

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (100-10401)

FROM : SA WALLACE R. HEITMAN

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka  
IS - N - CUM

DATE: 12/8/63

## RE INTERVIEWS WITH MARINA OSWALD - MEMO R.

On 12/7/63, Mr. MURKIN of the Bureau talked to Insp. HENRY and wanted to know if the following four points had been covered in the interviews with MARINA:

1. Why did the Soviets permit MARINA to leave Russia?
2. The normal procedure followed by Soviets in handling defectors. What happened when OSWALD arrived in Moscow? All details.
3. What the OSWALD say about being interrogated, etc.?
4. Did OSWALD have difficulty in leaving Russia?

A review of the FD 302's concerning the interviews with MARINA and a review of WFO airtel to Bureau, 11/22/63, setting forth details of State Department file concerning O. OSWALD, indicates that the following points are of interest in connection and that further questioning of MARINA OSWALD along these lines might be productive.

On 12/5/63, MARINA advised she had applied to Russian authorities in May, 1961 for permission to depart Russia and that she had received a Russian permit to depart about New Year's, 1962. She said she received exit permit in May, 1962.

- 1: What is difference between a permit to depart and exit permit, if any? Try to clarify this point with MARINA.
- 2: When did she apply for documentation to leave Russia?

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On 12/3/63, she stated OSWALD had been granted permission to leave Russia by Russian authorities much sooner than had she.

Q: Why was OSWALD granted permission before she was granted such permission?

In interview of 12/3/63, she stated she and OSWALD had saved enough rubles to obtain 2000 U.S., which Russian authorities allowed them to change into dollars and which was used by OSWALD to pay rail passage from Russia to Amsterdam.

Q: Is it an ordinary thing for Russian authorities to allow such transactions? Does she remember the rate of exchange? Why were U. S. dollars necessary to pay rail fare?

In interview, 12/3/63, MARINA said that in February, and March, 1963, she had requested permission of Russian authorities to return to Russia. She stated that this was because of family reasons.

Q: Refrase question to MARINA concerning this and attempt to determine why she desired to return to Russia at this time.

State Department records reflect OSWALD's mother said she received a letter from OSWALD in December, 1959, at which time OSWALD was staying in Moscow at the Metropol Hotel. State Department records show OSWALD entered Russia from Finland, 10/15/59. Official records reflect OSWALD was missing from Metropol Hotel on 12/1/59. These records reflect he told American Embassy in Moscow in interview of 7/8/61 that he had been employed at Belorussian Radio and TV factory at Minsk on 1/15/59.

In interview 12/4/63, MARINA stated OSWALD did not speak much of his stay in Moscow when he first entered Russia. She recalls that later when they were in Moscow together and staying at the Hotel Berlin, he had made the remark he had stayed at this hotel when he first arrived in Moscow. She believes the Hotel Berlin is now called by another name.

In interview, 12/4/63, MARINA said she did not know how long OSWALD had stayed in Moscow.

DL 100-10481

In interview, 10/4/68, she said she does/know not why OSWALD was sent to Minsk. She mentioned Minsk has the TV-radio factory in which OSWALD worked. She also mentioned Minsk has a large foreign population, particularly Argentines.

Q: Did OSWALD ever mention the Metropol Hotel?

A: Apparently OSWALD was in Moscow from at least 10/15/59 to 12/1/60 and perhaps longer. Refrase questions in an effort to obtain more information concerning OSWALD's stay in Moscow this period.

Was OSWALD given a choice as to where he would be sent?

Does she know why, particularly, there is such a large foreign population in Minsk?

The American Embassy in Moscow received an undated letter from OSWALD on 2/13/61, postmarked at Minsk on 2/5/61, postmarked at Moscow 2/11/61, in which he stated he had received no reply to his letter of 12/60, in which he had requested consideration of return of his passport and of his desired return to the United States if it would be agreed that any legal proceedings against him would be dropped.

Q: Did OSWALD ever mention the missing letter of December, 1960?

A: Note the long period of time for delivery of above letter. Is such a long delay usual in mail service of Russia?

How long would it take her letters from Minsk to Leningrad, etc., to arrive?

