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Page 147 ~ Referral/Consult;
February 19, 1947

Honorable George C. Marshall
Secretary of State
State Department
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Marshall:

Reference is made to your request of February 7, 1947, asking that I designate a Special Agent for an assignment of approximately three months to the United States Delegation at the Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow, USSR. I am pleased to inform you that Special Agent John W. Matter has been designated for this assignment. Special Agent Matter is an experienced and thoroughly qualified communications technician. Arrangements are being perfected for his immediate departure to Moscow.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,
Office Memorandum  UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: THE DIRECTOR
FROM: D. H. Ladd

DATE: February 11, 1947

SUBJECT: Request of Secretary of State Marshall for Assignment of Bureau Technician to Conduct Security Survey at Moscow

There is attached a letter to you from Secretary of State Marshall, requesting that the Bureau assign on special assignment for a period of approximately three months a technician to conduct a security survey of headquarters to be used at the forthcoming Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow on March 10, 1947.

Secretary Marshall has asked for the services of a communications technician to inspect the telephone system, rooms and offices to be occupied by the United States Delegation. The Bureau representative would accompany a representative of the Security Office of the State Department and would leave Washington on or about February 26, 1947.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the request of the Secretary be declined. It is not thought we can send a man on such a mission because of our critical shortage of personnel for our domestic responsibilities. I might also point out that under the present setup, such a mission is the responsibility of CIG. Also, you will recall we were recently advised [Redacted].

If you approve, there is attached a suggested letter to Secretary Marshall.

NOTE

BY THE ASSIGNMENT OF ONE MAN, THE BUREAU WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT WANT TO ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY HERE. IT WOULD TAKE A SIZEABLE STAFF TO EFFECT ANY SECURITY UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAILING IN MOSCOW.

JKM
February 11, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: REQUEST OF SECRETARY OF STATE MARSHALL FOR ASSIGNMENT OF BUREAU TECHNICIAN TO CONDUCT SECURITY SURVEY AT MOSCOW

While I am reluctant to recommend approval of the attached assignment involving the sending of a man to Moscow to conduct a security survey, I believe that under the terms of our appropriation we have no choice in this matter and must accede to it in the light of the Secretary's request.

Collaterally,

I think consequently that we must agree to this assignment.

This being the second situation in the past week where we have had to comply with a State Department request about which we were not too enthusiastic, I think we have to give consideration at this time to the question of whether we desire to reword the provisions of the Appropriation Act to eliminate the proviso for investigations requested by the Secretary of State. This involves fundamentally weighing the benefits between the advantages of such a provision and the responsibilities attached to this provision. It seems to me, in the light of the present greatly unsettled situation relative to world-wide intelligence, that it is to our advantage to continue this phraseology in our appropriation through the current year since probably the advantages of this provision will outweigh the disadvantages.

Respectfully,

EDW. A. TAMM

Attachment

EAT: ml

CHG in appp 2/12

54 APR 8 1947

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES.
Moscow, U.S.S.R.
March 15, 1947

"JUNE"

Dear sir:

Upon arrival at the Moscow military airport on Feb. 28, 1947, Russian authorities boarded the plane and required that we surrender our passports before we left the plane. Transportation to the National Hotel was provided by Intourist. Since the Moscow Hotel, in which all the delegations were to be housed, was still in the process of renovation, a six day stay at the National was necessary. The latter hotel was also in the process of renovation. By Friday, March 7, the Moscow was opened, but on registering it was again required that the passports be surrendered. On March 16, the passports were again collected as it was discovered that the Russian Foreign Office had not passed on them since our arrival.

The National is a fourth rate hotel at the best. The Moscow is second rate by our standards. It is interesting to note that the waiters were wearing plain white jackets prior to the arrival of the main bodies of the delegations. They now are garbed in tuxedos, ill fitting for the most part.

The people on the streets are warmly dressed in most cases, although shabbiness is much in evidence and several layers of thin clothing are often seen instead of one or two heavy garments. There is little laughter or other signs of happiness. Most faces are grim. Some shoes and leather boots are to be seen, but the most common foot apparel is the high-top wool felt boot. It is not difficult to spot those who have money, since their wool or fur coats stand out in vivid contrast to the shabby black ones worn by the vast majority.

The food situation is acute. Strict rationing prevails for all, but those who have money can buy almost any item on the open market, provided they are willing to pay the price. For example, ten rationed eggs sell for about $0.35. In the same store under government sanction, unrationed eggs sell for $0.80 each. Soap is virtually unobtainable. The food ration of the Ambassador is so short that he finds it necessary to bring food in from Berlin to maintain a well balanced diet. His monthly egg ration is 10 eggs. In order to avoid paying the open market prices, he is keeping 25 chickens in the Embassy residence yard. Now that he has the chickens, though, he is having extreme difficulty in obtaining chicken feed.

