysterious" ICA with which both William Avery Hyde and George De Mohrenschildt were allegedly associated.

Both Ruth Paine's father, William Avery Hyde, and her brother-in-law, John Hoke, were employed by AID (Agency for International Development), [2] which at the time (1960s) was still part of the State Department. Concurrently her sister, Sylvia Hyde Hoke (John's wife), a psychologist, was employed by the Air Force as a "personnel research technician," and later she was to be employed by the CIA. [3] In addition to AID, William Hyde Avery also had an employment history with ICA (International Cooperative Alliance), a little-known international, "non-governmental" agency devoted to the development of consumer cooperatives throughout the world. AID, the CIA and ICA all dovetail into Hyde's career, and it is difficult to ascertain when he was working for whom, but most probably he worked for all three at the same time.

Jim Garrison was very interested in the employment history of Ruth Paine's family, especially that of William Avery Hyde. During Grand Jury questioning Ruth seemed somewhat tentative about her father's connection to the government:

Q. Do you have any other relatives who work for the Government?

A. My father worked for the government, for the AID, that was since the assassination.

Q. What was he doing in 1962 and 1963?

A. He worked for the Nationwide Insurance until his 3-year tour of AID, which ended last June, so that leaves him still with Nationwide, doesn't it?

Q. Did he go to any other countries?

A. Prior to his AID tour he was in Peru, but prior to that he had been on loan or something like that from Nationwide and traveled briefly in Germany and I think Japan. And Spain.

Q. What does AID stand for?

A. Don't come to me, people ask me and every now and then I remember.

Q. Agency for International Development.

A. That's it.

Q. When you father traveled for the Agency for

International Development, what kind of work did he do?

A. No, please understand me, he was with Nationwide when he did these short hops to Germany, stuff like this, or else he was on leave to the International Cooperative Alliance, or some agency like this, which was non-governmental.

Q. Who participated in the International Cooperative Alliance?

A. I just don't know.[4]

Ruth emphasizes that her father's primary government work was after the assassination, and equivocates on his work prior to 1963. But other documents reveal that William Avery Hyde's trips overseas on behalf of the government, or "on loan" (to whom???) go back to at least 1957, and his work with international cooperatives to the 1930s. [5] A released FBI document reveals that in 1957 the CIA considered using William Avery Hyde to operate a cooperative educational center in Vietnam, but did not use him at that time, although their investigation of him was "favorable." It is unlikely that the CIA would have considered using someone who was not already well-traveled and familiar with the type of intelligence gathering expected of a businessman asset, especially in such a crucial area as Vietnam.

Coincidentally, it is in 1957 that William Avery Hyde, while an executive at Nationwide Insurance, wrote a letter to the Executive Director of the Cooperative League of the US (CLUSA), an affiliate of the ICA. Hyde asks for an assignment and states that he wishes to use his time "more adventurously...and if your International contacts tell you of any opportunities abroad that could use a man who has been long immersed in Insurance and consumer cooperation, I would be interested in hearing of them...for the present I would like to correspond from my home address. If and when there is anything on the fire there will be plenty of time to proceed through channels in the Nationwide Insurance Organization. [6]

There has been much speculation about the ICA among researchers. Some believe it may be an acronym for CIA. But in fact the ICA is an international, non-governmental organization founded in the last century in Great Britain in order to foster the growth of consumer cooperatives throughout the world. CLUSA would be the US representative to the International ICA. The cooperative philosophy was intended to mitigate against some of the harsher effects of the profit-making system by substituting a policy whereby consumer members are

also the owners of a business. This would insure that profits return to the community rather than middlemen and banks whose interest rates are exorbitant. [7]

The ICA took a stance of internationalism and tolerance, seeking to maintain its credibility in the midst of the ideological turmoil that characterized the fifties and sixties. Its policy of working with trade unionists and socialists as well as the business community must have made the organization a target for monitoring by CIA assets, especially since the ICA had voted to accept the Centrosoyus, or Soviet, cooperatives as members. In 1957, under the leadership of the Swedish Cooperative movement, the ICA voted to emphasize the cooperative philosophy in the "lesser developed countries," especially Latin America and Asia. This was to be carried out through education centers where community members would receive training and technological assistance. In "lesser developed countries" or the third world, the CIA had a special interest in keeping watch over the kinds of grassroots worker groups and small businesses with whom the ICA worked because it would be on this level that opposition to American corporate dominance of local economies might arise.

Within this context of ICA policies, the CIA's motive for considering William Avery Hyde to run a cooperative education center in 1957 in Vietnam becomes clearer, and the description of him as a "favorable individual" tells us more of the type of businessman/government asset he might have been. It is not unreasonable to theorize that the CIA, representing American business and political interests, felt an urgency to infiltrate ICA activities using American businessmen as their agents, and that William Avery Hyde was qualified as one of those agents. And the Agency for International Development (AID) whose activities on behalf of the CIA have been well documented, has been intimately involved with cooperative movements through their technical assistance programs, using this cover as a conduit for military aid and covert activities, especially in Vietnam. [8]

There were many cooperative movements in the US associated with the International ICA, such as CLUSA. Hyde's resume [9] reveals he was involved with the cooperative movement since the thirties when he managed the cooperative league's two year European tour, and hosted a discussion group for visiting Finnish cooperative members. (His daughter Ruth would also engage in international activities such as her sponsorship of Russian students touring the US, and coordination of the

East-West Contact Committee.) Hyde's experience, combined with a background description [10] of him as liberal but strongly anti-Communist and intensely patriotic, would also make him a good candidate for information gathering on behalf of the CIA.

