## Seeing the Unspeakable: Lt. Cmdr. William Bruce Pitzer

The following excerpts of Jim Douglass' *JFK and the Unspeakable - Why He Died and Why It Matters* examine the visual record of President Kennedy's head wounds on the evening of November 22 as captured by William Bruce Pitzer, head of the Audio-Visual Department of the Naval Medical School in Bethesda, Maryland, and his subsequent murder in 1966. In the book's Introduction Douglass identifies the power each of us manifests through the denial we have exercised regarding the major political assassinations during the 1960s in the United States.

By overlooking the deep changes in Kennedy's life and the forces behind his death, I contributed to a national climate of denial. Our collective denial of the obvious, in the setting up of Oswald and his transparent silencing by Ruby, made possible the Dallas cover-up. The success of the cover-up was the indispensable foundation for the subsequent murders of Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, and Robert Kennedy by the same forces at work in our government—and in ourselves. Hope for change in the world was targeted and killed four times over. The cover-up of all four murders, each leading into the next, was based, first of all, on denial—not the government's but our own. The unspeakable is not far away. (p. xvi)

From: Jim Douglass, *JFK and The Unspeakable: Why He Died and Why It Matters*Orbis Books, (New York: Simon & Schuster 2010),
pp. 314-320, 472-474.
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Those who dared to break the conspiracy of silence risked consequences more severe than the assassination of one's character. Dr. Crenshaw said he "reasoned that anyone who would go so far as to eliminate the President of the United States would surely not hesitate to kill a doctor." [575]

Or would surely not hesitate to kill a photographer who had taken pictures of what the doctors had seen. There was in fact such a photographer, documenting for history the wounds that the doctors saw—and would eventually deny seeing.

At 4:30 P.M. Eastern Time on Friday, November 22, 1963, three hours after President Kennedy was shot in Dallas, Lieutenant Commander William Bruce Pitzer received a phone call at his home in Takoma Park, Maryland. Lt. Cmdr. Pitzer was the head of the Audio-Visual Department

of the Naval Medical School. In his audio-visual expertise, Pitzer worked closely with Bethesda Naval Hospital, where the president's autopsy was about to take place.

After listening to his caller, Bill Pitzer hung up. He excused himself from his family's dinner table, and said he was going to work. Pitzer took with him his 35 mm camera. He did not return home until the next afternoon. He did not discuss with his family the work he had done in the meantime.[576]

On the Monday or Tuesday following the assassination, First Class Hospital Corpsman Dennis David stopped by the office of his good friend and mentor, Lt. Cmdr. Pitzer. David found Pitzer crouched over a film-editing machine.

"Come here," said Pitzer, "I want to show you something." [577]

As Pitzer hand-cranked a sixteen-millimeter, black-and-white film through the machine, David watched the short movie on a small screen. What he saw was the body of President Kennedy viewed from the waist up, being touched by the hands of unseen individuals. He saw the hands roll the body onto its side and back.[578]

Pitzer was editing the film. David watched him work on several reels. He got the impression, he said, that Pitzer "was pulling some of the frames off of the films to make slides with."[579] In addition to the movie film, Pitzer had pictures and slides on his desk. They showed the president's body from different aspects. Pitzer shared his photographic evidence with David. The two men talked over what they were seeing.

David recalled to an interviewer his and Pitzer's conclusions: "Number one, it was our distinct impression—impression, hell, it was our opinion, actual opinion—that the shot that killed the President had to have come from the front."

Asked why, David said, "Because we both noted a small entry wound here [interviewer notes that David points to the right side of his forehead] from another photo, and a large exit wound back in this area [indicates right rear of head]. I had seen gunshot wounds before, and so had Bill. I've seen a lot of them since, and I can assure you that it definitely was an entry wound in the forehead."[580]

That he and Pitzer were looking at an exit wound in the rear of Kennedy's head was even more obvious: "It is inconceivable that anyone even vaguely acquainted with gunshot wounds would conclude that the massive wound in the rear of JFK's skull could have occurred from a rear-entry projectile, unless it was from grenade or mortar shrapnel, which tears and rends flesh and bone rather than pierces it." [581]

Pitzer did not tell David he had taken the film he was editing, but David assumed he had. "I never asked him," David said. "He was head of the Audio-Visual Department. I just assumed he had done it, he had taken it." [582]

What Dennis David says was on Bill Pitzer's film contradicts not only the Warren Report but also the increasingly challenged official photographs and X-rays of the autopsy, as well as the questionable testimony of Drs. Humes, Boswell, and Finck. If David is right, the Pitzer film and photographs would constitute powerful evidence of a systematic government cover-up of the gunshot wounds. Pitzer himself would be a critical witness to the process whereby he either took or obtained the government-incriminating movie and photographs of the president's body.

