

Oswald Termed 'Very Poor Shot'

NEW YORK (UPI)—Formerly classified transcripts of closed Warren Commission sessions disclosed Sunday that Lee Harvey Oswald was such "an extremely poor shot" during his defection to Russia in 1959 that hunting companions had to give him game.

The commission received this information from Yuri Ivanovich Nosenko, a Russian secret police agent who defected to the United States three months after the assassination, according to an article by David Wise in the current issue of Saturday Evening Post.

Transcripts of 11 closed commission sessions were declassified for Wise's inspection in line with the National Archives policy of continuing declassification.

Wise said the titles of some documents still classified indicate that Oswald, named sole assassin of President John F. Kennedy by the commission, may have given the Russians secret information on America's U-2 reconnaissance planes. He probably had a chance to observe unique takeoff and landing procedures of the plane at the U. S. Naval Air Base in Atsugi, Japan, when he was a Marine Corps radar operator in 1957-58, the article said.

The declassified transcripts also disclosed that Chief Justice Earl Warren, head of the commission, and other members considered evidence concerning the bullets that hit the President as "totally unconvincing." They showed that the commission tried and failed to inspect Kennedy autopsy photographs, which were in the possession of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, in an effort to clarify "confusing" evidence about what bullets struck Kennedy and Gov. John Connally of Texas.

The quote concerning Oswald's shooting ability came from a commission internal staff memo dealing with disclosures made by Nosenko, apparently to the FBI. Wise said Nosenko either participated in a Soviet secret police investigation of Oswald at the time of his defection or after the assassination, or alleged that he did. Nosenko said:

"Oswald was an extremely poor shot and it was necessary for persons who accompanied him on hunts to provide him with game."

Whatever else Nosenko said remains classified, but Wise noted the Warren Report says Oswald told the American Embassy in Moscow that he "had informed a Soviet official that he would give the Soviets any information concerning the Marine corps and radar operation which he possessed." A classified Central Intelligence Agency document in the commission file is titled "Lee Harvey Oswald's Access to Classified Information about the U-2".

Another memorandum still classified as secret indicates by its title that the CIA knew of Oswald's visit to the Russian embassy in Mexico City in Sept. 28, 1963, two months before the assassination and had alerted the FBI and other agencies on Oct. 10. The CIA in Mexico City said Oswald saw Valeriy Vladimirovich Kostikov, a Soviet secret police agent who poses as an embassy official.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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