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DEBRIEFING OF FRANCIS GARY POWERS

Tape: #16
Date: 20 February 1962
Time: 1133 Hours

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Present:

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We are starting now at 1133 a.m.

Frank, you recall the other day that we started to talk about the interrogation process and we - and you went through the first interrogation that they gave you in Lubyanka Prison on the first of May - the one where they had several men around the wall, 15 or 20 people in the room and it was presided over by Rudenko, and it lasted an hour or an hour and fifteen minutes, or something like that, and it appears that that first interrogation was more or less a name, rank and serial number type of thing, establishing who you were, why you were in Russia, and all that sort of thing, it was your introduction to the interrogation process. Now then, we also mentioned the other day, or you also put on the record that from then on up until the time of your trial you were under constant interrogation. That is, you went through three or four interrogations a day, sometimes at night, for a while seven days a week - they were of varying lengths from one hour to three hours -

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TOP SECRET

four hours, and some of them even longer than that - to the best of your recollection now, going back to, say, your second interrogation - after your first one, after the first big one when Rudenko was there, and I know you can't remember each one of them, the second one, the third one, the fourth one, but, to the best of your recollection I would like to have you develop for me just how they proceeded and carried out this interrogation process. Did they bring in experts? Who presided? You said that Kussmine and Vasillyev were your interrogators and Rodochev was your interpreter. Now then, were they the only people you were exposed to or did they run in a bank of experts on you, and what did they want to know most? Did they want to talk about Adana at 1010 first? Did they want to talk about the plane first? See what I am driving at ?

Powers:

I see what you are driving at, but it is very difficult to remember this.

25X1

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I realize this.

Powers:

There was so many questions, and coming from several different people. There is one thing that I forgot the other day that I have thought of since then. Going through

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25X1

TOP SECRET

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some notes that I had, there was an interrogation on the 2nd of May in the morning and that one was completely left out of the evidence. It consisted of a smaller group than the night before, on the 1st, but some of the same people. If I am not mistaken, Rudenko was there again, and I recognized in one of the photographs I saw yesterday another big wheel that was there. I think [] said he was now head of the KGB. He's got it down there - I don't remember his name.

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Powers:

Head of the KGB then or now?
He was a wheel then, I could tell by the way the people acted when he was around.

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Powers:

Was It Shelepen?
Shelepen, I'm almost positive. That's the name that [] mentioned yesterday in the photograph, as I remember. This seemed to be a fairly short interrogation the next morning, and as well as I can remember, approximately as long as the one the night before, establishing who I was, where I was from, what I was doing, etc. The real interrogation started on the 3rd of May.

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Of course, in those preliminary interrogations there was - you were CIA, on a photographic mission, out of []

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Or out of []

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Powers: Out of [] I was CIA - I told them I didn't know what the equipment was , that I had instructions to turn on the switches when and where it was annotated on the map. That was established in the first two. They wanted my name, where I was born, citizenship -

25X1

[] Who your superior officers were - any of that?

Powers: I don't remember whether that came up then or not. Seems like in the first two it didn't - I don't think so.

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[] Did they tie you in specifically with the U-2 plane?

Powers: What?

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[] Did they tie you specifically in with the U-2 plane?

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[] That is, did they identify the type of plane you were flying? Get you to acknowledge that it was a U-2, or anything like that?

Powers: You are talking about these first two.

Interr: Yes.

Powers: I can't remember any plane being mentioned, in these first two, but it might have been.

25X1

[] How long did that second one last - on the 2nd of May?

Powers: I really don't know because I had forgotten about it until I saw where I had made a note, and the reason I made the note was because that that particular one was not included in the evidence as presented to the Court - those books -

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25X1

TOP SECRET

- those eight volumes that they had.

Interr: They had each one of these interrogations recorded in their volumes of evidence?

Powers: Yes, they were supposed to have been. I know that one was missing for sure, and maybe another one or two, but not very many. I mentioned this particular thing to my lawyer and he just shrugged his shoulders and said it was probably not important. But, from what I had been told all of these things were supposed to have been included.

Interr: That is, you would sign the transcripts of these interrogations in Russian and in English and those transcripts would go to make up the volumes of the evidence.