The food at the Hotel is good, but the portions are very small. All members of the delegation have ration books, and must surrender the proper ticket for each particular meal. At the regular rate of exchange, 5 to 1, the meals would cost approximately $15.00 per day. At the diplomatic rate, 12 to 1, we are paying about $6.00.
To date, the writer has completed the technical check of the Ambassador's office and of 12 rooms at the Embassy residence. It was possible to complete the check on all rooms to be used as offices before the delegation arrived, and also the bedroom now occupied by the Secretary of State. No microphones have been discovered. One phone was found to be wired so that the microphone in the earpiece could be used when the phone was not in use. An examination of the wiring indicates, however, that the extra wire used to jump the switch was installed at the factory. The sensitivity of the microphones in both the earpiece and the mouthpiece is poor in comparison to those of the Western Electric instruments. The earpiece microphone is of the magnetic type, while that in the mouthpiece is of the carbon type. The carbon particles in the microphone are packed so loosely that when the handpiece is on the cradle, the microphone will not function, thus eliminating its use when the phone is not in use.

In the attic, the writer discovered approximately 60 feet of extremely fine, cotton-insulated wire, characteristically used in installations where concealment of the wire is essential. About 9 feet of this wire was concealed in the dirt of the sub-roof, and led to a hollow space in the wall and ceiling above the room formerly occupied as an office by former Ambassador Davies and now occupied by Mrs. W.B. Smith as a bedroom. A hole just large enough to permit an average-sized man to squeeze through had been cut through the 4-inch concrete sub-roof which is covered with dust. The remainder of the wire was found in the hollow space, which is about 18' x 2' x 3'. A thorough search failed to reveal any microphone. While the building is a regular maze of old telephone, buzzer and power wires, no other indication of surveillance has been found.

The writer arranged to talk to
As to the Conference, the usual Russian snags have been encountered. No concrete progress has been made to date. The general opinion is that it will last about one month.

Snow removal in Moscow is little short of amazing. It has snowed all except three days since the arrival of the writer, and yet the main streets are dry. This is accomplished by the use of hundreds of women, boys, and older men. They scrape, sweep and shovel the snow into the gutters. Then the snow is shoveled into trucks and hauled away. They are at their task shortly after the snow starts falling, regardless of the time of day, and keep at it until all snow is removed. One sideline of this snow removal is the fact that the writer has not observed a single car equipped with chains.

Very truly yours,

John M. Matter

John M. Matter
Special Agent
The Director, Records Section
Mr. Tolson, Personnel Files
Mr. Ladd, Send File
Mr. Rosen, Bring file up-
Mr. Clegg, To-date
Mr. Glavina, Search, serial-
Mr. Nicholas, Size, and route
Mr. Tracy, Reading Room
Mr. Harbo, Mechanical Section
Mr. Hendor, Bureau Supply Section
Mr. Pennington, Mail Room
Mr. Quinn, Tammernna
Mr. Nease, Mr. Harbo
Mr. Coyne, Mr. Hendor
Miss Candy, Call me re this
Mr. Carson, Mr. Quinn Tamm.
Miss Gray, Stamp and mail
Miss Lyon, Prepare tickler
Miss Butcher, Call these files
See Me

Edward A. Täm, 5734
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear sir:

Though no copies are yet available in Moscow, it is my understanding that a recent issue of the New York Times carried an article regarding the finding of some microphones by the British in one of their buildings here. The following information was obtained by the writer from...
Prices of consumers goods definitely reflect inflation. A man's cap -- $10.00. Adults' shoes -- $100.00. Shoes for children -- $40.00. Watches -- $400.00 to $500.00. Electric phonographs -- $300.00. Single-unit hot plates of very poor quality -- $25.00. Ordinary upright pianos -- $1000.00. Soap -- $3.00 a bar. Women's blouses -- $50.00.

Surveillance of delegation members has been spotty. The writer has not been under surveillance at any time. From talking to other persons, it would appear that there is no definite program of surveillance of delegation members. In the few instances known to the writer, the purpose seems to have been to keep the individual under observation regardless of whether the fact of the surveillance became known.

Secretary of State Marshall is followed by two cars containing 12 men whenever he leaves the Embassy residence. In addition a Russian Army Captain accompanies him in his own (Marshall's) car. Ambassador Smith has a one car escort at all times. The purpose of the surveillance seems to be as much for protection as for information on contacts and places visited.

Several Soviet Nationals have guardedly expressed to the writer their desire to visit the States, but have pointed out the fact that it is next to impossible to get an exit visa. They wish it was not that way. One stated that the fear of the NKVD (MVD) constantly restrains the activities and speech of almost all Soviet citizens. Another praised the standard of living of American citizens and complained that even with all the five-year plans, the average Soviet has no more, and in some cases less than he had under the Czar. One even stated that things might be different had Lenin lived.

Very truly yours,

John M. Matter

John M. Matter
May 5, 1947

Honorable George C. Marshall
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Marshall:

The Agent of this Bureau who at your request accompanied
your Delegation to Moscow for the Foreign Ministers' Conference
has returned to the United States and has prepared a complete
memorandum covering his technical assignment. Two copies of
this memorandum are attached.

It is noted that a complete physical and electronic
check was made by our Agent of all of the rooms at the
Ambassador's residence (Spaso House) as well as seven rooms
of the United States Embassy building. This check failed
to reflect the existence of any microphone installations.

A technical check was also made of the phone system
at Spaso House and at the Embassy which revealed no evidence
of wire tapping within the limits of the building. Included
in the memorandum are a series of recommendations regarding
future security of Spaso House and the Embassy building.

