

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Control: 10840
APRIL 13, 1964
9:37 P.M.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

FROM: MEXICO CITY
ACTION: SECSTATE 2187

DATE: APRIL 13, 6 P.M.

DEPTEL 1775

430192
Classified by 2183
Declassify on: OADR 6/4/54
Rev date letter 2/11/84
b7c/FBI
Red
D. J. [unclear]

MEMBERS OF STAFF OF PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION REVIEWED WITH
[REDACTED] LEGAL ATTACHE THE EXISTING INFORMATION ON LEE HARVEY
OSWALD'S ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO, CALLED ON ACTING SECRETARY
OF GOVT ECHEVERRIA, AND MADE OFFICIAL REQUEST TO FONOFF
(THRU EMBASSY) FOR REPORT ON INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY
MEXICAN AGENCIES INTO OSWALD'S ACTIVITIES.

COLEMAN RETURNED TO U.S. APRIL 12 AND SLAWSON AND WILLENS
DEPARTED APRIL 13.

ECHEVERRIA, WHILE FULLY COOPERATIVE IN CONVERSATION WITH
COMMISSION MEMBERS, FELT THAT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALSO HE DESIRED
THAT REQUEST FOR REPORT ON MEXICAN INVESTIGATIONS SHOULD BE
MADE INITIALLY TO FONOFF. HE VOLUNTEERED TO APPROACH FONSECY
PERSONALLY IN EFFORT MAKE REPORT AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
EMBASSY DELIVERED THE NOTE REQUESTING REPORT APRIL 11 TO FONSECY
GOROSTIZA WHO SAID HE PERSONALLY NOT WELL ACQUAINTED WITH DETAILS
THIS MATTER BUT WOULD DISCUSS PROMPTLY WITH ECHEVERRIA. EMBASSY'S
NOTE INCLUDED ASSURANCES THAT GOM REPORT WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC
WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING GOM APPROVAL.

(c) b1 per state
(c) b1 per state
ORIGINAL FILED IN

GP-2.

62-109090
NOT RECORDED
APR 14 1964
NOT RECORDED
199 APR 28 1964

HLL/25

203 per [unclear]
82555

S. [unclear]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS
PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

59 APR 29 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Mohr
- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Malley

DECLASSIFIED BY 2815
 ON 4/27/92 (b7c/FBI)

April 30, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
 General Counsel
 The President's Commission
 200 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
 Washington, D. C.

- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Lehman
- 1 - J. M. Sizoo

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to coverage by this Bureau of the public appearances of Mark Lane.

During the recent European trip by Lane, this Bureau received from the United States Department of State a copy of a telegram classified "Confidential" addressed to the Secretary of State from the American Legation, Budapest, Hungary, dated April 7, 1964, regarding Lane's appearance at the Congress of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers held in Budapest in early April, 1964. In that telegram a newsmen from a Western country was reported to have asserted that he saw photostatic copies of FBI investigative reports which Lane was using in his attempts to support his charges that the assassin of President Kennedy was still at large and that the case against Lee Harvey Oswald was a frame-up.

In view of the serious nature of the allegation, Lane was interviewed at approximately 10 a.m. on April 29, 1964, by Special Agents William E. Folkner and John P. Di Marchi of the New York Office of this Bureau. At the time Lane was departing from his residence at 164 West 79th Street, New York City. After the Special Agents identified themselves, Lane noted their names and credential numbers.

BY COURIER SVC.

MAY - 1
 COMM-ES

162-109090

NOT RECORDED
 1964 MAY 4 1964

(SEE NOTE PAGE 3)

JMS:pah
 (11)

79 MAY 5 1964

REC'D MAIL ROOM

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WIT

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: 5-15-64

FROM : D. J. Brennan *DJB*

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Mohr
- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Branigan

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gold _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Bartlett

W. E. Malone
LE [unclear]

On 5-15-64 Mr. J. W. Scott, Deputy Director, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State, advised Liaison Agent Bartlett that Chief Justice Warren has made a request of Secretary Rusk in connection with the Oswald case. Mr. Warren requested that an attempt be made to have the Cubans furnish information and documents in their possession concerning Oswald's visit to the Cuban Consulate in Mexico City during the Fall of 1963.