There are few clues to the exact nature of Hyde's work during the late fifties when he was "on loan" and "making short hops" to Germany, Japan and Spain. However, in 1964 he received a three-year CLUSA assignment in Peru, which was contracted through AID. His end-of-tour report [11] was located in the AID library by researcher Steve Jones. During this tour, Hyde provided technical assistance in the formation of all types of insurance cooperatives including life, casualty and mortgage, not only in Peru but in Bolivia, Ecuador and Panama. His work brought him in contact with Latin American credit unions, banks and the housing industry. The facesheet of the report refers to Hyde as "...the only man accredited to AID/Latin America in connection with insurance problems." As an insurance man Hyde would certainly have been invaluable for intelligence gathering. Anyone who has ever applied for coverage knows that insurance personnel can be privy to information of a very personal nature. The body of Hyde's report contains observations of a political and sociological nature, and describes conditions that AID technicians can expect to encounter in these countries. It is no surprise that the facesheet of the report indicates it was routed to the CIA.

In a 1967 directory of State Department and AID employees [12] a "William A. Hyde" is listed as a personnel director in the Near East and Southeast Asian Department, but I have yet to confirm that this is the same William Avery Hyde. However, on his resume, in his personal letters, and on his end of tour report he refers to himself as "William A. Hyde," not "William Avery Hyde" and this would lend support to the fact that his is the name listed in the directory. If so, it would seem that, after his stint in Latin America, Hyde was rewarded with a permanent job in the State Department. Furthermore, by 1967 Hyde would have been able to retire from Nationwide, since he would have been 65 years old. Certainly this would fit the bill for an active man looking to "use his remaining period more adventurously."

In 1957, as William Avery Hyde was writing to the executive director of CLUSA, another person linked to the tragedy of November 1963 was planning to embark on foreign assignments in connection with cooperatives

and business consulting through the auspices of AID/State Department. George De Mohrenschildt was also preparing to leave a business for "more adventurous work abroad." He abruptly shut down his consulting office, telling his Russian emigré friend Mrs. Voshinin that a recent accident impaired his ability to work. Instead he would seek foreign aid assignments abroad with the State Department. [13] Eventually he was sent as a petroleum engineer and gas expert to help Yugoslavia develop its resources. His salary was paid by the ICA-International Cooperative Administration. [14] So the ICA-CLUSA with which William Avery Hyde was associated and the ICA with which De Mohrenschildt was associated were not precisely one and the same. However, it is likely that these two agencies were affiliated, since they engaged in business consulting and all their assignments were contracted through AID/State Department. As a matter of fact, according to Philip Agee, the International Cooperative Administration was actually the predecessor of AID. [15]

In 1978, the House Select Committee investigating the assassination of President Kennedy questioned a possible association between George De Mohrenschildt and William Avery Hyde. [16] A committee investigator interviewed Joseph Dryer, a stockbroker who knew De Mohrenschildt. Dryer was shown a list of names and asked if he recognized any of them as having a relationship with De Mohrenschildt. One of the names Dryer recognized was William Avery Hyde, although he could not remember in what context De Mohrenschildt used Hyde's name. What information did the committee have that would cause them to put Hyde's name on the list in the first place? It is not unreasonable to assume that the committee knew the two men did similar work for the State Department.

Both Hyde and De Mohrenschildt traveled on assignments abroad as consultants to businesses. In this capacity, they gathered information and prepared reports about local political situations, which were then passed on to the CIA. Contracts for both the International Cooperative Alliance (CLUSA in the states) and the International Cooperative Administration were coordinated through AID in the State Department. Both men developed an expertise in Latin America. (Ruth Paine eventually develops an interest in Latin America, as evidenced by her "missionary" work in Nicaragua). In addition to his now famous "walking tour" from Mexico to Panama, [17] De Mohrenschildt received a Ph.D.

from the University of Liege with a doctoral dissertation on the economic influence of the United States on Latin America. [18]

The men may also have had a connection as far back as the thirties. Upon his arrival in this country in 1938, George De Mohrenschildt settled in New York City. First trying his hand as a perfume salesman, he next attempted to become an insurance agent. [19] According to William Avery Hyde's resume [20], he was a district sales manager for Nationwide Insurance in New York City during this same period. His responsibilities included recruiting insurance agents and coaching them for the New York State Examination for licensing. Although De Mohrenschildt did not name the insurance company he was associated with, it is interesting to speculate whether De Mohrenschildt and Hyde met at that time. At any rate, if they had, Hyde's coaching was not that helpful since De Mohrenschildt failed the broker's examination.