I am informed that every possible courtesy and
assistance was rendered our Agent in Moscow for which I am
deeply appreciative. I trust that you will find the attached
memorandum of interest.

With assurances of my highest regard,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

* This form is consolidated with the old FD-654, based on a Sentinel review.

Date 9/4/67

Document Classification: □ Unclass □ Confidential □ Secret □ Top Secret

Document Type: □ Letter □ Airtel □ LHM □ Memo □ Report 
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Serial No. Description of Serial Date Charged

RECHARGE

To ___________________________ From ___________________________

Initials of
Clerk

SERIAL CHARGE-OUT
Date: September 3, 1952  
To:  
Mr. John W. Ford  
Chief, Division of Security  
U. S. Department of State  
515 22nd Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.  
From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Subject: MICROPHONE INSTALLATIONS AND WIRE TAPPIED DIRECTED AGAINST DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES ABROAD

Reference is made to discussions with representatives of this Bureau regarding the United States abroad, with particular reference to the period from 1949 to date, including incidents in suspected penetration of as well as the

In connection with these incidents, it would be helpful to know whether the occurrences in have been traced by investigation to Communists or Soviet-inspired activity.

Because of the domestic intelligence responsibilities of this Bureau, any additional data regarding these previous incidents or additional incidents in the future would be of considerable interest.
MR. A. H. BELMONT

MR. V. A. ERANIGAN

CONFIDENTIAL FILES MAINTAINED IN ROOM 6527

PURPOSE

To recommend that the file on "Microphone and Technical Installations in the Fureau File 152-1955", be maintained with the confidential files in Room 6527.

DETAILS

The file on

...letters directly affecting the relations of the United States with the Soviet Union and its satellites...

Each of the technical information has been designated "juke" and consequently maintained in Room 1758. Nevertheless, the balance of the information in this file relating to countermeasures and policy relates to data classified, "Security Information - Top Secret."

ACTION

It is recommended that this file be maintained in Room 6527 and that its contents be made available only on a "strict need-to-know basis."

CS-17404
cc-105-19581

105-19581

71 OCT 9 1952

57 OCT 17 1952
Office Memorandum - United States Government

TO: Mr. Harbo

FROM: I. R. Conrad

SUBJECT: Microphones and Technical Installations in US Embassies Abroad

Date: September 23, 1952

Reference is made to memorandum under date of September 11, 1952, from Mr. A. H. Belmont to Mr. D. M. Ladd advising of the finding of an ultramodern radio transmitter concealed in the library in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow. The transmitter was found by State Department technicians.

The transmitter mentioned above was delivered to the Laboratory and examined by personnel of the Radio and Electrical Section on September 16 and 17.

Results of Laboratory Examination

It was found that the "ultramodern radio transmitter" consisted of a cavity resonator with a condenser microphone built into the high impedance end of the cavity and with a 1/2 wave length antenna extending out of the side of the cavity. It was immediately apparent that the device was designed for use as a microphone unit without any external wire connections by beaming a UHF radio signal of suitable strength and frequency toward the antenna of the unit and by using suitable UHF radio receiving equipment which would pick up and demodulate the re-radiated and modulated signal emitted by the antenna of the device.

Attempts were made by using the available electronics test equipment in the Laboratory to determine the UHF operating frequency of the device. These attempts were at first unsuccessful due to the fact our test equipment would not operate at frequencies higher than approximately 400 mc. Personnel of the electronics division of the National Bureau of Standards were then contacted in an endeavor to locate suitable test equipment for this project. As a result of this contact, the Bureau was able to borrow, for a period of one day, one Power Oscillator, Airborne Instruments Laboratory, Inc., type 124, range 300-2500 mc; one Hewlett-Packard model 610A UHF Signal Generator with range 450-1300 mc; one tuning unit TN-19/APR-4 (975-2200 mc range), and one tuning unit TN-54/APR-4 (2150-4000 mc range). After obtaining the above equipment from the Bureau of Standards and checking throughout the frequency range of 100-2500 mc it was determined that the "ultramodern radio transmitter" was designed to operate on a frequency between the limits of approximately 1650-1800 mc, the exact operating frequency being determined by the setting of an adjustment which was built into the cavity resonator of the unit.

105-19581-16

INDEXED: SEP 30 1952

EX 28

RECORDED 53
Memorandum to Mr. Harbo

September 23, 1952

After the operating frequency of the device was determined, tests were conducted to determine the microphone sensitivity of the unit. Results of these tests indicated that the microphone was very sensitive with good pickup range and good quality of speech reproduction. There are attached hereto, photographs of the device in various stages of assembly and positions and a diagram showing the various dimensions of the unit.

ACTION

It is recommended that this report be placed in the Bureau file.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

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85  DOS Doc.  ____________________________  ____________________________

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To  ____________________________  From  ____________________________

Initials of Clerk

SERIAL CHARGE-OUT
ATTENDANCE AT MEETING, OCTOBER 1, 1952

For the Department of
the Army

Major General Richard C. Partridge
Colonel H. H. Kaesser, Jr.