Bill Pitzer was shot to death on October 29, 1966. His body was discovered at 7:50 P.M. on the floor of the TV production studio of the National Naval Medical Center, Pitzer's working area. The estimated time of his death was approximately 4:00 P.M.[583] As an FBI teletype reported early the next morning, the victim was found dead with a gunshot wound in his head and a thirty-eight caliber revolver lying close to his body.[584] Pitzer's body was found lying face down "with the head extending under the lower rung of two aluminum step ladders which were leaning against a foundation post."[585] Following a joint investigation by the Naval Investigative Service (NIS) and the FBI, the Navy ruled that Bill Pitzer had committed suicide.[586] The members of his family were certain that he had not.

The Navy investigative board's verdict of suicide rested on its claim that Pitzer "was experiencing marital difficulty and was intimately associated with another woman." [587] Bill Pitzer's friends and family resisted the board's theory of suicide and Pitzer's supposed motivation, both of which contradicted their knowledge of the man. [588]

Dennis David had "a gut feeling" that Pitzer would not have committed suicide: "He had been through too many stressful situations in his life. Second world war—he had been in and out of Vietnam for various and sundry reasons . . . you know, he was not a weak personality type, or type of person who would ever run into anything he couldn't handle . . ."[589]

The Navy's claim that Pitzer had an ultimately fatal affair was based on "an unsigned, undated summary report of two interviews [with an unnamed woman] conducted by unnamed NIS agents."[590] The obscurity of the investigation, whose interviews were kept secret and inaccessible until they had been "routinely destroyed,"[591] made it impossible to scrutinize the Navy's allegation of the character defect that presumably caused Pitzer's suicide. If Pitzer was instead killed by government forces, the Navy was adding to that crime its assassination of his character.

Bill Pitzer had been about to leave the military for a new career, whose promise implied peril.

Four days before he died, Pitzer told a colleague he was ready to submit his retirement letter to the Navy.[592] He had confided in Dennis David that he "had some very lucrative offers from a couple of the national networks like ABC, CBS, to go to work for them." David thought the offers were connected with Pitzer's assassination film.[593] Joyce Pitzer, his widow, said that on the Saturday he was shot Bill had gone to his office to write a speech he was scheduled to deliver the next Wednesday at Montgomery Junior College, a nearby campus where he was enthused about a job offer to teach educational television.[594]

Bill Pitzer was on the verge of an exciting new vocation drawing on his television skills. At the same time, once he retired from the Navy, his opportunity to broadcast his film on Kennedy's wounds represented a threat to the forces covering up the assassination.

When Dennis David was asked why he suspected Bill Pitzer had been assassinated, he said, "I think it was because, with him retiring, they—and I don't know who they are—were afraid that he would take these pictures that he and I had seen, these 35-millimeter [slides] and the 16-millimeter film, that he would take them [with him]. And if he went to work for a major studio, that they would use them, or he would have them aired.

"That would really have blown some people out of the water, if that would have transpired." [595]

Bill Pitzer's film of John F. Kennedy's body has never been found. One investigator hypothesized that Pitzer had stored the film in his TV production studio's false ceiling. The upright ladder under which his head was found after his death was seen as a clue. It could have been the means by which Pitzer, or an assassin, climbed up to retrieve the film from its hiding place the final afternoon of Pitzer's life. He was then shot to death, and the film vanished.[596]

Joyce Pitzer believed strongly her husband's death was no suicide. However, she was pressured into silence by Navy intelligence officials who came to her home after Bill's death. "They told me," she said, "not to talk to anyone . . . the Navy intelligence [people] were here, and—at the house, and everything—and for twenty-five years, I did not really discuss it." [597]

When in 1995 at the age of eighty, Mrs. Pitzer described the Navy's pressure on her, she was still afraid that if she questioned her husband's death, "my [Navy] compensation might be stopped."[598]

The man to whom Joyce Pitzer revealed this fear was Retired Army Special Forces lieutenant colonel Daniel Marvin. He had phoned her with shocking news. In August 1965, Marvin told her, the CIA had asked him as an elite Special Forces officer, a Green Beret, to assassinate her husband, an assignment he then refused but that someone else apparently accepted.[599] A

government plot that Bill Pitzer's family and friends had long feared was the cause of his death was now finally being filled in, three decades later, by a man who almost participated in it.