Presidente Commission

Mr. Scott advised that it would be necessary to go through the Swiss to contact the Cubans; therefore, State is sending a communication to the U. S. Ambassador in Bern asking that the Swiss be contacted in connection with Mr. Warren's request to determine if the Swiss are willing to contact the Cubans in an attempt to secure the requested information and documents. Mr. Scott said this communication will be sent out today.

ACTION:

For information.

✓
DeLoach

OHB
200B
6454

OHB:mhw
(10) *mhw*

105-82555

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/82 BY 9209 [redacted]

(Bartlett letter 2/21/64)

62-109090

NOT RECORDED

MAY 19 1964

76th NR
After 128

79 MAY 21 1964

5/21/64

ORIGINAL FILED IN

b3 (50 USC 403)

ucl

1964

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

13 MAY 1964

Butler

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey OSWALD's Access to
Classified Information About the U-2

*J. R. Kelly
TBS*

1. Reference is made to your letter, dated 13 April 1964, captioned "Lee Harvey OSWALD, Internal Security - Russia - Cuba", and to the attachment which contained statements made by one, Eugene J. HOBBS, HMC, USN. Your letter requested certain information regarding subject's Marine assignment at the Naval Air Station, Atsugi, Japan, in 1957 and 1958. The remarks furnished below are addressed to the contents of your letter and to the statements in the attachment.

2. The Atsugi Naval Air Station is located approximately 35 miles south and west of Tokyo, Japan. At the time in question, Atsugi was a "closed" base in the sense that American and indigenous personnel entering the Station were required to possess official identification cards. Within the Station, the flight line areas were restricted, as is the case of all such Stations, and certain hangar areas were further restricted for the performance of classified functions.

3. The Joint Technical Advisory Group (JTAG) occupied an area within the Station, consisting of 20 to 25 individual residences, two dormitories, an office area, a power plant, several Butler-type warehouses, and a club building used for recreation and a bachelor officers' mess. The JTAG area was not closed, but it was located about 400 yards from the main

*GO
INSPECTION*

*1/30/89
SP6*

*b7c
FBI*

*109090 - 52nd UR after 136
195 MAR 20 1964*

*b3 per CIA
(50 USC 403)*

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP6*
ON *1/30/89*
per CIA letter 9/23/88

[Redacted]

15 MAY 26 1964

100-82521-2921

Station area and there was no occasion for the regularly assigned Station personnel to visit the JTAG area. The club was open only to JTAG personnel and their guests. Two of the living quarters were occupied by the Navy commanding officer and his deputy because the quarters at JTAG were of better quality than the housing accommodations provided at the Station.

4. JTAG air activities were conducted from a classified hangar area at one end of the flight line. OSWALD did not have access to this area. Prior to the time in question, JTAG had been publicized by Radio Peking as being a headquarters for American intelligence activity. For this reason, and because JTAG was obviously not a part of the Naval Air Station complement, there were rumors and gossip regarding the unit and its activities. This condition was regarded as normal under such circumstances. Being there at that time, OSWALD could have heard such gossip; however, there is no information to indicate, nor is there reason to believe, that he obtained factual knowledge regarding JTAG and its mission. (For your information, an incident involving the landing of a U-2 in a rice paddy in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan, was reported in the press and aroused some public interest. That incident, however, occurred in December 1959, which was some time after OSWALD had left Japan).

5. There were no Navy personnel assigned to JTAG. Moreover JTAG did not participate in, or transfer any of, its activities to a Station in Bangkok. Regarding the statement by HOBBS that a Navy Commander was recruiting Navy Personnel for an assignment in Bangkok, it is noted that the Navy at that time was conducting certain air reconnaissance activity from Atsugi using other types of aircraft.

6. The following should be considered with respect to your source's assertions that OSWALD's squadron was in Cubi Point, Philippine Islands in January 1958 where it kept its gear in what the source now knows to have been a hangar for a U-2 airplane; and that the squadron was back in Atsugi, Japan in May 1958. The term "U-2" was not known publicly and did not gain world-wide notoriety until the ill-fated Powers mission some two years later. Therefore, it is highly unlikely that the term "U-2" would have meant anything to OSWALD, even if he had heard it and had been able to identify the term with any aircraft at Cubi Point, at Atsugi or anywhere else.

b3 (SOUSC403
per CIA

7. To summarize: There is no evidence or indication that OSWALD had any association with, or access to, the JTAG operation or its program in Japan. This applies also to information regarding the U-2 or its mission. Even if OSWALD had seen a U-2 aircraft at Atsugi or elsewhere, this fact would not have been considered unusual nor have constituted a breach of security. Limited public exposure of the craft itself -- but not of its nomenclature or mission -- was accepted as a necessary risk. It is most unlikely that OSWALD had the necessary prerequisites to differentiate between the U-2 and other aircraft engaged in classified missions which were similarly visible at Atsugi at the same time.