For the Department of
the Navy

Captain D. C. Hamberger
Mr. B. L. Willard

For the Department of
the Air Force

Major General Joseph F. Carroll
Colonel Charles Sommers

National Security Council

Mr. Patrick J. Coyne

185-19581-26

ENCLOSURE
Office Memorandum

TO: MR. LADD
FROM: A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENTS ABROAD (105-19581)

DATE: October 13, 1952

It is respectfully recommended that since research has been completed on development of activating devices for the so-called "resonant cavity" that the FBI Laboratory advise the Domestic Intelligence Division how soon "resonant cavities" and their activating devices can be made available to the field, since their use is of definite value in domestic intelligence investigations.

CC - Mr. Harbo

LW:tlc

[Signature]

RECORDED - 93
SE-36
EX-141
TO: MR. D. M. LADD
FROM: MR. A. H. BELMONT
DATE: October 23, 1952

SUBJECT: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN U.S. EMBASSIES ABROAD
ESPIONAGE - R

A memorandum dated October 21, 1952, from Mr. Parsons to Mr. Harbo indicates that the completion of research on the resonant cavity microphone-transmitter found in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow is at least a month away. While the memorandum indicates there are practical difficulties which must be overcome before the device could be made available for the Bureau's use, it is felt that the possibilities presented by having such an instrument available in the handling of our cases are such that its adaptation should be effected as soon as possible. There are certain conditions under which this device would appear to make possible microphone coverage where existing devices are not practical.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Laboratory advise the Domestic Intelligence Division as soon as it has progressed in its research to a point where practical application of this device can be made.

cc-Mr. D. J. Parsons

EX-141
RECORDED - 93
INDEXED - 93
13 OCT 29 1952

EX-141
RECORDED - 93
INDEXED - 93
13 OCT 29 1952
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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SERIAL CHARGE-OUT
November 5, 1952

Legal Attache
London, England

105-17581-37

RECORDED-20

EX-110

MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL
INSTALLATIONS IN U.S.
EMBASSIES ABROAD
ESPIONAGE - R.

Further reference is made to Bulletin 10/6/52 and
bullet 10/24/52 concerning the Russian microphone device
found in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow,
in September of this year.

For your information

visited

the Bureau with

in Washington, advised that based on the

you should maintain contact with him in order that you
may receive any information he desires to furnish us
through you.

LEGAT
105-19581-3
COMM.FX

cc: Foreign Service Desk

DAP/nek
SECRET - AIR COURIER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

American Embassy
1, Grosvenor Square
London, W. 1

Date: October 21, 1952
To: Director, FBI
From: Legal Attaché
London, England

Subject: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN U. S. EMBASSIES ABROAD
ESPIONAGE - N

"JUNE"

Rebulet 10-6-52.

When the contents of rebulet were discussed with [redacted] who requested all his remarks be considered off-the-record, he said that, over a year ago, [redacted] since then, there has been no attempt to locate the source of this transmission.

Consequently, when the present incident arose, leading to the discovery of the resonant cavity, [redacted] photographs of the device, said that [redacted] and were presently [redacted] etc.

[redacted] stated that, inasmuch as [redacted] regarding the device came from State Department sources, they assumed the Bureau was naturally being kept advised in Washington as to all developments.

[redacted] confidentially stated [redacted] He recalled it was shown not only to the bureau, but also, he believes, to General Bedell Smith and the Chiefs of Army, Air Force, and Naval Intelligence. He stated its [redacted]
claimed to be more than certain the Bureau is in possession of all information available to date regarding the instrument. If there is any doubt on this point, he suggested contacting John W. Ford, Chief, Division of Security, Department of State.

The Bureau will be kept advised as to actions taken.
Office Memorandum

TO: Mr. Harbo
FROM: I. W. Conrad
DATE: November 4, 1952

SUBJECT: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN U.S. EMBASSIES ABROAD

SYNOPSIS:

Briefing on new type listening device to OSI district commanders by SA R. W. Swartz of the Laboratory on 11-3-52 handled per Director's instructions. This memo is for information purposes. Technical details are attached.

BACKGROUND

The memo from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Ladd dated 10-23-52 advised General Carroll's request that the OSI technical men from overseas commands be briefed on the new type of listening device by FBI technical representative and the briefing was approved by the Director.

SA E. S. Sanders advised that the conference would be held in room 2431, Temporary U Building, 13th and Constitution, Northwest, and Lt. Colonel Yandoh was to be contacted there. This building area is in use as an OSI school.

DETAILS

The initial 45 minutes consisted of presentation of information and was followed by 15 minutes of questions and answers.

There is attached an outline of the material covered along with a summary of pertinent questions which arose.

The briefing appeared to be well received and Lt. Colonel Yandoh expressed his appreciation for it.

RECOMMENDATION

The above is submitted for your information and for record purposes.