Colonel Daniel Marvin told a story that has subsequently caused him to be dismissed by skeptics, denounced and expelled by the Special Forces Association of retired soldiers, and begged by his family to retreat into silence. Yet, as a born-again Christian, Marvin has insisted on the need to repent of his covert-action past, partly by acknowledging to Joyce Pitzer—and to the American public—how close he came to assassinating her husband.

Dan Marvin was an ironic candidate to assassinate a JFK witness. Marvin had volunteered for the Special Forces on November 22, 1963. It was "out of my respect for President Kennedy," he said, "and because of his respect for the U.S. Army's Special Forces."[600] The curriculum that Marvin then followed at the Special Warfare School, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, included, he said, "training not only in guerrilla warfare, but also in assassination and terrorism. I believed that extreme measures were sometimes necessary 'in the interests of national security."[601]

For their top-secret training in assassinations, Dan Marvin and his Green Beret classmates were taken, he said, "to a different building that had a double barbed-wire fence, surrounded by guard dogs."

The instruction they received in the high-security compound gave them a different view of recent history:

"On the John F. Kennedy situation, that was brought to our attention as a classic example of the way to organize a complete program to eliminate a nation's leader, while pointing the finger at a lone assassin. It involved also the cover-up of the assassination itself. We had considerable detail. They had a mock lay-out of the plaza and that area, and showed where the shooters were, and where the routes were to the hospital . . .

"They had quite a bit of movie, film coverage—it seemed like, thinking back to that time—and some still photos of the Grassy Knoll and places like that. They told us that Oswald was not involved in the shooting at all. He was the patsy. He was the one who was set up.

"We did, myself and a friend of mine, form a very distinct impression that the CIA was involved in Kennedy's assassination. During the coffee break, we overheard one of the CIA instructors say to the other, 'Things really did go well in Dealey Plaza, didn't they?' Or something to that effect.

"And that just reinforced, or really added to our suspicions. And we really felt, before the end of the training was over, that one of those instructors may have been involved himself in the assassination of John F. Kennedy." [602]

Marvin said, as a result of his CIA primer on the Kennedy assassination, he "had to do a lot of rethinking. And perhaps it's the way soldiers of fortune are. I don't know. But I just then convinced myself, as did my friend, that it somehow had to be in the best interests of the United States government that Kennedy was killed. Otherwise, why would our own people have done it?"[603]

In the first week of August 1965, Colonel Clarence W. Patten, commanding officer of the 6th Special Forces Group, summoned then-captain Dan Marvin to an office in Fort Bragg headquarters. Marvin says Colonel Patten told him to "meet a 'Company' man in an area adjacent to headquarters."[604]

Marvin has described this meeting, "in the shade of some nearby pine trees," with "a slender man of about 5'10":

"Dressed casually in short sleeves, light slacks and sunglasses appropriate for the August heat, he flashed his ID and took me aside. Would I terminate a man who was preparing to give state's secrets to the enemy—a traitor in the making?"[605]

Marvin, already trained as an assassin, said he would. He assumed his target would be in Southeast Asia, where he was on orders to go in December 1965.[606]

Marvin asked the CIA man who the traitor was.

"I was told," Marvin said, "he was a Navy officer—a Lieutenant Commander William Bruce Pitzer. The agent told me that Pitzer worked at Bethesda Naval Hospital. He said nothing of a link with the JFK autopsy and I just assumed that Pitzer was one of those sorry types that went wrong and was going to sell secrets to our enemy. The job had to be done at Bethesda before the man retired from the Navy."[607]

It was only at this point that Dan Marvin refused the trigger role in the plot against Pitzer. He had no objection, he confessed later, to killing Lt. Cdr. Pitzer, so long as the deed were to be done abroad, not in the United States.

According to Marvin, "It was common knowledge in Mafia and CIA circles that Green Berets were tapped by the Company to terminate selected 'targets' in foreign countries, whereas the Mafia provided the CIA's pool of able assassins for hits in the U.S." [608]

Marvin's assassination skills, he had been taught, "would be used overseas—not on our home turf. So—I refused the mission after he'd already told me the guy's name which is not a good thing."[609]

Marvin and the CIA agent parted with the understanding "that the name would be as good as

forgotten by me . . .