8. A copy of this memorandum is being forwarded to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy.



Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

CSCI - 3/781, 351

CC-President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy

b3 per CIA
(SOUSC403)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-29-92 BY 9803

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

There are enclosed two copies of a Department of State, Office of Security, report in the Lee Harvey Oswald case dated June 9, 1964, at Caracas, Venezuela, dealing in part with reinterview of Mr. and Mrs. Juan M. De Cuba. The De Cubas were fellow passengers of Oswald on the buses of the Transportes del Norte line from Mexico City, Mexico, to Laredo, Texas, on October 1 and 3, 1963. The De Cubas were reinterviewed at our request.

The enclosed report also makes reference to the Muracciole sisters, formerly of Caracas, Venezuela, who are said to presently reside in Mexico City, Mexico.

In light of recent developments which have established that Oswald departed from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, on October 3, 1963, by Transportes del Norte bus and as the Muracciole sisters departed from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, on October 3, 1963, by air en route to Caracas, Venezuela, we do not intend to conduct further inquiry to locate and interview them.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JUN 30 1964

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Enclosures (2)

JCS:pah
(9)

BY COURIER SVC.
JUN 30 1964
COMM-FBI

NOT RECORDED
199 JUN 30 1964 (SEE NOTE PAGE TWO)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- 1 - Belmont
 - 1 - DeLoach
 - 1 - Rosen
- June 29, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Stokes

REC'D-READING
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JPM

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29 JUL 2 45 PM 1964

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RECEIVED

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

NOTE:

State Department report establishes that the De Cubas were on the Del Norte bus. It previously stated they traveled by Red Arrow bus. The report is essentially negative, however, both De Cubas recall young American, whose description they furnished fits Oswald, being taken off the bus by Mexican immigration inspector at Nuevo Laredo which we know occurred in the case of Oswald. Not necessary now to interview the Muraccios for reason stated herein.

~~SECRET~~

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Eganigan

July 14, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

- 1 - Mail Room
- 1 - Lenihan

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
 General Counsel
 The President's Commission
 300 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
 Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP6 [redacted] b7c
 ON 7/1/89 #16494 FB1
Per CIA letter 9/23/84.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

There are enclosed a list and two copies each of seven reports containing further results of our investigation concerning Lee Harvey Oswald and related matters. ✓

We will continue to furnish you with communications in duplicate containing further results of our investigation. ✓

Upon removal of the classified material submitted herewith, this transmittal letter becomes unclassified. ✓

BY COURIER SVC.
 09 JUL 14
 COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,
 J. Edgar Hoover

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 199 JUL 15 1964
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Enclosures (15)

REL:pah
 (9)

ENCLOSURE

NOTE:

These reports, consisting of 308 pages, have been approved by the supervisors, Mr. Belmont and Mr. Malley. ✓

One of the reports transmitted herewith concerns Lydia Ramirez, an acquaintance of Lee and Marina Oswald in

SECRET

(NOTE CONTINUED PAGE TWO)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Holmes _____

53 JUL 17 1964

ENCLOSURE

Classification still but note.
 SEP 14 1964
 SEP 14 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-4407

SECRET

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

NOTE CONTINUED:

11/62 and 5/63. Dymitruk has been married on several occasions and one of her husbands, Vasiliy Kostenko, allegedly was a Soviet agent in Belgium. Transmittal letter classified "Secret" inasmuch as the report on Dymitruk contains data classified "Secret" by the CIA. The report of SA John H. Kemy transmitted herewith bears a "Confidential" classification because it contains information furnished the SA Office by a confidential informant of continuing value. *RCAT*

SECRET

July 14, 1964

REPORTS PREPARED BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

<u>Report of</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Classification</u>
John J. Connolly, Jr.	6/29/64	Newark	None
Charles F. Watson	6/29/64	Pittsburgh	None
John H. Kenny	6/29/64	San Antonio	Confidential
Charles F. Watson	6/30/64	Pittsburgh	None
Robert P. Gemberling	7/2/64	Dallas	None
Herbert F. Greathouse	7/3/64	Albuquerque	None

Re: LINDA BYNTERUK
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

<u>Report of</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Classification</u>
James P. Eosty, Jr.	6/22/64	Dallas	Secret

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED #6434
DATE 2/1/89 BY SP6 [REDACTED] 67C/FBI
Per CIA letter 7/23/88.