Attachment

RECORDED - 40
105-1952 105-1958-38
EX-110
CAVITY MICROPHONE

Description

Physical - picture
Operation - 1700 mc

Background

Problem encountered - heard on receiver
Search by use of audio
Discovery and installation - imbedded in a seal

Countermeasures

To locate and capture microphone
Active detection simulates actual operation

Transmitter (signal generator)
Receiver (aperiodic within band)

General procedure to be followed
Antenna patterns may vary
Physical cover for driving transmitter and receiver

Technical requirements

Operators must understand fundamentals of operation
Must be aware of possible variations in frequency and physical shape
Must be able to handle local technical problems
Strong undesired local signal
Correlation of available information with searches
"General understanding of microphone possibilities (other types)"
(only referred to as above, no elaboration)

Project current status

Microphone turned over to FBI
Examined and operated
NRL and FBI carrying on countermeasures development
Completion in week or two of prototype equipment and final technical report

QUESTION PERIOD

What can be done as a countermeasure until countermeasure equipment is available?

ANSWER: No technical help can be provided but it is suggested
that general security factors be reviewed in the meantime.

Does the unit appeared to be mass produced?

**ANSWER:** The unit was marked with the number "11" and parts were "drawn" by heavy machinery so the possibility of a number of units having been made is very good.

How far away can the enemy transmitter be?

**ANSWER:** FBI tests in the open gave 75 feet range with no specific design of the equipment used in the test but a theoretical range of 15 miles of 200 watts of power indicates that the practical range could be much more than 75 feet. Sending the radio signal through a wall is difficult and greatly reduces the practical range.

Were there 2 such microphones?

**ANSWER:** Only one to the speaker's knowledge.

Has a contact microphone on a spike been used as one of these devices?

**ANSWER:** The speaker does not know of any such use.

Does the enemy know when the device is being taken out?

**ANSWER:** Probably, as they can hear what is going on in the room and handling the device is clearly received.

Can strips of tinsel be used as an interim countermeasure?

**ANSWER:** It might be effective over a certain frequency band but would be of no help on other frequency bands.

Has a copy of the microphone been made?

**ANSWER:** The speaker has not seen it if it has.

The briefing was terminated when there appeared to be no further questions.
HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR MR. LAMHERE TO BE KEPT PERMANENTLY IN HIS
OFFICE, ROOM 1736

SEE FILE 66-2554-7530 FOR AUTHORITY.

SUBJECT JUNE MAIL

REMOVED BY: 51 DEC 23 1952

FILE NUMBER: 105-19581

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGEOUT 619
SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

Document Classification: □ Unclass □ Confidential □ Secret □ Top Secret

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To ___________________________ From ___________________________

Initials of Clerk

SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

Roger W. Swartz, EOD 1-22-40 as clerk, appointed SA 11-16-41, GS-13, assigned Technical Lab.

Wayne W. Bradley, EOD 8-19-40 as clerk, appointed SA 8-29-43 limited, SA 9-14-44, GS-12, assigned Technical Lab.
NEW VP WON'T BE GUEST AT U. S. EMBASSY

Will Occupy Suite At Hotel

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 25 (CTFS) — Vice-President-elect Nixon, who has been appointed by President-elect Eisenhower as his personal representative to attend next Monday's inauguration of Mexico's new chief of state, will get more than a frosty reception from United States Ambassador William O'Dwyer. In fact, he apparently will get no reception at all.

Word came from embassy officials today that arrangements are being made for Nixon to stay in the hotel del Prado in Mexico City, rather than in the United States embassy residence, which usually houses high ranking visitors such as presidents, and presumably including persons elected to these positions even tho not re-elected into office.

Furthermore, indications are that O'Dwyer will not even invite Nixon to the United States embassy. Thus far O'Dwyer has arranged that the lone reception planned for the United States delegation will be held at the home of the counsellor of the embassy, Paul Culbertson.

It is apparent that O'Dwyer is so angry over Nixon's recent statement in Washington that he would have "what contact with O'Dwyer his official position and mine will require," that he is going to give Nixon a first rate snubbing.

Nixon was named by President-elect Eisenhower to attend the inauguration of Mexico's new president, Adolfo Ruiz Cortines. Eisenhower also sent a personal message of friendship to the Mexican people which received banner headline play in the Mexican press today.

54 Nations Represented

Fifty-four nations are sending delegations to attend the inauguration, which will be a brilliant spectacle. The principal ceremony will be held in Mexico's palace of fine arts at Monday noon. The whirl of events includes inaugural balls and receptions.

Ruiz Cortines is practically the handpicked choice of the present president, Miguel Alemán, and is expected to carry on Alemán's program of public works and general improvement of the living standards of the Mexican people.

Alemán soon will leave for a winter vacation in Europe, returning to devote his attention to his two ranches. He is a wealthy man.

O'Dwyer, who not too long ago vented his temper on a wire service correspondent who announced O'Dwyer was considering Mexican citizenship, has said he will resign about Jan. 2. Indications are that he will become a law consultant in Mexico. His wife is said to be furnishing a lavish home which will include crystal chandeliers.

Washington Times-Herald
Wash. Post
Wash. News
Wash. Star
N.Y. Mirror
N.Y. Compass

Date: 11-26-52
December 4, 1952

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

VIA LIASON

1:05 - (P.M.) - 4:51

Honorable Gordon E. Dean
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
15th and Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dean:

Enclosed herewith is the final technical report in connection with research made as a result of the finding of a new type listening device in the residence of the U. S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. The report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analysis and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden scalp in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.