Powers: Yes, and it might have been included in the Russian volume, but in the English volume it definitely was left out.

Interr: Well, then, how did they proceed after that? Did Vasilliev and Rodochev do the entire interrogation?

Powers: You mean after the first two days?

Interr: Yes.

Powers: On the third there were these people Vasillief, Kuzmine,

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25X1

Rodochev, this Colonel of the Prosecutor's office, he said, I think that there was several other people but they didn't ask questions - just looked on. Kuzmine seemed to be the one who was in charge and he did most of it all the way through. Vasilliev had a few sessions by himself when Kuzmine wasn't there but I'd say not more than three or four. But Kuzmine would ask questions occasionally during the time - I mean that Vasilliev would ask questions occasionally during the time that Kuzmine was interrogating. There were periods of time that they brought in experts to question me, but these people - Kuzmine, Vasilliev and Rodochev were usually there. I think that they were always there. I am pretty sure they were there but they would let the other people ask the questions and they seemed to be the technical people.

Interr: What kind of experts were you exposed to?

Powers: Someone asking questions about the airplane definitely. If I am not mistaken they had some photographic men but I couldn't tell them anything because I told them I had never seen the cameras. I ^{don't} know whether it was one of these same groups or maybe another group that got into the electronics equipment but I told them the same thing -

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

that I didn't know what it was there for, what it did, or anything else - that I had never seen it.

Interr: Did they go over your suit, or personal equipment?

Powers: Yes, they went - but this was some of the ones that Vasilliav seemed to take over - my personal equipment and survival equipment. They brought out my - well, not my pack, but a box with my survival equipment in it and they asked me what this was, what it was for, on each piece.

Interr: Now, do you remember the names of any of these experts?

Powers: As well as I know they weren't introduced. Their names appeared on these papers - the reports that they turned in that was included in the evidence, but there was so many of them that I can't remember. I didn't come in contact with the names very often.

Interr: Gary, at any time, were you ever shown a book called the "The Trial of the U-2", which was published in Chicago and purports to be an official record of the trial?

Powers: No, I've never seen it. I heard from either my parents or wife here in the States that one had been published, or I read in one of the papers that it had been, but that's the only thing I heard about it.

Interr: Yes, there was a variety of those things. There was one

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25X1

in Spanish that was published in South America. During this interrogation process, Gary, did at any time after your capture, did you request to be placed in contact with the American Embassy?

Powers: Yes, I told them that I would like to see a representative of the American Embassy or an American lawyer and - not allowed.

Interr: How long was it before they let you write a letter?

Powers: I don't remember the exact day. If I am not mistaken on the 25th of May I received my first letter. I never did get it - I got to read it and give it back to them but it was from a high school friend of mine by the same name, Powers, and that might have been the reason they let me see it. It was a short letter, written in care of Mr. Khrushchev, was I think the address he put on it. It was some time after that that they mentioned that they would allow me to write home.

Interr: They placed no requirement on what you could say, did they?

Powers: Yes, I don't remember exactly what it was. I know that there were things that I couldn't say in the letter and one of them they brought back that I had to change after they had taken it away for a day or maybe two days to read it, I guess and check it, and not just change it - something

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

in it - I had to rewrite the whole thing to make it appear as if nothing had been marked out or taken out.

Interr: They just didn't like the way you had written it?

Powers: I don't remember what it was that I had said that they didn't like because I tried to write so that it would go through without any trouble.

Interr: Were there any other names besides this Kuzmine, Vagilliv, Rodochev, Finnagan in the interrogation process that you can pin down. Rodochev, I mean Rudenko and Shelepin were there at the outset?

Powers: Yes, I would - I went through these photographs and you also I think had a list of names with them but I didn't go through the names. I might be able to pick some out if I just went down the list of names - I'm not sure. As far as this recalling the names - I'll have to think about this some more. Maybe I can, but it doesn't seem that I can.

Interr: Well, let me dig those out after lunch and we'll flip through them.

Powers: One might be familiar - it might ring a bell -

Interr: All during this time you were in solitary confinement?