62-104090-

~~ENCLOSURE~~
ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

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Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: July 6, 1964

FROM : W. A. Branigan

1-24-86
Classified by SP7 MAC/MLC
Declassify on: OADR

- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Edwards
- 1 - Lenth

PA # 24587
PEAL #
WIL ACT. #
E.O. #12356
DATE 9-24-86
INITIALS SPC
MAC-MCC

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD - INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Current Classification Per CIA letter 9/23/88. SP6 [redacted] 2/1/89 #6454.

b7C/FBI By letter dated 6/30/64, the President's Commission requested that the Bureau clarify certain data regarding a photograph that was shown to Mrs. Marguerite Oswald by Special Agent (SA) Bardwell D. Odum of the Dallas Office on 11/23/63. The Commission indicated that there appeared to be some confusion in its records concerning the exact picture shown to Mrs. Oswald and the Director has inquired if we are responsible for this confusion.

Classified by 2090
Exempt from GDS, Category 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite 7/9/77

BACKGROUND:

On the night of 11/23/63 SA Odum exhibited to Mrs. Marguerite Oswald a photograph of an unidentified individual which was obtained from Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) [redacted]

[redacted] Mrs. Oswald was unable to identify the individual as an associate of Lee Harvey Oswald, but later claimed the individual depicted in the photograph was Jack L. Ruby. The picture shown Mrs. Oswald was definitely not Jack L. Ruby nor has the individual depicted therein been identified by the CIA. *EX (S) (U)*

On 2/11/64 we furnished the Commission a copy of the photograph shown Mrs. Oswald by SA Odum and at the request of CIA cropped out the background data in the photograph [redacted] Dallas, when displaying the photograph to Mrs. Oswald on 11/23/63, also at CIA's request, deleted identifying detail in the background of the picture. However, they cut the picture in a slightly different fashion from the way the picture was cut when the first copy was furnished to the Commission on 2/11/64. *EX (S) (U)*

By letter dated 6/9/64, we furnished the Commission a copy of the exact photograph, same size and same cutaway, that was shown Mrs. Marguerite Oswald by SA Odum on 11/23/63. Attached are copies of the photographs which we furnished to the Commission showing the slight difference in the cropping of the background. *EX (S) (U)*

105-82555
Enclosure

REL:pah
(8)

ENCLOSURE

~~SECRET~~

162-104090-14th before 184
NOT RECORDED
170 JUL 23 1964
3 JUL 22 1964

SOVIET SECTION

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CIA
ENCLOSURE

Memorandum W. A. Branigan to W. C. Sullivan
Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
105-82555

~~SECRET~~

There should be no problem or confusion in the Commission's records concerning these photographs which they have in their possession. Inspector James R. Malley contacted Mr. Rankin on 7/2/64 in an effort to arrange a conference to find out what the Commission's problem is in connection with these pictures. Mr. Rankin indicated he would call Mr. Malley back on 7/2/64 if he could arrange a conference with the staff members of the Commission who have raised the question. Mr. Rankin was unable to arrange such a conference on 7/2/64. Inspector Malley again contacted Mr. Rankin at 10:30 a.m. on 7/6/64 in an effort to arrange the necessary conference and Mr. Rankin indicated he would immediately advise Mr. Malley when a conference can be arranged. U

ACTION:

This matter is being very closely followed and the Director will be advised of the outcome of the conference. U

Rel
W.C.S.
EPC
JEMR

W.C.S.