Please feel free to call upon me should there be any questions or problems arising in connection with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Enclosure

ESS: Hke

[Signature]
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy
Number 9 of FBI Laboratory Report
#PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and
2 attachments.

[Signature]

[Date]
December 4, 1952

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA LIAISON

Mr. Raymond P. Whearty
Chairman
Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security
U. S. Department of Justice Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Whearty:

Enclosed herewith is the final technical report in connection with research made as a result of the finding of a new type of listening device in the residence of the U. S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. The report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analysis and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden seal in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.

Please feel free to call upon me should there be any questions or problems arising in connection with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Enclosure

SECRET

W. H. Kenyon

[Signature]
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy

Number 8 of FBI Laboratory Report

#PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and 2 attachments.

[Signature]

[Date]

105-19581-51
December 4, 1952

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA LIAISON

Honorable Matthew J. Connolly
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Matt,

Reference is made to my letter of October 17, 1952, pertaining to technical information developed on the Russian microphone device which was recently discovered in our installation in Moscow.

The technical research in connection with this matter has now been completed, and there is enclosed herewith for your information and the information of the President the final technical report. This report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analysts and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden seal in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.
In line with your previous suggestions, the report is being made available to Mr. John W. Ford of the State Department, the members of the Interdepartmental Intelligence Conference, the Chairman of the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

With assurances of my best wishes and highest esteem,

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy Number 1 of FBI Laboratory Report #PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and 2 attachments.

[Signature]

12/5/98 [Date]

ENCLOSURE

105-19581-51
December 28, 1959

Mr. John F. Ford
Chief, Division of Security
Department of State
Washington 25, D.C.

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the final technical report which has been compiled in connection with research as a result of the finding of a new type listening device in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow. The final report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analysis and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden case in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.

In the event there are any matters in this connection in which we can help, please feel free to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Enclosures (2)

[Signature]
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy
Number 3 of FBI Laboratory Report
#PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and
2 attachments.

J. H. Ford
Signature by

12-5-57
Date

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS CLASSIFIED
BY LAW TO BE SHOWN
ON REQUEST.

Classified by 5/28/95
Declassification On: DADR 35 NO 3

ENCLOSURE
C105-19581-51
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy Number 2 of FBI Laboratory Report #PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and 2 attachments.

J. H. Jones
Signature & Date

12-5-52

Enclosures:
[105-19581-51]
December 4, 1952

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA LIAISON

Dear Admiral Carl F. Espe
Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosed herewith is the final technical report
in connection with research made as a result of the finding
of a new type listening device in the residence of the
U. S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. The report consists of
three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analysis
and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity
microphone and photographs of the device and
its various parts. This also contains photographs
of the wooden seal in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory,
with the theoretical development and complete
discussions and diagrams of the special receiving
equipment designed and constructed for the
detection of these devices.

Please feel free to call upon me should there be
only questions or problems arising in connection with this
matter.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

ESS:hhke

[Signature]
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy
Number  4  of FBI Laboratory Report
#PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and
2 attachments.

[Signature]

5 Dec. 1952

Date
December 4, 1952

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA LIAISON

Major General Richard G. Fartridge
Assistant Chief of Staff G-2
Department of the Army
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Fartridge:

Enclosed herewith is the final technical report in connection with research made as a result of the finding of a new type listening device in the residence of the U. S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. The report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory’s analysis and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden seal in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.

Please feel free to call upon me should there be any questions or problems arising in connection with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy

Number 5 of FBI Laboratory Report
#PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and 2 attachments.

Signature
R. W. LANG
It Colonel, GS

Date
5 Dec 1952

105-19581-51
December 6, 1952

General Walter Bedell Smith
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Room 123
Administration Building
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Enclosed herewith is the final technical report in connection with research made as a result of the finding of a new type listening device in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. The report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analysis and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden seal in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.

Please feel free to call upon me should there be any questions or problems arising in connection with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

SECURITY INFORMATION - TOP SECRET
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy Number 7 of FBI Laboratory Report #PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and 2 attachments.

[Signature]

5 Dec 1955

Date
December 4, 1952

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA J. C. I. A. T. O. N

Major General Joseph F. Carroll
Director
Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Carroll:

Enclosed herewith is the final technical report in connection with research made as a result of the finding of a new type listening device in the residence of the U. S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. The report consists of three parts as follows:

a. The report of the FBI Laboratory's analyses and experiments.

b. A detailed scale drawing of the Russian cavity microphone and photographs of the device and its various parts. This also contains photographs of the wooden seal in which the device was found.

c. The report of the Naval Research Laboratory with the theoretical development and complete discussions and diagrams of the special receiving equipment designed and constructed for the detection of these devices.

Please feel free to call upon me should there be any questions or problems arising in connection with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

ESS: hke

17/117
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy Number 6 of FBI Laboratory Report #PC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and 2 attachments.

[Signature]

[Date: 5/5/52]

105-19581-51
Reference is made to memorandum from Mr. Parsons to Mr. Harbo dated December 1, 1952, which advised that the technical report has been completed concerning research made in connection with the new type listening device found in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow, Russia. You instructed that a copy thereof be forwarded to the President and that the additional distribution be accomplished by letters delivered via liaison and that a signed receipt should be obtained for each copy of the report.

