

parade route six weeks later has given rise to much speculation; but it may have been an accident of fate. The public did not know that the presidential parade would pass the corner of Elm and Houston until November 16, 1963. An exact map of the route was published on November 21, the day before the visit.

R. S. Truly, superintendent of the book depository firm, later said of Oswald:

"He was a pretty quiet individual. His work was fine and I had no reason to believe . . . no idea the man had ever been in Russia."

There have been persistent reports that the FBI knew all about Lee Harvey Oswald's background, knew where his wife resided in Irving, and knew where he worked in Dallas. In this regard, the only thing which the public knows as a certainty is that the Dallas police did not know of communist Oswald's employment in a building on the presidential parade route — or even of his presence in Dallas. According to reports, the police did have, however, a list of persons branded as "extreme rightists," who were to be kept under surveillance during the President's visit.

After Oswald's arrest, police and sheriff's deputies found among his effects five or six metal files containing notes and correspondence. They also found \$150.00, although Oswald earned only \$1.25 an hour at the book depository. The Oswald files were all given to the FBI, and the public does not know what they contained. Police surmise, however, that they contained a wealth of information about the man's communist activities — and possibly about his contacts, and the source of his money.

Assistant District Attorney William F. Alexander has revealed that some of the correspondence found in Oswald's effects consisted of letters from leaders of the communist party of the United States, thanking Oswald for his activities. Other letters were from the Fair Play For Cuba Committee, thanking Oswald for past services, giving him suggestions about organizing chapters of that organization.

During the 48-hour period between Oswald's arrest on November 22 and his murder on November 24, he not only admitted, but arrogantly boasted to police, that he was a "marxist."

The Haters

Most of the information about Oswald's communist activities (summarized above) was publicized within a few hours after his arrest; but this did not seem to matter to liberals and self-styled "moderates" (in Dallas and elsewhere), who, for many days, poured out an incredible volume of hate, not against communists, but against constitutional conservatives — calling them "right-wing extremists," "bigots," "right-wing fanatics."

Immediately after the President's assassination, the Voice of America (U.S. Government overseas broadcasting agency) notified the world that the President had been killed in Dallas, "center of the extreme right-wing movement." This official broadcast of the U.S. Government was taken overseas, of course, to mean that American anti-communist conservatives are anarchists and assassins, that Dallas is a hotbed of such people, and that the U.S. Government presumed them guilty of murdering the President.⁽⁸⁾

As soon as Oswald was arrested and identified, VOA deleted, from its overseas broadcast, reference to right-wing extremists in Dallas, but was careful *not* to mention that the arrested assassin was an admitted communist. It was approximately 12 hours after Oswald's arrest before VOA told the world that the man was a "marxist."⁽⁸⁾

When asked to explain, Mr. Henry Loomis, Director of Voice of America, defended the original branding of Dallas as a "center of the extreme right-wing movement" by saying:

"It was a fact. Tass [Soviet news agency] knew this beforehand . . . Things were running in circles."⁽⁸⁾