"The agent then simply turned around and walked over to meet Captain [David] Vanek who was waiting just out of earshot and I headed back to my office. Whether or not that agent offered Vanek [with whom Marvin had taken assassination training] the same mission or whether or not he accepted the mission is only for him to say; I have neither seen him nor heard of him these past twenty-nine years." [610]

Dan Marvin began trying to find David Vanek in April 1993. Following his conversion to the Christian faith, Marvin began speaking out against the CIA's and Special Forces' training in assassination. He hoped Vanek would corroborate the assassination classes they attended together at Fort Bragg and would help him bring that evil to light.[611] Drawing on Army orders for a training assignment that included both Vanek and himself, Marvin provided Vanek's Army service number in a query to the Veterans Services Directorate of the Army Reserve Personnel Center. For over a year, he got no response.

In the meantime, he was given a shocking revelation.

While watching a documentary on the Kennedy assassination in November 1993, Marvin "suddenly felt extremely ill" when he saw the name of William Bruce Pitzer flash across his screen.[612] Pitzer's name was one in a list of violent deaths linked with the JFK assassination and cover-up. Marvin was transported back to the shade of Fort Bragg pine trees where the CIA man in dark glasses asked him to kill the "traitor," William Bruce Pitzer, a man "who was preparing to give state's secrets to the enemy." Marvin realized the assignment he refused under those trees must have been carried out by someone else. That could have been his Green Beret classmate, David Vanek, to whom the CIA agent had spoken next.

Following the revelation of Pitzer's death, Marvin redoubled his efforts to find Vanek. After informing the Veterans Services Directorate that he might have to seek the help of members of Congress, Marvin finally received a reply in December 1994. It stated their office had "been unable to identify a service of record for the person concerned." [613] Marvin feared Vanek was dead—that there had been a second murder through a CIA doublecross. He worried that his Green Beret comrade, David Vanek, had not only killed William Pitzer, but that he had been killed in turn and his records obliterated to complete a cover-up. [614]

However, in 1996 the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB), following the leads of researchers, located David Vanek. ARRB staff members interviewed him by phone. Doctor David Vanek was by then a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corps. He had indeed attended the same January-April 1964 session of the Special Warfare School that Daniel Marvin had, but said he could not remember Marvin: "I'm not familiar with that name." [615]

Asked if he recalled attending any course where movie film or still photos of the JFK assassination were shown, he said, "Jesus, I don't remember that at all." [616]

When he was read Marvin's account of their alleged encounter with the CIA "Company man," Vanek said he did not recall the incident. He denied even being at Fort Bragg in August 1965, when he "may no longer have been in the military." [617]

Nevertheless, he did admit that, while in the Army, he worked under cover in Vietnam in 1964 "as a civilian 'employee' at a provincial office of the Agency for International Development" [618] (a CIA front). According to David Vanek's Curriculum Vitae, his military duty included "Special Assignment on Loan from US Army to Agency for International Development (South Vietnam)—1964-1965." [619] He was then in Bangkok from 1965-1967 as a civilian "Counterinsurgency Warfare Specialist (GS 13) for Advanced Research Projects, Agency of Office Secretary Defense (Thailand Field Unit)." [620]

Vanek was apparently well versed in CIA cover stories and covert warfare. However, when asked if he recognized the name William Bruce Pitzer, he said, "No, not at all." [621]

Regardless of who may have been involved in Pitzer's death, Dan Marvin remains convinced that the assignment he turned down at Fort Bragg was carried out by another assassin. For Marvin, the key to William Pitzer's murder was given in the words of the Company man under the trees. Yet Marvin did not comprehend their meaning until almost three decades later, when he learned of Pitzer's death. Only when the name of William Bruce Pitzer flashed across Marvin's television screen did he understand that the CIA's designated "traitor" was in fact a JFK witness, and "the enemy" to whom Pitzer "was preparing to give state's secrets" was the American people.

