Excerpts From The F.B.I. Affidavit In The Spying Case Against Robert Philip Hanssen


Following are edited excerpts from an F.B.I. affidavit in support of the criminal complaint, arrest warrant and search warrants filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division, in the spying case against Robert Philip Hanssen:

Oct. 4, 1985
A K.G.B. political officer in Washington, Viktor M. Dogtayev, received an envelope by mail, at his residence in Alexandria, Va. Inside was an envelope marked: "Do not open. Take this envelope unopened to Viktor I. Cherkeskin." Mr. Cherkeskin was the foreign counterintelligence chief at the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Inside the inner envelope was an unsigned typed letter from the person the K.G.B. came to call R.

Dear Mr. Cherkeskin:

Soon, I will send a box of documents to Mr. Dogtayev. They are from certain of the most sensitive and highly compartmented projects of the U.S. intelligence community. All are originated to aid in verifying their authenticity. Please recognize for our long-term interest that there are a limited number of persons with this array of clearances. As a collection they point to me. I trust that an officer of your experience will handle them appropriately. I believe they are sufficient to justify a $100,000 payment to me.

I must warn of certain risks to my security of which you may not be aware. Your service has recently suffered some setbacks. I warn that Mr. Yuri Yushin, Mr. Sergei Motorkin and Mr. Valery Martinov have been recruited by our "special services."

It proceeded to describe in detail a particular highly sensitive and classified information collection technique. In addition, "to further support my bona fides," he provided specific clues that contained information regarding recent Soviet defectors.

Details regarding payment and future contact will be sent to you personally... My identity and actual position in the community must be left unmarked to ensure my security. I am open to common suggestions but want no specialized tradecraft. I will add 6 (you subtract 6) from stated months, days and hours in both directions of our future communications.

Oct. 24, 1985
Mr. Dogtayev received by mail at his residence a typed message from R to an envelope bearing a handwritten address and postmarked New York, N.Y.

Drop Location

Please leave your package for me under the corner (nearest the street) of the wooden footbridge located just west of the entrance to Notoway Park. (ADC Northern Virginia Street Map, #14, BS.)

Package Preparation

Use a green or brown plastic trash bag and trash to cover a waterproof package.

Signal Location

Signal site will be the pictorial "pedestrian-crossing" signpost just west of the main Notoway Park entrance on Old Courthouse Road. (The sign is the one near the bridge just mentioned.)

Signals

My signal to you: One vertical mark of white adhesive tape meaning I am ready to receive your package.

Your signal to me: One horizontal mark of white adhesive tape meaning drop filled.

June 30, 1986
Mr. Dogtayev received a typed letter from R at his residence that read in part:

I apologize for the delay since our break in communications. I wanted to determine if there...
was any cause for concern over security. I have only seen one item which has given me pause. When the FBI was first given access to Victor Petrovich Gundarev, they asked...if Gundarev knew Viktor Chernhaks. I thought this unusual. I had seen no report indicating that Viktor Chernhaks was handling an important agent, and heretofore he was looked at with the usual lathyry sm Lawrence Gleb. The question came to mind, are they somehow able to moni- tor funds, i.e., to know that Viktor Chernhaks received a large amount of money for an agent? I am unaware of any such ability, but I might not know that type of source reporting.

B then described a United States Intelligence Community technical surveillance technique. He concluded:

If you wish to continue our discussions, please have someone run an advertisement in the Washington Times during the week of 1/12/87 or 1/19/87, for sale, "Dodge Diplomat, 1971, needs engine work, $1,000." Give me a phone number and time of day to advertise where I can call. I will call and leave a phone number where a recorded message can be left for me in one hour. I will say: "Hello, my name is Ramon. I am calling about the car you offered for sale in the Times." You will respond: "It's sorry, but the man with the car is not here. I am the person you need." The number will be in my cell phone, and I will call from the same area code. I will not request these other digits or the area code.

B signed the letter Ramon.

2-3-87 advertisement appeared in the Washington Times from July 14 to 18, 1986.

Dodge "71" Diplomat, needs engine work, $1,000. Phone... (Call next Mon., Wed., Fri. 1 p.m.)

The number belonged to a public telephone located in the vicinity of the Old Kent Mill Shopping Center in Fairfax County, Va. On Monday, July 21, 1986, B called that number and gave a Manchester number. The call was taken by skylane Kerliora (e.g., person), a KGB officer assigned to the Soviet Embassy.

Aug. 18, 1986
B telephoned and spoke with Mr. Fefelson: The latter portion of the conversation was recorded as follows:

B: Tomorrow morning?