✓

J

Follow closely.
B
H

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan

SPS

✓	Trotter
✓	Malley
✓	Belmont
✓	Mohr
✓	Casper
✓	Callahan
✓	Conrad
✓	DeLoach
✓	Evans
✓	Gale
✓	Rosen
✓	Sullivan
✓	Tavel
✓	Trotter
✓	Tele. Room
✓	Holmes
✓	Gandy

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: July 7, 1964

FROM : W. A. Branigan

7-24-86
Classified by *SP7MHC/ML*
Declassify on: OADR

- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Edwards
- 1 - Lenihan

SECRET

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

b7C/FBI
SA [redacted] 2/1/88 #645K
Current Classification Per CIA letter 9/23/88

Reference is made to memorandum W. A. Branigan to W. C. Sullivan dated 7/6/64 advising that we were arranging a conference with the President's Commission to ascertain what the Commission's problem was in connection with the photograph of the unidentified individual taken by Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Mexico City. Such photograph was exhibited to Marguerite Oswald 11/23/63 by Special Agent (SA) Bardwell D. Odum of the Dallas Office.

On 7/7/64 Supervisor Robert E. Lenihan of the Domestic Intelligence Division, to whom the Oswald case is assigned, met with Mr. J. Lee Rankin and with Commission staff members W. J. Liebeler and Howard P. Willens, in this matter. SA Lenihan carefully described for the Commission the circumstances surrounding the Bureau's acquisition of the photograph in question from the CIA and our investigative activity in displaying the photograph to Mrs. Marguerite Oswald. SA Lenihan also explained for the Commission the fact that the original of the photograph displayed by SA Odum to Mrs. Oswald was cropped by the Dallas Office at the request of CIA to remove identifying background data.

SA Lenihan also explained the circumstances surrounding the cropping of the photograph by Inspector James R. Malley when such photograph was furnished to the Commission by Mr. Malley on 2/11/64. Mr. Lenihan pointed out to the Commission members that the latter photograph was urgently dispatched to the Commission on 2/11/64 upon oral request from Mr. Liebeler and that the Bureau did not purport such photograph to be the exact photograph that was displayed to Mrs. Oswald by SA Odum.

Mr. Liebeler readily acknowledged that he was aware that the photograph of the unidentified individual furnished him by Mr. Malley was not the original photograph displayed to Mrs. Oswald by SA Odum. Mr. Liebeler also added that he is convinced in his own mind that no matter what photograph had been exhibited to Marguerite Oswald by the FBI on 11/23/63, Mrs. Oswald very likely would have claimed such photograph was of Jack Ruby.

105-82555

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ENCLOSURE

NOT RECORDED

JUL 23 1964

JUL 22 1964

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SOVIET SECTION

134 before
184

64 JUL 29 1964

INITIALS *SP7MHC/ML*

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(SOURCE)
CIA

Memorandum W. A. Branigan to W. C. Sullivan
Re:-- LEE HARVEY OSWALD
105-82555

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Rankin then carefully examined the original photograph displayed to Mrs. Oswald by SA Odum, which Supervisor Lenihan had in his possession, and the copy of the photograph which was furnished to the Commission 2/11/64 by Inspector Malley. Mr. Rankin stated that any reasonable man would immediately declare that the individual depicted in the two photographs was one and the same. ✓

Mr. Rankin then requested that, in order to make the Commission's records complete in this matter, the FBI furnish the Commission affidavits executed by Inspector Malley and SA Odum wherein each would clearly describe his cropping of the photograph involved and why such photograph was cropped as it was by each. ✓

Mr. Rankin added that it will not be necessary for the Bureau to contact our Legal Attache, Mexico City, to obtain details regarding the FBI's acquisition of the original photograph from the CIA. Mr. Rankin stated the Commission would contact CIA directly in this matter since it also desired to obtain additional data from CIA.

[REDACTED]

ACTION:

Affidavits are being prepared by Inspector Malley and SA Odum in this matter and will be promptly furnished to the Commission upon receipt. ✓

Rel

DE MR

NOV 75

[Handwritten signature]

✓

[Handwritten initials]

Done

Let to Rankin

7/16/64 enclosing

affidavits - Rel: pth/pwh

~~SECRET~~

b1
b3
(50 USC 402)
per CIA

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 9/4/64

FROM : Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr.

