

THE STRANGE DEATH OF JOHN F. KENNEDY (cont.)

If the U. S. Embassy in Moscow considered Oswald as a U. S. citizen rather than a definite defector, they could easily have asked the Soviet Foreign Office as to his whereabouts, since the Embassy does keep track of U. S. citizens while they are in the Soviet Union.

Under date of March 28, 1960 the Department of State in Washington, D. C. sent a dispatch to the U. S. Embassy in Moscow as follows:

"An appropriate notice has been placed in the look-out card section of the Passport Office in the event that Mr. Oswald should apply for documentation at a post outside the Soviet Union."

After the assassination of President Kennedy, an investigation of the "look-out card" and what happened to it brought this reply from the State Dept. to the Warren Commission: "Miss Bernice Waterman prepared a 'refusal' sheet and an Operations Memorandum which show that she authorized the preparation of a lookout card; however, investigations, to date, fail to reveal any other indication or evidence that a lookout card was ever prepared, modified, or removed. -- it appears that someone in the Files or Clearance Section missed the 'Refusal' prepared on March 25, 1960, and failed to follow standard operating procedures to prepare a lookout card or that the 'Refusal,' after it left the Foreign Operations Division, was misplaced or misguided in transit--"

Another explanation made by the State Department through Abraham Chayes, Legal Adviser, stated: "A 'lookout card' was probably prepared on Oswald on the ground that he might have expatriated himself, but this cannot be determined with certainty and no such card is now in the 'lookout file'. A memorandum dated Mar. 28, 1960 from the Department to the Embassy in Moscow states that a card was prepared, and the customary forms dated Mar. 25, 1960 were completed directing the preparation of a card. The usual notation on such forms indicating filing of a 'lookout card' was not made, however, nor was a notation placed on the slip that the card was withdrawn, also a usual practice."

Immediately after Oswald's arrest for the Kennedy assassination, Abba Schwartz, head of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, reportedly removed Oswald's file, and it has never been returned, a reliable source states.

Oswald eventually turned up in Minsk, Russia, where he allegedly worked in the experimental section of a radio factory, doing assembly work.

During the month of March 1961 Oswald met a Russian girl named Marina Nikolaevna Prusakova. By April 20, 1961 they had applied for permission to marry. According to statements given the Warren Commission by Marina, she was dating other men during the month of March 1961; and Oswald was a patient in Clinical Hospital #4 at Minsk. He was admitted at 10 A. M. on March 30, 1961, had a nasal operation and an ear infection taken care of, and was discharged from the hospital April 11, 1961. This would have allowed but a very short time for a courtship between the niece of an important Soviet official and a non-Soviet citizen.

They were married on April 30, 1961. Marina, whose parents were deceased, had been living for the previous four years with her mother's brother, Lt. Col. Ilya Vasilevich Prusakov of the K. G. B. (Soviet Intelligence) who reportedly was in charge of security for the Soviet lumber industries in the area. She lived with her aunt and uncle, who were childless, in Apartment 20 at 39 Kalinin St., Minsk. After her marriage, she and Oswald lived at Apartment 4 at 20 Kalinin St., Minsk. (In some documents their address is listed as House 4, Apt. 24, Kalinin St., Minsk.)

By some coincidence Oswald had already been a neighbor of Col. Prusakov before he met Marina. On Page 605 of Vol. XVIII of the Warren Commission Reports, Marina describes his apartment (in which they lived after their marriage) as follows: "He had a small darling one room apartment with a balcony, a bathroom, gas, kitchen, and a separate entrance, quite enough for two, especially if they were young."

Marina continued to work as an assistant in the pharmacy of the Clinical Hospital at Minsk, according to Soviet records supplied to the Warren Commission. According to Oswald's diary, he was very popular with Marina's uncle, Col. Prusakov, who used to give him vodka to drink free. Oswald referred to Col. Prusakov as "my father-in-law."

According to the State Department report to the Warren Commission, Exhibit #950, the Moscow Embassy had no knowledge of the address, activities or any other information about Oswald in the U. S. S. R. from the time he left the Hotel Metropole in Moscow in November, 1959, until they received a letter from him postmarked Minsk, U. S. S. R., dated February 1961. In this letter Oswald stated