Powers: Yes, but they offered, a week or two after I was there, to put me with someone who spoke English. I told them

25X1



TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

I preferred to stay alone, because I figured it would be a plant, which I am sure it would have been. Later on I found out, when I was going through some of these laws before the trial, some of the laws that pertained to me, my rights and so forth - there was something there that said that I had to be kept in solitary confinement, so their offer was against the law, their own laws. They said it would be another prisoner and they could probably find another prisoner who spoke English. I was afraid that I might talk in my sleep, or something, and I didn't want anyone around.

Interr: Now, during this interrogation, were you always permitted to sit on this couch?

Powers: When it was in this room that was the place I always sat. In some of the other rooms there was usually a ~~little~~ desk with a little table in front of it and I sat in front of the little table facing the desk

Interr: What kind of chair?

Powers: One room I can remember had just a table and a stool fastened to the floor - couldn't be moved. The other, I think, was a chair with a back -

Interr: A straight backed chair?

Interr: The bulk, however, the bulk of the interrogation was

25X1



TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

conducted in the room where you sat on the couch?

Powers: Yes.

Interr: How would they arrange themselves while you were sitting on the couch? At a table?

Powers: The stenographer would sit at the desk - the interrogator would be there beside her at the desk. Someone would always be between myself and the window - usually in a chair and a lot of times Rodochev was on the couch beside me and the interpreter.

Interr: Any recording devices on the table?

Powers: None that I could see.

Interr: Just this stenographer. And they didn't get rough or -

Powers: No, they made no threats -

Interr: How about hostility? Would one of them be hostile and the other friendly or did they try to bat - whip you around mentally that way - one man would be the villain and the other the good guy?

Powers: No, I don't remember anything like that. Occasionally I made them a little angry somehow by not answering properly what they wanted me to answer or something but I could see that they would get angry but never said any harsh words or made any threats or made any motions to strike me or anything like that.

Interr: Now of all this interrogation, what did they want to know

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25X1

most out of you? What were they most eager to get from you?

Powers: That's really hard to remember. I know they really pounded a lot on the number of flights I had made. They asked a lot of questions about the aircraft. They asked a lot of questions about the way I was recruited and about the detachment.

Interr: Did they ask you about the detachment, as such? Did they define it as 1010 or anything like that, or did they just ask you what was your unit? How was that brought out?

Powers: and I told them the detachment
Lets see, I think they asked me about the unit/because I knew there were records in the aircraft with the detachment on it and also my identification card - I think it was on that also. As well as I can remember, in the first week or so, they didn't bring up the detachment - I mean mention it to me, as if they already knew it, but they said very little - they gave me very little idea that they already knew something. I could tell sometimes when maybe they would hear something or read it in the papers and they would never tell me that they did this - they would ask me about it first. One was, have you ever taken a lie detector test - I told them no.

25X1



TOP SECRET

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TOP SECRET

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Then they - I don't know whether they showed me an article or told me about one - I think the New York Times stated that when I was recruited that I did take one. That made me a little angry at the newspaper because I didn't want to give them any ideas there.

Interr: Did they resolve that question with you? Did you -

Powers: I just told them no and laughed it off - that's silly - we don't do such things - its illegal - its not admitted as evidence in the courts and all this sort of stuff, and I never did admit that I had ever had one. I don't know - I was thinking that if they thought I had already had one, they would give me one themselves and I didn't like this idea at all.

Interr: They didn't threaten you with a lie detector test, did they?

Powers: No, they told me during this time that they didn't do such things.

Interr: Now, when was it that they told you - set the date for the trial? I believe it was -

Powers: I don't remember exactly when it was -

Interr: A short time, or a few days before?

Powers: It wasn't a long period before -

Interr: I think we talked about that - they set it for your birthday and -

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

Powers: Well, I wrote a letter, either the day that I found out or a day after - somewhere along there - telling my parents and wife when it would be - so I suppose they still have those letters and I can find out very close to the exact date but I can't exactly remember -

Interr: Well, was it at that point that they brought in Grenyev and designated him as your lawyer?

Powers: Yes.

Interr: You were exposed to Grenyev after the trial was announced? Or the date of the trial was set?

Powers: Yes. It was right about the same time. I'm almost positive it was afterwards, but I don't know -

Interr: How did he counsel you, or did he?

