UNITED STATES GC 1emorandum

Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 2/17/64

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SUBJECT:

MRS. MARK E. MARTIN a/k/a MRS. SHIRLEY MARTIN **BOX 566** HOMINY, OKLAHOMA

Captioned individual wrote the Director February 10th and stated she was discouraged to read in the New York Times, 12/8/63, that the Secret Service had suggested that Marina Oswald would be safer and it would be easier for her if she returned to the Soviet Union rather than to try to live in the United States. She states that since Mrs. Oswald has made it clear she does not want to return to the Soviet Union, this forces one to question whether or not her testimony before the Warren Commission was spontaneous. She asks, "What is the law regarding undue pressure?"

We have handled several communications from this correspondent some of which were directed to the Department of Justice and referred to us and others of which were sent directly to the Director. One communication asked why we had shown Mrs. Oswald photographs of Ruby before her son was murdered. This letter was acknowledged and she was told no such photographs had been shown. She immediately wrote back and asked if any photographs had been shown. This communication was received at the same time we were handling a referral from the Department in which correspondent claimed to have seen a photograph of an individual on a roof top with a rifle. Since correspondent did not fully identify the photograph she had seen, it was believed necessary to have her contacted so the photograph could be identified and its significance considered. The Oklahoma City Office was also instructed to advise (1) Mrs. Martin that all evidence developed by the FBr was being forwarded to the Presidential Commission and that we were making none of the information developed during our investigation public and it would be the responsibility of the Commission to make any public dissemination of this data.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. DeLoach

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach REI MRS. SHIRLEY MARTIN

By airtel dated 1/13/64, the Oklahoma City Office advised that Mrs. Martin had been contacted on 1/10/64 by SA Jack H. Bales. The photograph was identified as one in the 12/14/63 issue of "The Saturday Evening Post." This photograph was observed and it is only through the greatest stretch of the imagination that the small figure in this photograph could be believed to be a person holding a rifle. The photograph is not deemed to have any significance and was not worthy of being checked further.

The Oklahoma City Office advised that during the contact Mrs. Martin took SA Bales' name and credential number and was extremely antagonistic. Her attitude was such that SA Bales believed her to be mentally disturbed. She claimed SA Bales had come to question her and when he had told her he had come in response to communications she had sent to the Department and the FBI, and not to question her; she interrupted and said "you asked me my name, didn't you?" During the course of the conversation she demanded to know Mr. Hoover's age, why he had never married and asked if Agents still had to have their hands "swabbed" before they shook hands with the Director. It was obvious to SA Bales that Mrs. Martin was deliberately attempting to provoke an argument. One of her letters to the Director was orally acknowledged and she stated she did not consider a letter to the Bureau of enough importance to remember it. She was told that the information developed by the FBI would be furnished the Presidential Commission and she interjected such as "all?", "All of it?"

OBSERVATION:

From the background information SAC, Oklahoma City Office, has furnished, it is obvious that this correspondent is extremely antagonistic toward the Bureau and desires to cause controversy. She also appears to be mentally disturbed. She has been made fully aware of the Bureau's position with regard to our investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy and no point would be served by answering any more of her questions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That correspondent's letter not be acknowledged and since she mentions Secret Service, a copy of her communication be forwarded to Secret Service by attached referral slip.

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