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - RUSSIA - CUBA

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

Through liaison channels, CIA has furnished the Bureau /copies of Oswald's application for a Cuban visa which was made when the subject visited Mexico City prior to the assassination.

b3 (56 USC 403)
CIA

CIA, advised the Liaison Agent on 9/3/64, that some weeks ago the President's Commission had asked the State Department to explore the possibilities of obtaining from the Cuban Government any available material concerning Oswald's contacts with the Cuban Consulate in Mexico City. The State Department acted on this request through the Swiss Government. On 8/28/64, the Swiss Government made available to the State Department copies of (A) Oswald's application for a Cuban visa dated 9/27/63, and (B) a letter dated 10/13/63, from the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Cuban Consulate, Mexico City, making reference to Oswald's application. These documents were transmitted via State Department to the Commission. On 9/2/64, the Commission furnished copies to CIA and requested that certain examinations be conducted. On 9/3/64, CIA informed the Commission that copies of the documents were being made available to the Bureau. In addition to furnishing us copies of (A) and (B) described above, CIA also furnished copies of translations of these documents, which translations were made by State Department; this material is enclosed.

b1/b3
(50 USC 403)
CIA

With regard to the visa application, the document contains routine background data and is signed "Lee H. Oswald." Also included on this same document are typewritten comments presumably made by the Cuban Consulate employee handling the visa application. These comments include the following significant statements: "The applicant states that he is a member of the American Communist Party and Secretary in New Orleans of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee . . . He displayed documents in proof of his membership in the two aforementioned organizations and a marriage certificate."

Bureau File 105-82555

Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Stokes
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Papich

JP:chs

SEP 17 1964

Classified by SP6 [redacted] b7C/FB
Declassify on: OADR 2/1/83 6454
Per CIA letter 9/23/85

5188
105-1290-910

SEP 14 1964

21st UR
after 197

NOT RECORDED
199 SEP 15 1964

SECRET

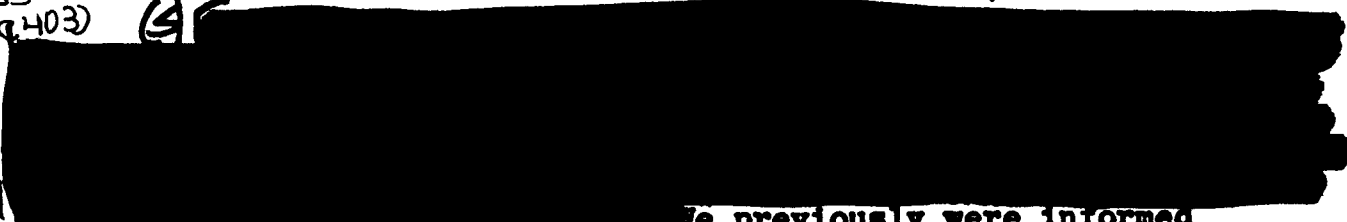
Memo Mr. Brennan to Mr. Sullivan
Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - RUSSIA - CUBA

~~SECRET~~

Also included on this document was a handwritten notation reading, "Hotel del Comercio Room 18 46-50-61."

b1/b3
(Sousc 403)

per CIA


We previously were informed that Duran was the Cuban Consulate employee with whom Oswald had made contact when he called at the Consulate. For your information, no evidence was ever developed indicating that Oswald had been a member of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA). We do have evidence that he manifested pro-communist views and we further know that he had corresponded with the Communist Party. With regard to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, we do know that he was a self-proclaimed member of that organization and had documents in his possession which associated him with this particular group. If the comments on the application are legitimate, it is suggested that Oswald may have displayed copies of correspondence with the CPUSA and with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and in this way convinced the Cuban Consulate that he was affiliated with both organizations.

No requests have been made of the Bureau to conduct any investigation or examination. We have transmitted copies of the State Department translations to our Dallas Office.

ACTION:

For information.

me

Q

WES

JD

had

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

*Classification 6/27/71
referred 2040.
Rvk.*

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

September 15, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Stokes

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

*4/30/92
Classified by 2803
GMR 6457
(Re date letter 2/21/84)*

*b7c
FBI*

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

SEP 15 4 19 PM '64

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to our letter dated
September 9, 1964, transmitting photographs of
Exhibits D-248 through D-250.4

There are enclosed for your information
two copies of translations of the foreign language
material in Exhibits D-244 through D-246. There are
also enclosed two copies of a translation of a portion
of Exhibit D-250.4