Powers: I had very little counsel, I'll tell you. He just seemed to be going along for the ride. He made a few suggestions on what he thought would help - he made no bones about it that I would be sentenced - but he thought maybe he could get it lessened by playing on my modest origin - I mean my parents not being rich and so forth - he made some little hints and suggestions about what my final statement would be, but didn't come out flatly and dictate it, but he told me what I should put down and I more or less followed

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25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

his advice because I thought it couldn't do any harm.

Interr: That final statement you did make to the Court was dictated by Grenyev -

Powers: It wasn't dictated, but suggested. In fact, on the last day of the trial he suggested a change in it - something about repentance I didn't have in there - he asked me if I had it in there, and I said, "No", and he said, "Would you mind putting it in", and I said, "No", and added it.

Interr: Now, at various points during the trial there was this reference to "You were sorry you were involved - you were sorry about this whole thing -

Powers: Well, that was -

Interr: Was that dictated to you in any way?

Powers: No one came out flatly and said you should say this, but I was told it would help - well I think its in their laws also that sincere repentance or something like this is taken into consideration. There were many things said in that trial that I didn't necessarily mean when I said them, but I thought it might help.

Interr: That's the Oriental philosophy - you'll run into the same thing in the Far East but it doesn't have the same implications as it does in this country.

Powers: How's that?

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25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

Interr: For instance, in Japan, if you hit someone with your car even though he jumps in front of you, you jump out and you express sorrow for the matter that mitigates the whole thing. You are sorry because he is suffering and not because you are at fault, or anything like that.

Powers: That's definitely in their laws, according to the ones they quoted me - sincere repentance and all this sort of stuff -

Interr: In preparing you for your appearances in the docket, so to speak, were you allowed any notes to take up there with you - any written statements?

Powers: I think I would have been - I know I had some paper to take notes on and a pencil. I had a copy of the indictment in English, which I read through as it was read over the - or at least I think I did. As far as I know, I took no notes with me and made very few during the thing, but I believe it would have been allowed.

Interr: But, in your specific case you didn't?

Powers: No. Well, you see, when they told me I could go through this evidence and made notes that might help me, I started - I was sitting over in the corner at a little table and chair going through this and I made one or two notes -

Interr: This was when the Soviets were presenting their evidence -

Powers: Yes

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TOP SECRET

Interr: This was before you were put on the stand?

Powers: Yes, it was after the trial had been announced and I could review the evidence to get familiar with everything before the trial. I made a few notes and one of the things I remember noting down was the fact that one of these interrogations, or records of interrogations was missing. They told me, after I had gone through this and it was time to go back to the cell - they said I would have to leave the notes there - so I immediately tore them up.

Interr: Now this is before we go into the court room?

Powers: Yes.

Interr: I am talking now about the actual conduct during the trial - did you take any notes with you when you went into the actual trial, when the first judge called the trial to order, or however it was given -

2nd Interr: When you were up there behind the lights in the box -

Powers: No, I'm pretty sure I had no notes - I had some paper to take notes on, and I'm almost positive I had a copy of the indictment.

Interr: You were brought from your cell then up into this witness box -

Powers: No, I was brought from the cell to this building in a room downstairs. I had to come up to the 2nd floor - they brought

25X1

25X1

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25X1

me up in an elevator each time and from there onto the stage, or whatever it was, into the docket.

Interr: And then you sat in this during the whole procedure.

Powers: Yes.

Interr: But, you didn't, in this box-like structure, you didn't have any written material that you could refer to or anything like that?

Powers: No, I had this indictment - I'm pretty sure of that, but, as far as notes - no

Interr: And, then as they presented their evidence, you simply sat there - you couldn't make notes on the indictment or anything?

Powers: No, they gave me some paper and said I could make notes but I remember making very few notes.

Interr: Then, your answers, after you began to testify, your answers were direct from you, is that right?

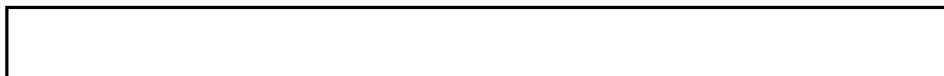
Powers: Yes, based on what I had said before - had told them before.