Attached hereto for your signature are suggested letters transmitting copies of the report to the following:

The President (Letter addressed to Matt Connelly);
Mr. John W. Ford of the State Department;
Directors of ONI, G-2 and OSIS;
Director of CIA;
Chairman of the ICIS;
Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

If you approve of these letters, it is recommended that they be signed and thereafter delivered via liaison to the addressees. Signed receipts will be obtained for each report so delivered. The letter to the President will, of course, be delivered before the others are delivered.
Office Memorandum
TO: MR. HARBO
FROM: D. J. PARSONS
DATE: November 6, 1952
SUBJECT: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN U. S. EMBASSIES ABROAD ESPIONAGE - R

I thought the Director would be interested in the attached photograph which is a picture of a microphone device accidentally detected in the building of the Swiss Legation in Moscow.

The microphone is built into an iron plug which serves as the closing plug in a radiator, and according to the Swiss report which we received through the State Department, it is outwardly indistinguishable from the conventional plug in other radiators of their establishment. There is a slit along one edge of the hexagonal head which is so small that it is barely perceptible. The wires from the microphone are encased in lead sheeting which runs through the radiator into the connecting pipes of the heating system to a concealed point where they emerge from the radiator pipe to a special fitting. Although the microphone is reported to have poor acoustic properties, the Swiss report it is adequate to permit receiving and readily understanding conversations. The conclusion in the Swiss report is that "The microphones set up on the premises of the Swiss Legation in Moscow have unquestionably permitted the Russians to monitor and understand the contents of all conversations conducted at normal volume of sound."

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information only.

Attachment

DJP/mek
105-19581
FD-5  Revised  08/05/2008

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

* This form is consolidated with the old FD-654, based on a Sentinel review.

Date 7/4/68

Document Classification:  □ Unclass □ Confidential □ Secret  □ Top Secret

Document Type:  □ Letter □ Airtel □ LHM □ Memo □ Report
□ Facsimile  □ Teletype □ Misc □ EC □ Email
□ Enclosure □ Attachment

SCI TYPE: *requires special handling
□  □  □  □  □ Other (specify)  b7D  b7E

FD-501 Number

Date of Mail 11/10/62  11/14/62

Originating Office or agency

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File  105  19581  82  Last Serial

□ Pending  □ Closed

Serial No.  Description of Serial  Date Charged

53Y  Doc.  
53Y  Outgoing LC

Employee

RECHARGE  Date

To  From

Initials of  Clerk

SERIAL CHARGE-OUT
Office Memorandum  •  UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: MR. HARBON
FROM: D. J. PARSONS

DATE: Dec. 8, 1952

SUBJECT: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL
INSTALLATIONS FOUND IN U. S.
EMBASSIES ABROAD; ESPIONAGE - R

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend that
we return to the U. S. Army Signal Corps Laboratories at
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, the ultra high frequency radio
transmitter used during the research involving the Russian
resonant cavity microphone. This should be returned by
SA R. W. Swartz who will then have an opportunity to discuss
with the Signal Corps experts any work they may have independently
done in this field.

DETAILS

In the initial steps of the technical project to explore
the Russian resonant cavity microphone, it will be recalled that
we had no transmitters in the range of frequencies in which the
microphone was found to operate. The first operation of the
microphone was achieved with a signal generator borrowed from the
U. S. Bureau of Standards which had a power of only a fraction
of one watt. Since representatives of the Signal Corps were
present at the initial technical discussion, they were aware of
the work which the Bureau was doing. I inquired of the Signal
Corps representatives as to whether they might have transmitting
equipment which we could borrow having greater power than the
Bureau of Standards' generator. Signal Corps people were most
cooperative and one of their experts phoned from the Fort Monmouth,
New Jersey, Laboratories to inquire of the specific equipment
needed and thereafter, at their own expense, brought a transmitter
of approximately four watts power to the Laboratory. This has been
most helpful in completing our Laboratory work on the instrument.

We are now ready to return this piece of equipment to
the Signal Corps Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Since
they have previously advised me that they were independently
making some studies of the operation of resonant cavity microphones
themselves, it is entirely possible that they have some information
which would be of interest to us particularly in connection with
the possible future acquisitions of activating equipment.

We presently have two resonant cavity microphones which
Memo to Mr. Harbo 12/8/52
Re: 105-19581

are similar to the Russian instrument. We also have two
receiving units which our personnel built at the Naval Research
Laboratory, but we have no transmitters of any kind which can be
used to activate the microphones either in searching for these
listening devices or any desired operation of them. Independently
of the return of the equipment which the Signal Corps generously
brought to us, I think it would be to our benefit to have SA
Swartz visit Fort Monmouth to see what work they have done. He
will on the occasion of this visit return the transmitter and
thank the Signal Corps for its use.

RECOMMENDATION

That SA R. W. Swartz of the Laboratory drive to the
Signal Corps Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and
return the transmitting equipment which they loaned to us at
our request, and also spend a day or two discussing any develop-
ments in this field which would contribute to our interest.