In conclusion, the career of William Avery Hyde is not unlike that of a well placed and respected "executive agent." Executive agents are business people, religious personnel, technical experts or scholars sent abroad to collect intelligence on matters bearing upon issues of particular importance to American foreign interests. His insurance career spanned nearly thirty years and was liberally peppered with foreign travel which seems not directly related to his company. The assignments for which Hyde was either considered, or in fact appointed to, indicate his importance. Vietnam, for which he was considered (and may have later received a permanent job in the Near East and Southeast Asian Affairs section of the State Department), and Latin America, where he was sent, were crucial geopolitical areas for the United States. If he had been sent to consult Belgian lacemakers on the formation of cooperatives, perhaps his significance would not carry as much weight.

Lee Harvey Oswald and his acquaintances had far less than six degrees of separation between themselves and government associates. Oswald, Ruth Paine and her family, as well as Michael Paine's family, were all known to the State Department and branches of the intelligence community well before 1963. Oswald's family taking refuge with the Paines seems to be the result on an unseen hand rather than a random event. But whose hand? And why would someone place Oswald where he could easily be traced to government agencies? I plan to theorize upon this question in an upcoming article.

Notes

1. Carol Hewitt, Steve Jones and Barbara LaMonica, "The Paines," The Fourth Decade 3 #4 (May 1996): 25-29; "The Paines Unveiled," Probe 3 #4 (May-June 1996): 14-16; "Ruth Paine in Nicaragua," Probe 3 #5 (July-August 1996): 8-11.
2. Ruth Paine testimony before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, April 18, 1968: 56-59.
3. FBI 105-1261128-7, 12/12/63; also CIA memo dated 7/30/71 claims Hoke a CIA employee since 1961.
4. Ruth Paine testimony before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, April 18, 1968: 58-59.
5. FBI 105-1716-18, 2/28/57.
6. FBI 105-1716-18, 2/28/57, letter from William Avery Hyde to Jerry Voorhis dated February 23, 1957.
7. Information concerning ICA from Rita Rhodes, "The Role of Ideology and Organization in the ICA's Survival between 1910 and 1950," Review of International Cooperation 89 #2 (1996); also J.M. Rana, "ICA Membership from Developing Countries" from ICA website: <http://www.coop.org/en/index.html>.
8. Agency for International Development, "United States Economic Assistance to South Vietnam 1954-1975, Terminal Report," (Pn-AAx-017, ISN 49942). This 3 volume report is very revealing about the extent of military aid that was funneled through AID, and also the amount of police and military training which was conducted through the auspices of AID educational centers in Vietnam, and it can be ordered through the Development Information Services Clearinghouse, 1611 N. Kent Street, Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22209-2111.
9. FBI 105-1716-18, 2/28/57.
10. FBI 105-1716-18, 2/28/57, part of CIA background check of Hyde.
11. Agency for International Development, Reference #csd-267 527-15-260-058, "End of Tour Report" by William A. Hyde.
12. State Department Employee Directory 1967 obtained at AID Library, Washington, D.C.
13. Warren Commissions Hearings and Exhibits, vol. 8 pp. 456-457; references to this source cited hereafter in format: 8H456-457.
14. 9H201-202.
15. Philip Agee, Inside the Company CIA Diary (New York: Bantam Books, 1976): 55-56. This is still one of the most informative works on the CIA's use of

technicians, businessmen and retired people in agencies such as the ICA.

16. HSCA Vol. XII: 60-61.
17. 9H213-215. In 1961 De Mohrenschildt and his wife Jeanne embarked on a "walking tour" from Mexico to Panama, ostensibly to follow the old mining trails of the Spanish Conquistadors. Although this route took them past some of the staging bases for the Bay of Pigs invasion, De Mohrenschildt claimed to have no knowledge of the operation.
18. 9H177-178.
19. 9H178-179.
20. FBI 105-1716-18, 2/28/57.

MUTUAL CONTEMPT: A REVIEW

by
Ken Thompson

Jeff Shesol, Mutual Contempt: Lyndon Johnson, Robert Kennedy and the Feud That Defined a Decade (New York: W.W. Norton, 1997.) (Editor's note: this book is listed in Books in Print under the alternate title: Nemesis.) Some book titles announce, even scream, the author's position on the JFK assassination. Not so with Mutual Contempt. Neither the title nor the Table of Contents points to any particular inclination or bias. That's why this book appealed to me. Yet at 591 pages the book presumably would cover the assassination to some extent, and indeed it does.

Jeff Shesol, the author, has history degrees from Brown and Oxford Universities and he is a Rhodes Scholar. This is his first major book; it is well written and documented. Voluminous files, diaries, logs, papers and oral histories from the Lyndon B. Johnson Library and the John F. Kennedy Library, as well as personal interviews and over 100 books, comprise the source material.

Since Mutual Contempt is about the personal conflict and tension that existed between Lyndon Johnson and Robert Kennedy rather than about specific events, the JFK assassination, like other topics such as civil rights and Vietnam, is relevant only as input to this basic

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