

CONFIDENTIAL
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : FTT

DATE: July 27, 1961

FROM : Emery J. Adams, For the Director, Office of Security

SUBJECT: OCHALD, Lee Harvey

Ref

There are transmitted for your consideration the attached documents and/or reports relating to the subject. Should additional data be required, the basic document, when not attached, or the SY file, can be made available upon request.

The information transmitted herewith is for your confidential use only and not for dissemination outside the Department.

Please handle the attached material as indicated:

 A. RETURN TO SY.

 B. RETAIN OR DESTROY. REPORT

Attached report is a summation of Subject's background and case since he renounced U. S. citizenship and sought Soviet citizenship in the fall of 1959. As his citizenship status does not appear to be resolved, copies of the report are furnished to both FTT and VO.

Attachments

FBI report dtd. 7/3/61 at Dallas.

CC: VO - Report

Enclosure 0-13

- 1.) SOY
- 2.) SCS
- 3.) SCA

SY FILE

SCA:SY:IRB:rich for
In reply please refer to SY/IRB

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PASSPORT OFFICE

AUG 1 - 1961

LEGAL DIVISION

Commission Exhibit No. 980

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FORM 62-10 DEPARTMENT OF STATE REFERENCE SLIP		DATE 11-22-61
NAME OF OFFICE Mr. Kupiec	ROOM NO. AND BLDG.	INITIALS JK
APPROVAL	NOTE AND FORWARD	
AS REQUESTED	NOTE AND RETURN	
COPY	PER CONVERSATION	
FOR YOUR INFORMATION	PREPARE REPLY	
INITIAL FOR CLEARANCE	SEE ME	
NECESSARY ACTION	SIGNATURE	
REMARKS OR ADDITIONAL ROUTING		
<p>Pls attach to case - which is charged to you.</p> <p>Return to WED if you think necessary - after you have completed action.</p> <p>HCA - 6-12-61</p> <p>J Rec'd WED 11/24/61</p>		
FROM NAME AND ORGANIZATION D.H. - A. Galloway		ROOM NO. AND BLDG.
SIGNATURE		PHONE NO.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

City: New Orleans, Louisiana (RM)

Report of: JOHN W. PAIR
Date: 7/3/51

Office: DALLAS

Field Office File No.: Dallas 100-10231

Source File No.: 105-82665

Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - R

The subject, who attempted to defect to Russia in October, 1950, and who was a member of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, was given an undesirable discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve 8/17/50. Subject born 10/28/29, New Orleans, Louisiana. His father, EDWARD LEE OSWALD, died before subject's birth. Subject moved with his mother to Fort Worth, Texas, from New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1945. As a high school student at Fort Worth, subject enlisted at age 17 in the U. S. Marine Corps 10/24/46. He received an honorable discharge 9/11/50 from the U. S. Marine Corps and reenlisted as a Private in the U.S. Marine Reserve 667. Following his discharge in September, 1950, subject visited his mother at Fort Worth for a few days and left for New Orleans with expressed intention of resuming employment in export-import work. Subject's mother subsequently received letter from New Orleans from subject advising he had booked passage as a ship to Europe. Subject later renounced U. S. citizenship and sought to become a citizen of Russia. Subject reported to be residing at Nizhn, Russia, and is said to have recently expressed a desire for return of U. S. passport as he desired to return to U.S. under certain conditions.

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DETAILS:

Investigation was predicated on information received by communication of January 11, 1951, from District Intelligence Office, 8th Naval District, New Orleans, Louisiana, advising that

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LEE HARVEY OSWALD, who attempted to defect to Russia in October, 1963, and who was a member of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, had been given an undesirable discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve on August 17, 1960.

I. BACKGROUND

A. Name and Aliases

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, also known as Lee Oswald.

B. Residence

On April 24, 1960, Mrs. MARGUERITE OSWALD, subject's mother, currently residing at 1111 Esplanade Avenue, Vaco, Texas, where she was employed at Methodist Orphans Home, volunteered the following information:

She stated that up until 1945 she and her sons had lived at New Orleans, Louisiana. In 1945 they moved to Fort Worth, Texas, where the subject attended high school until he enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps at the age of 17 in October, 1945.

On June 23, 1961, Mrs. JAMES E. TAYLOR, 4936 Collingwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas, stated the subject and his mother resided in a partly furnished upstairs apartment at 4936 Collingwood Street, from July 1, 1958, to May 1, 1957, except that subject was there during the Fall of 1955, enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps at the age of 17. She advised that subject's brother, EUGENE OSWALD, also resided at 4936 Collingwood until the time of his marriage.