RD

12/9/52
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: R. T. Harbo
FROM: I. W. Conrad

DATE: December 19, 1952

SUBJECT: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS FOUND IN U. S. EMBASSIES ABROAD

SYNOPSIS:

Per Bureau instructions, R. W. Swartz of this Section returned the four-watt microwave transmitter to Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, on December 15, 1952. A successful microphone device had been built there from a drawing furnished them and they have concentrated on "positive" military application for "front line" use to communicate with rear military positions. Countermeasures development was left to NRL to avoid duplicate effort. Suggest Liaison Section borrow AN/PRR-4 receiver which they found suitable.

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Parsons’ memorandum to you dated December 8, 1952, set out the cooperation of Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories with the Bureau in loaning the badly needed transmitter to us and delivering it promptly at their expense. It was pointed out that they may have done developmental work which would be of interest to us.

DETAILS:

Accordingly, Mr. Swartz returned the borrowed microwave transmitter, the most powerful obtainable for our purpose, on December 15, 1952, and discussed the Navy Research Laboratories report and general aspects of the problem with those men cleared for it and working on it at Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories (SCEL).

Dr. E. G. Witting, civilian head of development work at SCEL, discussed the inherent problems of such a device, stating that they were glad to be of assistance and wanted to help in any
matter that the Bureau presented to them. Bureau appreciation of their assistance was expressed and discussions of technical details were referred to Evans Laboratories, a subdivision of SCEL.

Mr. Samuel Stiber, Mr. Russel Schmidt and Mr. Swartz discussed technical aspects of the microphone device at some length. In order to disperse any misgivings on the technical level about the project on countermeasures being carried on at Navy Research Laboratories, Mr. Swartz pointed out that duplication of effort and expense was thereby eliminated. All the men mentioned above indicated that their work had proceeded to the positive applications with some success, thereby proving that the elimination of duplicate countermeasure study was the best course of action.

They plan to examine further the use of such a microphone at front-line posts since no wires or batteries would be required for its operation. Since the microphone operates on a specific frequency, a large number of units could be operated from a single variable frequency transmitter at a rear command post.

Based on the FBI drawing furnished them, a unit was made which was claimed to have excellent audio sensitivity. Using a fraction of a watt of power and a AN/FRR-4 receiver the device was operated through a thin plywood wall. Positioning was very critical which compares with test results at the Bureau.

Using a spectrum analyzer they determined the modulation to be nearly 50 per cent as shown by oscillograms in their report. Frequency modulation was not apparent in the photographs and it was noted that side bands of such modulation would be greatly attenuated due to the high Q of the device.

The optimum frequency for their unit was about 1100 megacycles with a disc-diaphragm separation in the order of one mil rather than nine mils as with the Russian unit. No cross-hatching of the disc surface was used which probably caused shorting and audio distortion at high volume levels. This was discounted since they presumed that most uses of the device would be at low volume levels.
The AN/PRR-4 receiver is aperiodic over the frequency range we are interested in, is battery operated, has good sensitivity with frequency rejection and was inferred to be more applicable than the Navy Research Laboratories receiver. Mr. Stiber urged that the Bureau borrow one and try it out.

It was mentioned that Bell Telephone Laboratories had developed a device for modulation of a microwave carrier by changing the physical size of a wave guide section. No capacity effect was used and it did not appear applicable to the immediate Bureau studies.

A short report was shown to Mr. Swartz which had general discussion of the Signal Corps development without much detail. It would be desirable to have a copy which is being requested separately.

Mr. Swartz was very courteously received and a spirit of full cooperation pervaded all discussions. Appreciation of the Bureau was expressed to the men contacted.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Liaison Section obtain one AN/PRR-4 receiver through G-2 on a one-month loan basis for experiments in the FBI Laboratory.

12-30-52
Col. GENWANZ, G2
WILL FOLLOW THIS
Date: December 8, 1952

To: Director, FBI

From: Legal Attaché
London, England

Subject: MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN U.S. EMBASSIES ABROAD
ESPIONAGE - R

Bullet 11-5-52.

The Bureau is advised that, since visited the Bureau on October 28, 1952, the British Government has formally designated

stated that, while several agencies

With reference to the dissemination of pertinent developments achieved locally, in order that he suggested the Bureau may desire to send whatever information they deem pertinent to

The only exception to this would be where the Bureau had specific matters they might desire to be taken up directly with in which case, of course, it would be done through this office.

pointed out that the foregoing procedures would be

It having been noted that this office advised that, unless contrary advice were received, the method he suggested would be agreeable.

RECORDED-20
105-19581-150
DEC 7-58

JPO: CFJ

[Signature]
also noted that regarding all local developments of a technical nature and that dissemination in the United States
CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT RECEIPT

I have personally received Copy
Number 13 of FBI Laboratory Report
#FC-34361 AC consisting of 11 pages and
2 attachments.

[Signature]

Date: 11/16/55

Microphone, And Technical Installations In
The United States Embassies Abroad

105-1958/1

[Redacted]
December 5, 1952

MICROPHONE AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS IN THE U.S. EMBASSIES ABROAD

I have personally received this date the Great Seal of the United States and the Russian resonant cavity microphone which was concealed therein.

Michael Olin Jr.
Signature

RECORDED - 9 1/2 1953
1/2 MAR. 4 1953