## **Notes**

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- 575. ← Charles A. Crenshaw, with Jens Hansen and J. Gary Shaw, *JFK: Conspiracy of Silence* (New York: Signet, 1992), pp. 153-54.
- 576. ← Kent Heiner, Without Smoking Gun: Was the Death of Lt. Cmdr. William B. Pitzer Part of the JFK Assassination Cover-up Conspiracy? (Watterville, Ore.: Trine Day, 2004), p. 68.
- 577. ← Ibid., p. 49.
- 578. ← Author's interview with Dennis David, June 30, 2006.
- 579. → William Matson Law with Allan Eaglesham, *In the Eye of History* (Southlake, Tex.: JFK Lancer Productions & Publications, 2005), p. 16.
- 580. ← Ibid., pp. 16-17.
- 581. ← Letter from Dennis David to Joanne Braun, October 31, 1991 (emphasis in original). Cited by Harrison Edward Livingstone, *High Treason 2* (New York: Carroll & Graf, 1992), p. 558.
- 582. Law and Eaglesham, *In the Eye of History*, p. 23. How could Bill Pitzer have taken an autopsy film unobserved? "One of the more interesting recent developments in the Pitzer case is the revelation that a closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera existed in the NNMC morgue at the time of the Kennedy autopsy. A discreet CCTV recording made from a control room and later transferred to 16mm film is far more plausible than Pitzer's presence in the morgue with camera in hand, managing to go unnoticed." Heiner, *Without Smoking Gun*, p. 51. See also Law and Eaglesham, *In the Eye of History*, pp. 328-29.

Dennis David told me in an interview that Pitzer could have been in his office (in a separate building fifty to sixty yards away from the morgue's back entrance) monitoring a remotely-operated, closed-circuit filming of the autopsy, unseen by anyone there. The likelihood of such a process is increased by the camera's stationary nature in the movie film that David saw in Pitzer's office: "To me it had to have been a static [camera], because there was none of that movement or flutteryness you sometimes see with a hand-held [camera]." Author's interview of Dennis David, June 30, 2006.

Again from the film and slides David saw in Pitzer's office, he thought the filming must have been done before the autopsy actually began: "I would say the films which *I viewed* with Bill were prior to the commencement of the postmortem, as there was no evidence of a Y incision on the torso, nor was the scalp incised and peeled forward on the face as would be done during a postmortem." Letter from Dennis David to Joanne Braun, September 11, 1991. Cited by Harrison Edward Livingstone, *High Treason 2*, p. 557 (emphasis in original).

On November 22, Dennis David was a witness to the unloading of a "gray shipping casket" from a black civilian hearse at the back entrance of the Bethesda morgue around 6:30 P.M.—half an hour before the arrival at the hospital's front entrance, which he also witnessed, of the gray navy ambulance that was officially carrying the president's body in a bronze ceremonial casket. Law and Eaglesham, *In the Eye of History*, pp. 7-9.

In a brief conversation with David, the driver of the hearse that delivered the shipping casket "stated that he'd come up 16th Street, and then onto Jones Bridge Road, which would have brought him right by Walter Reed [Army

Hospital]." Author's interview of Dennis David, June 30, 2006.

David's and other witnesses' testimony regarding the two caskets has been used to support the hypothesis that the president's body was altered before arriving at Bethesda, possibly at Walter Reed Army Hospital (on the route taken by the hearse that arrived at 6:30). Heiner, *Without Smoking Gun*, p. 62. If that were the case, Bill Pitzer's movie could have been taken at Walter Reed (to which he had ready access in his work), which would make its evidence even more explosive than a film taken at Bethesda. Ibid., p. 68.

- 583. ← FBI Report, Baltimore Field Office, January 31, 1967: "William Bruce Pitzer—Victim; Crime on a Government Reservation—Death by Gunshot Wound," Synopsis. Bureau File #70-44229.
- 584. → FBI teletype, October 30, 1 966, from Baltimore FBI Field Office to Director, FBI Headquarters, Washington, D.C. Copies: Tolson, DeLoach, and others. Bureau File #70-44229-3.
- 585. ← Letter of transmittal concerning the death of Lt. Commander William Bruce Pitzer, from Commander H. H. Rumble II, Naval Investigative Service, to J. Edgar Hoover, FBI Director, November 1, 1966. Cited in Heiner, Without Smoking Gun, p. 18.
- 586. LCDR T. G. Ferris and CDR J. W. Guinn, February 13, 1967, "Informal Board of Investigation to Inquire into the Circumstances Surrounding the Death of Lieutenant Commander William Bruce Pitzer, MSC USN, 41668112301 on 29 October 1966," pp. 1-4; reproduced in Daniel Marvin and Jerry D. Rose, "The Pitzer File," *The Fourth Decade* (January 1998), pp. 19-22.
- 587. ← Ferris and Guinn, "Informal Board of Investigation," p. 3.
- 588. ← Heiner, *Without Smoking Gun*, pp. 46-47. When Bill Pitzer's nephew was a young man, he idolized his uncle. He tried to follow Bill's path, serving as an officer in Vietnam. Later, as the questions of the Navy's cover-up of his uncle's death deepened, he wondered what he had been doing in Vietnam, "if the country that I was serving could do this." Bruce Fernandez, nephew of Bill Pitzer, to Daniel Marvin in telephone conversation, October 12, 1995.
- 589. 