Interr: And you were following what you had told the interrogators previously?

Powers: Yes.

Interr: And, as far as you can recall, your answers followed the pattern of interrogation?

25X1



TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

Powers: Oh, yes, they asked only one question that I can remember that was not included in the interrogation;

Interr: What was that?

Powers: That was whether all the evidence/^{I had given}during the interrogation was the truth. My lawyer told me he was going to ask that if it wasn't asked by the prosecution, but it was asked by the prosecution, so he deleted it from his -

Interr: Now, at any time during the trial, when you were being questioned, did they pull any surprise situation on you? In other words, did they confront you with any new evidence?

Powers: No.

Interr: Everything followed -

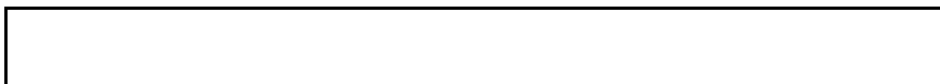
Powers: Everything followed something that had gone on before -

Interr: That had gone on with the interrogators?

Powers: I felt that - my feeling of the trial was that they knew exactly how long it was going to last - probably knew what the sentence was going to be before it was passed - they just seemed to know everything - they asked questions that they knew what I had answered before and expected me to answer the same answer to.

Interr: Were you given any warning just before the trial to keep your answers strictly to that which was worked over in the

25X1



25X1

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

interrogation room?

Powers: Well, more or less a warning that it would probably be very bad if I didn't. They didn't say that it would be death or anything like that, but that it would be worse.

Interr: Do you recall how that was put to you - by hint - by Vasilliev- by Kusmine, or both?

Powers: I think it was Grenyev, my lawyer.

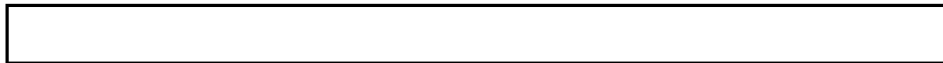
Interr: Your lawyer advised you, then, to stick to the pattern developed in the interrogation?

Powers: Yes.

Interr: At any time, during the actual trial, did you seek to insert anything that hadn't gone over before?

Powers: I tried to explain a little about the - well, this was all gone over before, though - it was just the way they had worded, and were insinuating - like these firestarters I had - I remember that - they called them incendiary devices - well, its actually what it is, but I got the impression that they were trying to give the impression that they were not to just start a little camp fire with but something to burn buildings and stuff like that, and I tried to explain that. Of course I had explained this before. And, the pistol, I tried to tell them that I only intended to use it for hunting, but they brought

25X1



TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

out that it was a weapon of assassination.

Interr: During the three days of the trial, where would you go at night? Would they take you back to Lubyanka?

Powers: Yes, same cell.

Interr: Would they come in at night during the hearings to tell you that you had done well?

Powers: No, I saw no one but my own lawyer. I don't know whether it was after the first night - there was one night that he didn't come - I think he came after the first night, and then after the trial was over he dropped in for about thirty minutes.

Interr: But you didn't see the interrogators on the way from your cell up to the trial room?

Powers: No, I don't think so.

Interr: But, in the court they presented evidence?

Powers: No, the interrogators didn't present any evidence.

Interr: They did not appear?

Powers: No.

Interr: Were they present?

Powers: I was told, I think it was after the trial was over, that they - Rodochev and Kuzmine told me that they saw me wave to my wife - that they were in the audience.

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

Now I dont know whether they were just there the first day or what. But, I assume that they were there during the whole thing.

Interr: Now, you think this Kuzmine's picture is probably somewhere in this crowd?

Powers: I certainly hope so.

Interr: Well, we'll get a glass on that when we get a little time -

Powers: Because - well, he said he was there - he saw me wave to my wife when I finally saw her - I think it was about two hours after this thing started when I was leaving for the first time for the first recess, but that's all he mentioned - just that once incident.

Interr: Then, in fact, the presentation of the State's case was totally in the hands of members of the court?

Powers: Well, Rudenko, the prosecutor, well - you see, he had been on the very minimum of three interrogations and he seemed to do it all there. As well as I can remember I did not see the interrogators, themselves, or the interpreter, while the trial was going on.

