

The Herald of Freedom



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THE STRANGE DEATH OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

For many years there has been an awareness of the need for a thorough investigation and housecleaning regarding security risks in the Department of State. One of the key individuals responsible for permitting Lee Harvey Oswald to return to the United States from the U. S. S. R. was known to be a security risk and had been reported as such by the late Scott McLeod five years earlier, although the fact that he was a security risk had been known for sixteen years.

On October 31, 1959, Lee Harvey Oswald appeared at the U. S. Embassy in Moscow, at which time he turned over his U. S. passport, and submitted the following statement:

"I Lee Harvey Oswald do hereby request that my present citizenship in the United States of America, be revoked.

"I have entered the Soviet Union for the express purpose of applying for citizenship in the Soviet Union, through the means of naturalization.

"My request for citizenship is now pending before the Supreme Soviet of the U. S. S. R.

"I take these steps for political reasons. My request for the revoking of my American citizenship is made only after the longest and most serious considerations.

"I affirm that my allegiance is to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(signed) Lee H. Oswald"

In a report to the Department of State made on November 2, 1959 from the U. S. Embassy in Moscow by Richard Snyder and approved by Edward L. Freers, Charge d'Affairs, these facts were made known. The report and copies were sent to the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, Office of State Department Security, Central Intelligence Agency and other interested government departments. It showed that Oswald's manner was "aggressive, arrogant and uncooperative," and that he stated he had been a radar operator in the U. S. Marines and had already told Soviet officials that he intended to give them all the information he possessed. This would have included some very confiden-

tial data learned in the service. The report stated Oswald is "presently residing in non-tourist status at the Metropole Hotel in Moscow."

In a report written on April 7, 1964 for the Warren Commission, John A. McVicar, now Principal Officer in the U. S. Consulate in Bolivia, and formerly assigned as Secretary-Counselor at the U. S. Embassy in Moscow, pointed out: "Russian visas are given to tourists at \$30.00 per day for individual tours or the applicant must join a group. A regular visa is issued only after checking with Moscow and usually takes several months." (Oswald had obtained a visa at Helsinki immediately.) Mr. McVicar also stated that Helsinki was a port of entry of the type the Russians themselves would have chosen for Oswald. Oswald entered the Soviet Union at Vyborg on October 16, 1959, using U. S. passport #1733242 and had obtained a Soviet Visa #4173339 within less than forty-eight hours. In Moscow Oswald lived in the Hotel Berlin and the Hotel Metropole.

On October 21, 1959, Oswald was admitted to the Botkin Hospital in Moscow for an alleged attempted suicide. He had a small superficial type cut on his left forearm, which required four stitches. He, nevertheless, remained in the hospital until October 28, 1959, and during a portion of this time was in the psychiatric division of the hospital.

It is a well established fact in intelligence circles that the Soviets make a practice of having a psychiatric study and interrogation made of defectors and candidates for intelligence training to help eliminate the possibility of their being double agents. Oswald's whereabouts became a mystery shortly after his hospital sojourn as shown in a dispatch from R. E. Snyder, U. S. Embassy, Moscow, to the State Department, Washington, D. C., dated March 28, 1960, which reads: "The Embassy has had no contact with Oswald since his departure from the Metropole Hotel in Moscow in November 1959 and has no clue as to his present whereabouts." 9-2365

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