  Law and Eaglesham, *In the Eye of History*, pp. 25-26. In the interview I did with Dennis David, he granted the possibility that Bill Pitzer's death could conceivably have been either murder or suicide. He suspected murder from the time he was informed of Pitzer's death, knowing of Pitzer's Kennedy pictures. As for the possibility of suicide, he said, "I have no idea why he would have committed suicide . . . I've heard the stories about his mistress—supposedly a mistress he had in Florida. But I don't think that would have prompted him to commit suicide." Author's interview with Dennis David, June 30, 2006.
- 590. ← Heiner, Without Smoking Gun, p. 36.
- 591. "The Navy has not made any original interview document available [on the alleged fatal affair], and reports that such material is routinely destroyed twenty-five years after the investigation." Ibid.
- 592. ← Ibid., p. 30.
- 593. 

  Law and Eaglesham, *In the Eye of History*, p. 25.
- 595. → Interview with Dennis David on The Men Who Killed Kennedy: Part Six: The Truth Shall Set You Free, produced and directed by Nigel Turner. The History Channel.
- 596. ← Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Marvin to Jim Douglass, January 15, 2006. See also *Without Smoking Gun*, p. 119.
- 597. → Joyce Pitzer to Daniel Marvin in telephone conversation, January 5, 1995. Cited in Heiner, *Without Smoking Gun*, p. 46. Joyce Pitzer made substantially the same comment, about Naval Intelligence pressures on her to be silent, seven years earlier in a conversation with author Harrison Edward Livingstone. Livingstone wrote: "On January 21, 1988, I spoke at length with the widow of Bruce Pitzer . . . Mrs. Pitzer said that she was visited by Naval Intelligence who asked her never to talk to anyone about her husband's death. She was nervous to talk to me about it, but clearly remains concerned about what happened and evidently felt that it ought to be investigated." Harrison Edward Livingstone, "Lt. Cmdr. William Bruce Pitzer," The Third Decade [Vol.4 #2] (January 1988), p. 20.

- 599. ← Daniel Marvin to Joyce Pitzer, January 5, 1995.
- 600. 

  Daniel Marvin, "Bits & Pieces: A Green Beret on the Periphery of the JFK Assassination," The Fourth Decade (May 1995), p. 14.
- 601. ← Ibid.
- 602. 

  Interview with Daniel Marvin on The Men Who Killed Kennedy: Part Six: The Truth Shall Set You Free, produced and directed by Nigel Turner, 2002 DVD. The History Channel.
- 603. 

  □ Ibid. This particular paragraph, as I have transcribed it from Marvin's interview, is taken from the 2002 DVD version of The Men Who Killed Kennedy. It was not in the original 1995 telecast.
- 604. 

  Marvin, "Bits & Pieces," p. 16.
- 605. ← Ibid.
- 606. ← Ibid.
- 607. ← Ibid.
- 608. *⇔* Ibid., p. 15.
- 609. ← Ibid., p. 16.
- 610. ← Ibid., pp. 16-17.
- 611. ← Heiner, Without Smoking Gun, p. 87.
- 612. ← Ibid., p. 88.
- 613. 

  Marvin, "Bits & Pieces," p. 17.
- 614. 

  Heiner, Without Smoking Gun, p. 88. Dan Marvin described to a friend "the real danger" for a member of the Special Forces: "We don't fear the enemy we are trained to defeat. We fear what may happen to us should those in power decide that our nation would be better served if we were no longer available for question or comment. Other volunteers, trained and dedicated as we were, would be asked to 'dispose' of us." Jacqueline K. Powers, citing Dan Marvin, introduction to Expendable Elite: One Soldier's Journey into Covert Warfare by Daniel Marvin (Walterville, Oregon: Trine Day, 2003), p. ix.
- 615. → Telephone interview with Dr. David Vanek by Tim Wray/ARRB, November 4, 1996. Notes by Tim Wray and Chris Barger. Reproduced at the National Archives.
- 616. ← Ibid.
- 617. ← Ibid.
- 618. ← Ibid.
- 619. "David Vance Vanek: CURRICULUM VITAE; Military Employment." Reproduced at the National Archives.
- 620. ← Ibid.
- 621. Telephone interview with Dr. David Vanek by Tim Wray/ARRB.

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