Interr: There was some publicity over the fact that the skin on your face, where it was peeling, or something like that - what was that?

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

TOP SECRET

Powers: That was - I had had a cold sometime in early August and they treated it with a sun lamp and I apparently got too close. They treat everything with a sun lamp, or something like a sun lamp -

Interr: Infra-red?

Powers: No, it isn't heat - its sun - I had to wear goggles -

Interr: Ultra-violet?

Powers: Ultra-violet, I suppose. Also, I had something that I thought was athlete's foot and they did that and burned my feet some too so that it peeled, but this was earlier.

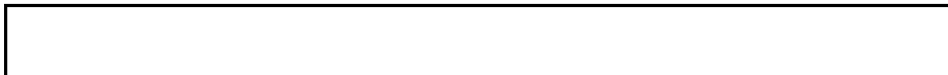
Interr: Gary, after you met Grenyev, your attorney, did the interrogation team of Kuzmine and Vasilliev ever talk to you again after that?

Powers: I can't really say for sure - I think I talked to them - but no questions - seems like Rodochev and Kuzmine came to the cell a couple of times - asked me how I was, if I needed any books to read and stuff like that, but no questions as far as I can remember.

Interr: So, when your attorney steps in, the interrogation has been concluded at that point -

Powers: It had been concluded before that point.

25X1



25X1

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Interr: About how long?

Powers: The 30th of April, I think they officially concluded it. I think after that there might have been one or maybe -

Interr: The 30th of April?

Powers: June, June, the 30th of June. I think that after that there was one or two little short sessions of some kind but nothing that seemed of any importance.

Interr: Then you really weren't occupied on any interrogation during July or August before the trial?

Powers: There's some things that happened in there, but I don't remember just what they were. There was one or two little short interrogations and there might have been some of these experts that came back for further questions, but I had a lot of free time, if you can call it that - during that time. I had longer walks during the day - I read a lot more in the cell, expecting any minute to be pulled out into the room where the interrogations took place, but it was -

Interr: You see, they started interrogating [redacted] about the 3rd of July - the 3rd or 4th of July, so friend Rodochev was pretty busy -

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Powers: Was he the chief -

25X1
Interr: He was the interpreter for one of them - I think it was [redacted] and Finnagan was the interpreter for the other, so it appears that they laid off Gary, here, after - not in anticipation of these two guys, but they were busy on these other two prisoners.

2nd Interr: If we can identify Kusmine we may find that Kusmine is one of the men who worked them the other way.

1st Interr: Yes, yes, we don't have Kusmine as a name, you know in connection with the others -

Powers: Barbara said something she tried to draw - not draw - what is it - identification kit or something of some of the people. Now, she saw Kusmine and Rodochev together -

Interr: Now, sometime in the future we will want to see if we can reconstruct it if we can't find a photograph -

Powers: She probably did this shortly after she got back, so hers would be, maybe, more accurate than mine would be since it has been so long, but maybe I could add to it or something -

Interr: Gary, did you give any thought to possibly disrupting the trial by challenging any of their statements or

25X1
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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25X1

anything like that?

Powers: Yes, I thought about it, but I couldn't see that it would do much good. It would just make a bigger mess than what it was going to be anyway.

Interr: And certainly your attorney -

Powers: No, he said that would not be very good at all.

Interr: He said that wouldn't be very good at all - what message did that convey to you?

Powers: It conveyed to me that it would be a good idea not to do it.

Interr: Why not?

Powers: That things would go much worse with me if, say I refused to answer their questions, or answered questions differently, or anything like this.

Interr: Well, of course at that time - were you still confronted with the possibility of the death sentence in this case?

Powers: Up until I got the sentence from the judges. Just before that - I think I had more or less decided in my own mind that it wouldn't be a death sentence and since he asked for 15 years I - since the prosecutor asked for 15 years I assumed it would be a little less than that - I figures about 12 years. But, up until that time I had no idea.

Interr: Gary, then for the record, you made no disclosures at the trial of any type that hadn't been previously talked over

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TOP SECRET

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with the interrogation team?