MR. FEFELOV Uh, yeah, and the car is still available for you and as we have agreed last time, I prepared all the papers and I left them on the same table. You didn't find them because I put them in another corner of the table.

B: I see.

MR. FEFELOV You shouldn't worry, everything is O.K. The papers are with me now.

B: Good.

MR. FEFELOV I believe under these circum- stances, it's not necessary to make any changes concerning the place and the time. Our company is reliable, and we are ready to give you a substantial discount which will be enclosed in the papers. Now, about the date of our meeting, I suggest that our meeting will be, will take place without delay on Feb. 13, one March, 1 p.m. O.K. Monday February 13th.

B: [illegible]...six...six...[illegible]...that should be fine.

MR. FEFELOV O.K. We will confirm you, that the papers are waiting for you with the same horizontal tape in the same place as we did it at the first time.

B: Very good.

MR. FEFELOV You see. After you receive the papers, you will send the letter confirming it and signing it, as usual. O.K.

B: Excellent.

MR. FEFELOV I hope you remember the address. Is... if everything is O.K.?

B: I believe it should be fine and thank you very much.

MR. FEFELOV B-b-b. Not at all. Not at all. Nice job. for both of us. Uh, have a nice evening, sir.

B: Do siadnyia.

MR. FEFELOV Bye-bye.

The KGB then loaded the Park dead drop site with $10,000 in cash, as well as proposals for two additional dead drop sites to be used by B and the KGB; a new accommodation address code named Nandy; and emergency communications for B to personally contact KGB personnel in Vienna, Austria. The Nandy address was the residence of KGB political officer Boris M. Malakhov in Alexandria, who was to become Mr. Legey's replacement as the Soviet Embassy press secretary. It was instructed to misspell Mr. Malakhov's name as "Malroco." It subsequently cleared the dead drop.

Sept. 11, 1987
Mr. Malakhov received an envelope at his residence addressed to B.N. Malakev at the Nandy address, and a handwritten return address of "3. Garcia, 125 Main St., Alexandria, Va.," postmarked Sept. 8, 1987. Inside was the following typed letter:

Dear Friend:

No, I have decided. It must be on my original terms or not at all. I will not meet abroad or here. I will not maintain lists of sites or modified equipment. I will help you when I can, and in time we will develop methods of efficient communication.

Unless a [sic] see an abort signal on our post from you by 5/16, I will mail my contact a valuable package timed to arrive on 5/18. I will await your signal and package to be in place before 1 p.m. on 5/22 or arbitrarily the following three weeks, same day and time.

If my strings are unacceptable then no signals and withdraw my contact. Excellent work by him has ensured this channel is secure for now. My regards to him and to the professional way you have handled this matter.

Sincerely,

Ramon

According to the established "6" coefficient, the dates referred to in this letter were actually Sept. 10, 12 and 16.

Sept. 26, 1987
The KGB recovered from the Park dead drop site a package from B. The package contained a handwritten letter reading as follows:

My Friends:

Thank you for the $4,000.

I am not a young man, and the commitments on my time prevent using distant drops such as you suggest. I know in this I am moving you out of your set modes of doing business, but my experience tells me the [sic] we can be actually more secure in easier modes.

Nov. 19, 1987
The KGB received a handwritten letter from B. The envelope bore a return address of "G. [illegible]...no." in "Houston" and was postmarked on Nov. 17, 1987. The letter read as follows:

Unable to locate AN based on your description at night.

Recognize that I am dressed in business suit and cannot snoop around in inch-deep mud.

I suggest we use once again original site.

I will place my urgent material there at next AN.

Replace it with your package. I will select some few sites good for me and pass them to you. Please give new constant conditions of reconact as address to write. Will not put substantive material through it. Only instructions as usual format.

Ramon

July 15, 1988
The KGB received a letter from B at an accommodation address in the Eastern District of Virginia. The envelope bore a return address
“Chicago” and was postmarked “WBU 200” on July 13, 1988. The typed letter read as follows:
I found the site empty. Possibly I had the time wrong. I work from memory. My recollection was for you to fill before 1 a.m. I believe Vilho Dregner was in the church driveway off Bt. 123, but I did not know how he would react to an approach...

My security concerns may seem excessive. I believe experience has shown them to be necessary. I am much safer if you know little about me. Neither of us are children about these things. Over time, I can cut your losses rather than become one.

Ramson
Ps. Your ‘thank you’ was deeply appreciated.

