



DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

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DATE: 5-7, July 11, 1951

SUBJECT: CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORTS: Leo Harry Oswald

TO: The Embassy, Moscow

Further study has been given to the case of Mr. Oswald in the light of the Embassy's Dispatch No. 326 of May 26, 1951.

Mr. Oswald's mother has been informed to the effect that she can now not yet visit the Embassy and that she has informed the Embassy that she has applied a Russian name.

The Department concurs with the Embassy in its proposed reply to Mr. Oswald, as indicated in the second paragraph of Enclosure No. 2.

It is noted that while Mr. Oswald is in possession of a Soviet internal passport he apparently is designated therein as "without citizenship." It is not entirely clear that this designation is intended to infer, however, that he is without Soviet citizenship or without any citizenship. In any event in the absence of evidence showing that Mr. Oswald has definitely lost United States citizenship he apparently remains that national status. Whether or is entitled to the protection of the United States pending any further developments concerning his present status is a matter which will be left to the Embassy's discretion in the event an emergency situation should arise. In a situation of this kind, not of an emergency nature, the facts should be admitted to the Department.

It is noted that the Embassy intends to send the Department's prior advice regarding Mr. Oswald's designation as a United States citizen upon any application he may submit.

The Embassy's careful attention to the involved case of Mr. Oswald is appreciated. It is noted that there is no doubt that the person who has been in communication with the Embassy is the person who was issued a passport in the name of Leo Harry Oswald.

NOTE

REF: OSWALD, Leo Harry

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Handwritten notes:
2 copies
to W-7
to E.F.S.V.
2/17/51

FILED BY: [Signature] DATE: 7/15/51 GWM

APPROVED BY: [Signature] PPT: John T. White

PT/LS CHS

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