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FOR Central Intelligence Agency

PROGRAM Edward P. Morgan

STATION WMAL Radio and  
ABC Network

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CITY Washington, D. C.

BILL DOWNS (Substituting for vacationing Edward P. Morgan):

"Well the Central Intelligence Agency issued a rare communique today. Chief John McCone stated flatly that accused assassin Lee Oswald was never directly or indirectly linked with the intelligence operation; in Dallas, Judge Joe Brown announced he will rule tomorrow whether Jack Ruby must stand trial in the city where he killed Oswald, or whether he's entitled to be tried elsewhere."

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MR. DOWNS' COMMENT: "Want to be the life of the party -- impress your friends over after-dinner coffee, become the center of attention in subway or elevator, or on the bus going home from work? Well, the trick is to look toward the heavens, shake your head, and say something mysterious about the CIA. Here in Washington, it's the longest running portable cocktail party gambit operating among the free-loaders looking for gossip in this security-conscious city.

"Any mention of the super secret Central Intelligence Agency will supercede even sex as topic A in any buffet or bar in town. For weeks, after-dark Washington has been buzzing with speculation that accused assassin Lee Oswald had been an undercover man for the CIA or the FBI, before he was gunned down in the Dallas jailhouse. The dead man's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, told the Warren Investigating committee she believed that this was the truth. Her boy Lee, she said, had been deliberately set up as the patsy to take the blame for the November 22nd assassination.

"Chief Justice Warren yesterday implied that Mrs. Oswald was on the wrong track, but earlier he served to deepen the mystery when Warren told reporters that some of the assassination testimony might not be made public within our lifetime.

"Then today CIA Director John McCone took an unusual step, to silence the speculation by making a statement, an outright denial that Lee Oswald was ever directly or indirectly linked with the