A: OSWALD's letter to the American Embassy, mentioned directly above, indicates he was thinking of returning to the United States at least as early as December, 1960, which was three to four months before his marriage to MARIA on 8/30/61.

MARINA, in interview of 12/2/63, said OSWALD mentioned to her about three months after they were married that he desired to return to the United States, implying this was the first expression of any such desire on his part.

Q: Since it would appear that OSWALD was thinking of returning to the United States even before he married MARINA, and had made overt efforts to accomplish this, question MARINA more closely about this point.

In his letter received at the American Embassy, 2/13/61, OSWALD stated that the Russians at no time insisted he take Russian citizenship.

MARINA said in interview that OSWALD had told her the Russians had offered him citizenship but he had refused.

Q: What else did he say about this offer of Russian citizenship. When was it made?

Why did he refuse the offer of Russian citizenship?

Did he say the Russians had not insisted that he accept citizenship?

How did the Russians react when he refused this offer of citizenship?

OSWALD appeared at the American Embassy on July 8, 1961, according to State Department records at which time he told of his marriage on April 30, 1961, and said he was arranging for his wife to join him in Moscow for a visa interview.

MARINA said in interview of December 2, 1963, she and OSWALD had flown together to Moscow in the late summer of 1961 for the purpose of interviews at the American Embassy.

- Q: Can she fix the date better?
- Q: From State Department records it appears OSWALD was at Moscow alone on July 8, 1961, when he was interviewed at the American Embassy yet MARINA says they went together in the late summer. Clarify this point.
- Q: Did OSWALD go to Moscow alone one time to make such arrangements? Did she join him in Moscow or did they go together on another occasion?

The American Embassy at Moscow received a letter on March 20, 1961, which was postmarked at Minsk on March 5, 1961, and postmarked Moscow March 17, 1963, in which he stated it was inconvenient for him to come to Moscow for the sole purpose of an interview.

- Q: Notice the time lag in delivery of letter. Is this usual?

The Embassy received a letter postmarked at Minsk on May 16, 1961, in which he said he was married to a Russian woman who would accompany him to the United States and that he desired full guarantees of no prosecution in the United States. He appeared at the Embassy on July 8, 1961, and was interviewed at length.

The American Embassy furnished to the State Department on October 12, 1961, text of four letters detailing OSWALD's difficulties in obtaining exit visas for himself and wife and noting they were subjected to increasing harassment in Minsk. He requested the Embassy make official inquiry of Russian authorities concerning these exit visa requests. The Embassy informed him about October, 1961, that MARINA's exit visa had not been approved.

DL 100-10461

Q: What was this harassment in Minsk. Did she feel like she was being harassed? Get all possible details.

Other possible questions in the next interview with MARINA are the following:

- Q: Did he look particularly for a position as a photographer in the United States? If so, why?
- Q: Did he attend photographic or other specialized school in Russia?
- Q: Did he go hunting in Russia?
- Q: Did he own a rifle there and was he a member of a rifle club? If so, how often did he attend?
- Q: Does she believe OSWALD was given an assignment in the United States as a condition to leave the USSR?
- Q: As apartments are scarce in Russia, does she believe he obtained one so easily? Why does she believe he obtained one so easily?
- Q: Was MARINA permitted to leave Russia on the condition that she and OSWALD would accept assignments in the United States?
- Q: Does she know whether OSWALD was in direct or indirect contact with the Soviet Embassy?
- Q: Did OSWALD know how to operate a short wave radio or did he have such equipment in Russia or United States?
- Q: Did OSWALD have any other unusual equipment in Russia or United States such as secret ink, etc.?

In the material received from the FBI Laboratory which is copies of correspondence found at the PAINE house there is a letter from PAVEL GOLOVACHOV, 11 Zakharov Street, Apartment 72, Minsk, written to MARINA on September 29, 1963. It appears that MARINA and PAVEL GOLOVACHOV are quite close friends.

MARINA has mentioned PAVEL before as a friend of OSWALD.

Q: Question her more closely concerning this relationship between herself and OSWALD and PAVEL GOLOVACHOV.