Powers: Not a single word - I'm sure I didn't -

Interr: Shall we break for lunch?

2nd Interr: Just let me skip around here just - it will take
just a few minutes? We can come back - we've got
plenty of time -

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Interr: While I am thinking about it, did you ever take a trip
to Berlin? Were you ever in Berlin - prior to your release
here a few days ago?

Powers: No, that was the only time.

Interr: I think we talked fellow, [redacted] just the other day - 25X1
the guy that you went on the boar hunt with -
You recall that boar hunt? [redacted] made the arrangements - 25X1

Powers: Yes I remember the boar hunt -

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Interr: [redacted] made the arrangements through somebody -

Powers: I think there was [redacted] myself, [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted] that's all that I can remember right now.
There was an interpreter that worked on the base from
the Legal office there - I don't remember his name, and
this man - I suppose its the same that you are referring
to because he seemed to be the one who set it up.

Interr: This man - I can't pronounce his name - but he would
know that you men were pilots?

[redacted] 25X1

Powers: I don't know - I have no idea - we didn't talk about it - in fact I talked to him very little -

Interr: Had you ever met him before that day?

Powers: No, and I don't think I ever saw him after that.

Interr: Never went to his house?

Powers: No.

Interr: Do you know whether any of the other 1010 pilots went to his house? Of course [redacted] was a friend of his.

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Powers: As far as I know, none of them went - I never heard of any of them being there.

Interr: Did you ever take a trip to Istanbul?

Powers: Istanbul one time - it was I think the time that Barbara and I were coming back to the States for me to get a physical examination and renew the contract. We got in there -

Interr: Came back -

Powers: Commercial air - spent one night at the Istanbul Hilton and left the next morning.

Interr: Yes, we have a record of that. Now, then your trips to Beirut were - lets go over that real quickly here -

Powers: There was one trip - I think it was the first trip from C-54, detachment C-54 - I don't remember who -

Interr: R & R flight?

[redacted]

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TOP SECRET

Powers: Yes.

Interr: With Barbara?

Powers: Yes, she was with me. She got ill while she was there stomach trouble. [redacted] was there - the detachment doctor, [redacted] and I think his wife - there weren't a great number of people on that particular flight -

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Interr: We'll not go into that - we've got a record of that flight.

Powers: Then there was a T-33 trip that [redacted] and myself went on. We went down - I don't remember exactly, but I think it was in the morning and came back in the afternoon.

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Interr: Is that when you ordered the ring?

Powers: Yes.

Interr: And who was it along, or picked them up later? Or, did you go back and get the rings?

Powers: I think it was a captain from the base there - who flew the C-47. [redacted] and I couldn't go back - we tried to go back in a T-33 again, but without - we didn't have VHF radio in the T-33 so they stopped us from going in there. So, we got this Captain - they made a run about once a week or so - something like that - and got him to go pick them up for us.

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Interr: We've got a record of that.
/No other time were you ever in Beirut?

[redacted]

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TOP SECRET

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[redacted]

TOP SECRET

Powers: No, not that I can recall.

Interr: Barbara went once after that but you didn't accompany her?

Powers: No.

Interr: Now let me see if I can reconstruct this for you - after you and - lets see, I think you got back from the States around November of '59 -

Powers: It was the latter part of November.

Interr: Yes. Then, in January, I think you went up into Germany to have your teeth worked on?

Powers: I broke a finger - a knuckle here either the last day or two of November or the 1st day or two of December, so I couldn't fly. I think in December I went there to have my teeth worked on and spent -

Interr: Early part of December -

Powers: Before Christmas -

Interr: Yes, that's right - You came back -

Powers: Yes, and Barbara and I went in the latter part of January, to pick up the car and also get another partial plate made.

Interr: Now, where were you over Christmas? You weren't doing any flying in that period? Were you in [] at that time?

Powers: Yes, I spent Christmas in [] In fact, I got home just before Christmas because I remember bringing some Christmas

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TOP SECRET

trees back for some of the people there. I guess I got
back on the 23rd or 24th of December.

Interr:

Lets break it off at this point.

Tape is going to be adjourned. This is tape No. 16 -
for a lunch period. The time is now 12:20.

[Redacted]

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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