On April 19, 1961, Mrs. OSWALD voluntarily furnished the information that she was currently residing at 1313 Esplanade Street, Fort Worth, Texas. She explained that she had returned to Fort Worth about April 1, 1961, from Ford, Texas, where she had operated a dress shop which she found necessary to close on account of financial difficulties. Mrs. OSWALD related that during January, 1961, she had made a trip to Washington, D. C., for the purpose of contacting the office of the U. S. Secretary of State in an effort to obtain more information concerning subject. She stated that she had furnished all information available in her possession concerning the subject and that she had in turn sought information to ascertain his current address. She advised that she had recently been informed by the State Department that subject was located at Hanoi, Russia. She also advised that it is her understanding that subject desires to return to the United States.

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C. Employment

Mrs. OSTALD advised on April 23, 1960, that subject had been engaged in the export-import type of employment at New Orleans, Louisiana, after visiting her in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1959. In 1948 to was a student at the Fort Worth High School at the time he enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps in October, 1936.

D. Citizenship Status

According to information furnished by Mrs. OSTALD in April, 1960, subject was born October 18, 1933, at New Orleans, Louisiana. His father was EDWARD LUI OSTALD who died before subject was born.

Mrs. OSTALD volunteered the information that subject had taken his birth certificate with him when he left Fort Worth, Texas.

E. Nationality Background

No information available.

F. Education

Mrs. OSTALD stated on April 23, 1960, subject was attending high school at Fort Worth when he enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps. He has not finished high school.

On June 20, 1961, Dallas Confidential Informant T-1 advised that subject had special educational training while in the U. S. Marine Corps at Jacksonville, Florida, from March 18, 1957 to May 3, 1957; at Cairo, Missouri, from May 4, 1957 to June 12, 1957. Subject had special training as an electronics operator and as a radio operator.

In April, 1960, Mrs. OSTALD advised that subject had informed her by letter sometime during the Spring or Summer of 1959, that he had made arrangements to attend the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland. She also advised that a few days previous to April 23, 1960, she had received a letter from this college to the effect that subject was expected to arrive on April 20, 1960.

On February 23, 1961, Dallas Confidential Informant T-3 advised that it had been ascertained that subject never arrived.

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at the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland although he had
paid a \$25.00 deposit toward school fees. The college had not
heard from subject since he sent in his deposit during June of
1953.

C. Military record

Dallas T-1 advised on June 20, 1961, that subject,
assigned serial number 1639259, had enlisted in the U. S. Marine
Corps on October 24, 1953, while residing at 6223 Collingwood
Street, Fort Worth, Texas. On September 11, 1959, subject
received an honorable discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps
and entered on the same date as a Private First Class in the
U. S. Marine Corps Reserve.

By communication dated January 11, 1961, the District
Intelligence Office, 8th Naval District, New Orleans, Louisiana,
advised that subject had been given an undesirable discharge from
the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve on August 17, 1960.

D. Close Relatives in Armed Forces

On April 29, 1960, Mrs. MARGUERITE C. OSWALD stated
that she had two other sons, ROBERT LEE OSWALD, age 23, who
was formerly in the U. S. Air Force, and JOHN EDWARD PIC, age
23, who was then a Staff Sergeant in the U. S. Air Force and
was then stationed at Hiroshima, Japan. This is Staff Sergeant
JOHN EDWARD PIC, Air Force No. 11318238.

E. Personal characteristics

Mrs. MARGUERITE OSWALD also on April 23, 1960,
furnished the following description of LEE HARVEY OSWALD:

Race:
Sex:
Age:
Date of birth:
Place of birth:
Height:
Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:

White
Male
23 (1960)
October 10, 1939
New Orleans, Louisiana
5'10"
175 lbs.
Blue
Light brown, wavy

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J. Identification Record

On February 21, 1961, the following advised they had no record in their files identifiable with subject:

D. F. SPRENS, Identification Division, and CARL H. OWEN, Central Records Division, Fort Worth, Texas, Police Department, and W. E. THOMAS, Identification Division, Tarrant County, Sheriff's Office.