May 7, 1990
B and the K.G.B. carried out an exchange operation at a dead drop site in Virginia. The package from B to the K.G.B. contained his 15th diskette and approximately 252 pages of material. The package from the K.G.B. to B contained $5,000 cash and a K.G.B. diskette. It read, in part:
Dear Friend:

We attach some information requests which we ask your kind assistance for. We are very cautious about using your info and materials so that none of our actions in no way cause[s] [sic] harm to your security. With this on our mind we are asking that sensitive materials and information (especially hot and demanding some actions) be accompanied by some sort of your comments or some guidance on how we may or may not use it with regard to your security.

We wish you good luck and enclose $5,000. Your friends.

April 15, 1991
In response to a call-out signal from B, he and the K.G.B. carried out an exchange operation at a dead drop site code named Durius in Canterbury Park in Springfield, Va. The package from B to the K.G.B. contained his 22nd diskette, in which he confirmed receipt of cash. It also provided classified FBI material about a specific recruitment operation about which the K.G.B. had asked. The package from the K.G.B. to B contained $10,000 and a K.G.B. diskette which read, in part:
Dear Friend:

You’ve managed to slow down the speed of your running life to send us a message. And we appreciate it...

Enclosed in our today’s package please find $10,000.

July 15, 1991
After a call-out signal from B, he and the K.G.B. carried out an exchange operation at the Ellis dead drop site at Foxstone Park near Vienna, Va. The package from B to the K.G.B. contained his 23rd diskette and approximately 284 pages of material. The diskette read, in part: “I returned, grabbed the first thing I could lay my hands on, and I was in a hurry so that you would not worry, because June has passed, they held me there longer.” He also noted that he had at least five years until retirement, and remarked, “Maybe I will hang in there for that long.”

The package from the K.G.B. to B contained $12,000 cash and a K.G.B. diskette reading, in part:
Dear friend:

Acknowledging the disk and materials received through “Dorius” we also acknowledge again your superb sense of humor and your sharp-as-a-razor mind. We highly appreciate both. Sincerely,
Your friends.
Enclosed in the package please find $12,000.

Oct. 6, 1999
I received the following letter from the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service:
Dear friend, welcome:

It’s good to know you are here. Acknowledging your letter to VK, we express our sincere joys on the occasion of resumption of contact with you. We firmly guarantee you for a necessary financial help. Note, please, that since our last contact a sum set aside for you has risen and presents now about 880,000 dollars.

This time you will find in a package 50,000 dollars.

Now it is up to you to give a secure explanation of it.

March 14, 2000
I wrote a letter to the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, reading, in part:
I have come about as close as I ever want to come to sacrificing myself to help you, and I get silence.
I hate silence...

Conclusion: One might propose that I am either insanely brave or quite insane. I’d answer neither. I’d say, insanely loyal.

My security concerns have proven reality-based. I’d say, pin your hopes on “insanely loyal” and go for it. Only I can lose.

I decided on this course when I was 34 years old. I’d read Philip’s book. Now that is insane, eh? My only hesitations were my security concerns under uncertainty. I hate uncertainty. So far I have judged the edge correctly. Give me credit for that.

Set the signal at my site any Tuesday evening. I will read your answer. Please, at least say goodbye. It’s been a long time my dear friends, a long and lonely time. Ramon Garcia

July 31, 2000
I received the following letter from the K.G.B./Russian Foreign Intelligence Service:
Dear Ramone:

We thank you for information, which is of a great interest for us and highly evaluated in our service.

We hope that during future exchanges we shall receive your materials, which will deal with a [sic] work of S.C., the E.R.I. and C.I.A. in the first place, against our representatives and officers. We do mean its human, electronic and technical penetrations in our residences here and in other countries. We are very interested in getting of the objective information on the work of a special group which searches “mole” in C.I.A. and E.R.I. We need this information especially to take necessary additional steps to ensure your personal security...

Nov. 17, 2000
B wrote a letter to the K.G.B./Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, reading, in part:
Dear Friends:

Bear with me... Recently changes in U.S. law now attach the death penalty to my help to you as you know, so I do take some risk. On the other hand, I know far better than most what minefields are laid and the risks...

No one answered my signal at Fochall. Perhaps you occasionally give up on me. Giving up on me is a mistake. I have proven ineradicably loyal and willing to take grave risks which even could cause my death, only remaining quiet in times of extreme uncertainty.

So far my ship has successfully navigated the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune. I ask you to help me survive.

Ramon
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ST. PAUL, EPHESIANS 4:32

"Be kind to one another, and merciful, generously forgiving one another, as also God in Christ has generously forgiven you."

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