K. Photograph

On April 28, 1960, Mrs. MARGARET OWEN furnished a photograph of subject which is being retained in the Dallas file.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH SOVIET RUSSIA

ERNEST LEE OWEN, 1513 Davenport Street, Fort Worth, Texas, Tex., on April 27, 1960, employed as a salesman for Acme Brick Company of Fort Worth. ERNEST LEE OWEN stated that he is a brother of subject who was believed by ERNEST to be in Moscow, Russia. ERNEST related that his brother had obtained an honorable discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps in September, 1957, and after visiting his mother in Fort Worth for a period of about three days left Fort Worth with the expressed intention of going to New Orleans, Louisiana, to rejoin his former employer in export-import work. ERNEST stated that the entire family was later shocked to learn that subject had gone to Russia where he had renounced his United States citizenship and had applied for citizenship in the Soviet Union.

ERNEST LEE OWEN also stated that he had never known the subject to have had any sympathy for or connection with communism before this incident occurred.

ERNEST OWEN stated that he has had no contact in any manner or form with any individual known by him to be a Soviet official or affiliated in any way with Soviet establishments. He also stated that so far as he knows, neither his mother nor any other member of this family have had any contact whatsoever with Soviet officials or with Soviet establishments.

ERNEST LEE OWEN stated that he would immediately contact the FBI in the event he were contacted by Soviet officials. He also stated that neither he nor his mother has been requested to furnish any items of personal identification to the subject in Russia and that in the event he were to receive such a request he would immediately contact the FBI.

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On April 20, 1960, Mrs. MADONETTE C. OSWALD, who was then employed at Catholic Orphan Home, 1111 Marling Avenue, Waco, Texas, volunteered the following information:

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she has been very much upset and uneasy concerning her son, JAMES HARVEY OSWALD, since she learned during the fall of 1957, with much to her surprise that he had gone to Moscow, Russia, where he had renounced his United States citizenship and had apparently sought Soviet citizenship. She stated that following his discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps in September, 1953, he visited her for a few days in Fort Worth and left town stating that he was going to New Orleans, Louisiana, to resume his employment with an export-import company at New Orleans. She stated that subject had engaged in export-import employment for a brief period of time prior to his enlistment in the U. S. Marine Corps. Mrs. OSWALD also stated that subject had mentioned something about his desire to travel and said something else about the fact that he might go to Cuba.

Mrs. OSWALD stated that shortly after subject arrived in New Orleans, she received the following letter postmarked at New Orleans, Louisiana, from subject:

"Dear mother:

"Well I have booked passage on a ship to Europe. I would of had to move or later, and I think its best that I do so. Just remember Steve all along that my values are very different from yours or yours."

"It is difficult to tell you how I feel. Just remember this is what I react to. I did not tell you about my plans because you would hardly be expected to understand. Let."

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she was very much shocked and surprised in her to learn that he had gone to Moscow, Russia. She stated that she had no idea as to how he arrived there but that she does know that he had saved up about \$1000 from his services in the U. S. Marine Corps. She stated that he did not previously discuss with her any intention to go to Moscow, Russia. She also stated that he had never shown any proclivities for the ideologies of communism. She stated that he had never expressed any sympathy for Russia or the communist system. She stated that subject was always a studious type of individual and that he read books that were considered "deep." Mrs. OSWALD stated that she would not have been surprised to have heard that subject had gone to, say, South America or Cuba, but that it had never entered her mind that he might go to Russia or that he might try to

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born a citizen of Russia. Mrs. OSWALD stated that she felt strongly that subject has a right as an individual to make his own decisions, however, she stated that she was very greatly surprised and disappointed that he had taken this action.

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she made application on January 22, 1960, at the First National Bank of Fort Worth, Texas, for a foreign draft and upon payment of \$25.00 she was issued a "foreign money transfer No. 112, CAS" by which instrument she sent \$25.00 by air mail to subject, LEE HARVEY OSWALD, in care of Hotel Metropol, Moscow, Russia.

Mrs. OSWALD explained that she was indebted to subject in the amount of \$100 as a result of a loan which she had made to her previously.

She stated that on December 13, 1959, she had mailed a personal check of \$20.00 by way of part payment on this debt to "LEE OSWALD, Metropol Hotel, Moscow, Russia." The check was cashed by subject. However, on or about January 8, 1960, this check was returned to her by mail containing a note scratched on a piece of paper in pencil by subject, stating he "could not use the check, of course." In this note he requested her to put \$20.00 in cash in an envelope and send it to his address as he was "also short of cash and needed the rest." She stated that she then mailed a \$20 bill and expressed her reluctance in sending cash through the mail. In this letter to subject she requested him to let her know if he received the \$20 bill and also to furnish her with his correct address. She stated that she added in this letter her hope that he liked Russia. She also stated "if you don't want to come back, I believe it can be arranged. Are you working?" She stated that she addressed this letter to Mr. LEE H. OSWALD, Metropol Hotel, Moscow, Russia. She also advised that the envelope containing the \$20 was returned to her on February 23, 1960, stamped, "Retour Departi." She stated that on the reverse side of this envelope was stamped "Mikhail Moysant, Moscow, Russia," January 18, 1960," and also the following lettering "МІХАИЛЪ МОСАИД."

Mr. OSWALD advised that since January 22, 1960, she had not sent three different letters to her son but that all had been returned to her undelivered. She stated that she feared that he might have become stranded and in danger. She stated that she has had correspondence with reference to subject with her Congressman and with the U. S. State Department inasmuch as she has been very much alarmed for fear that something might have happened to subject.

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Mrs. OSWALD stated that she would gladly report any contacts made with her by Soviet officials. She volunteered her agreement to cooperate in any way possible. She stated that she had not been requested to furnish any items of personal identification to subject in Mexico. She volunteered the information that subject had taken with him his birth certificate when he left Fort Worth. She promised to advise the FBI immediately in the event any contacts were made with her by Soviet officials or by Soviet establishments in this connection.

A check of the files of Office of Naval Intelligence, Eighth Naval District, U. S. Naval Station in Algiers, Louisiana, on April 18, 1961, revealed that this file contained a Protostat of a telegram from the Department of State, Mexico, Mexico, dated October 21, 1959, at 7:52 A.M. This telegram stated in part that subject who was twenty years of age and unmarried, carrying passport No. 1783212, issued September 10, 1959, had appeared at the Embassy to renounce his American citizenship and had applied in Mexico for Mexican citizenship following his entry into the country from Mexico. This telegram advised further that subject's mother's address in the United States was 4923 Collingwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas. This telegram stated subject in having said he had contemplated this matter during the last two years. Main reason "America Marxist" attitude arrogant and aggressive. Subject had recently been discharged from the U. S. Marine Corps. Subject was further quoted as having offered the Soviets any information he had acquired as exalted radio operator.

On June 23, 1961, Mrs. JAMES E. TAYLOR, 4923 Collingwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas, stated that on or about July 1, 1958, she rented her upstairs unit, partly furnished, apartment, to Mrs. MARSHALL OSWALD. With Mrs. OSWALD were her two sons, JAMES and the subject of this case. Mrs. TAYLOR stated that she had never known the third son. Mrs. TAYLOR stated also that she had never known any member of this family prior to July 1, 1961.

Mrs. TAYLOR stated that subject was a student in Arlington Heights High School and was only about 16 or 17 years of age when the OSWALDS moved to this address. She stated that subject later married and moved with his wife to another address. Mrs. TAYLOR stated that subject was a peculiar boy inasmuch as he read a great deal and kept very much to himself. She stated that she had heard Mrs. OSWALD stated that subject read books which were "over his head." Mrs. TAYLOR explained this to mean that the books he read were "copy" books. She stated that she does not know the titles of any of this material which he read. Mrs. TAYLOR stated that she got the impression that subject obtained some of this reading material through the mail. Mrs. TAYLOR stated that she actually

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A review on May 9, 1961, of the files of the Passport Office, U. S. Department of State, Washington, D. C., revealed that on or about January 23, 1961, Mrs. MARSHALL OSTALD, mother of subject, appeared at the U. S. Department of State in Washington, D. C. She advised that she had come to Washington to see that could be done to help her son, the subject. She expressed the thought that perhaps her son had gone to the Soviet Union as a "secret agent" and that the State Department was not going enough to help him. She was advised that such was not the case and that efforts were being made to help her son.

On February 13, 1961, the U. S. Embassy in Moscow, USSR, received an undated letter from LEM PERCY OSTALD postmarked Moscow, February 3, 1961. In this letter OSTALD indicated that he desired the return of his U. S. passport as he wished to return to the United States if "we could come to some agreement concerning the dropping of any legal proceedings against us." He also said that he could not leave Moscow without permission and therefore was writing instead of visiting the American Embassy.

On March 29, 1961, the U. S. Embassy in Moscow received a letter from OSTALD postmarked Moscow, March 5, 1961. In this letter OSTALD said he found it inconvenient to come to Moscow for an interview at the American Embassy and that he could not leave Moscow without permission. He asked that in place of a personal interview to be sent a questionnaire.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-10401

Dallas, Texas
July 8, 1961

Title: **LEE HARVEY OSWALD**

Character: **INTERNAL SECURITY - R**

Reference: **Report of SA JOHN W. FAHN, Dallas, 7/3/61.**

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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