The Walter Neunson referred to in Exhibit D-248
is believed to be one Walter Carl Neunson who was born
September 13, 1909, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and
who, as of January 6, 1964, resided at 909 North 24th Street,
Camden, New Jersey, where he subscribed to telephone number
Woodlawn 4-6857. Neunson was last known to be employed
as a machinist by the Piasecki Aircraft Corporation,
Philadelphia.4

162-10461-10

*40th AR
before 198*

Neunson resided in the United States from 1932
through early 1940 when he returned to the United States.
During his residence in the Soviet Union, he married
Eva Timofeevna Koslova in 1935 by whom he has three
children; namely, Edward Charles, born in 1935, Evekandia,
born in 1936 and Charles, born in June, 1943. The latter
child was born subsequent to Neunson's return to the
United States. On December 23, 1943, Neunson married
Bina Mae Edmonson with whom he presently resides in Camden,
New Jersey. John Carl Neunson, was born of this marriage in
Philadelphia (on May 12, 1949.4

- 105-82555
- 1 - Dallas (100-10461)
- 1 - Newark (105-795)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Group 1

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SEE NOTE PAGE 3

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

19 SEP 18 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

~~SECRET~~

b1

[REDACTED]

On October 23, 1957, he departed from the United States with his son, John Carl Neunson, for the purpose of visiting his wife and Russian-born children. Neunson returned to this country from Russia on April 10, 1958, after experiencing considerable difficulty in leaving the Soviet Union. The Department of State is in possession of considerable information concerning Neunson's activities while in the USSR in 1957 and 1958.

(S)

b7C
per State

Per State
Letter 2/2/58

[REDACTED]

Neunson's Russian wife and his Russian-born children are not believed to have ever entered the United States. Interviewed by Agents of our Philadelphia Office on April 16, 1958, following his return from Russia, Neunson expressed hatred for the present Russian Government and stated that he was convinced the Soviet regime presented a positive threat to the security of the entire free world. He claimed that he hated the Soviet Union on a very unfriendly basis. We intend to interview Mrs. Ruth Paine and Marina Oswald concerning Walter Carl Neunson. The results of those interviews will be promptly furnished to you. (u)

(u)

The Mrs. Abraham Scheck referred to in Exhibit B-243 is believed to be identical with the person of same name who is mentioned in report in the Lee Harvey Oswald case of Special Agent Marion C. Street dated December 2, 1963, at Kansas City, Missouri. The Mrs. Maria Paltz who is referred to in Exhibit B-243 is also referred to on pages 1076 through 1083 in the report in the Assassination case of Special Agent Robert P. Gamberling dated May 15, 1964, at Dallas, Texas. We do not contemplate further investigation in connection with the affairs of Mrs. Scheck and Mrs. Paltz to be of assistance to Marina Oswald. u

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures - 12

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

~~SECRET~~

b7c
b1

MEMO:

Per Ottate
Dept. Letter
2/21/84

Classified "~~Confidential~~" as State Department
has so classified facts concerning its dealings with Neunson
in Moscow [REDACTED]

In Exhibit D-248 Mrs. Paine wrote to Marina in Russian telling
her that Walter Neunson of Camden, New Jersey, offered to be of
assistance to Marina and invited her to live at his home. Paine
wrote that Neunson told her Marina had met his son, Edward.
This appears significant as Edward has never been out of the
Soviet Union and we do not know how Neunson would know of
his son's meeting with Marina. This is probably a figment
of his imagination. Dallas has been instructed to reinterview
Paine and Marina concerning Neunson and when results of interviews
are in, we will decide whether or not to contact Neunson. (F)(U)

(S)

(F)(U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

11083

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Blum
M. J. [unclear]
SEP 18 9 25 PM '64

46-48

Origin ACTION: CIRCULAR 505

USIA

ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS, Except LUXEMBOURG
and USUB, LISTED CONSULAR POSTS

SS

JOINT STATE-USIA

G

FOR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND BAO's

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NSC

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CIA

NSA

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SCA

FBI

JUS

TRSY

Arrangements made to air pouch to addressees presentation and staff copies one-volume Warren Commission Report which extremely sensitive prior formal release by White House. Copies will be separately packaged, labeled "EYES ONLY PRINCIPAL OFFICER", registered and individually pouched. Essential that each Principal Officer be responsible personally for integrity of package containing copies from receipt until formal release. Despatch from Washington by unaccompanied pouch being timed so no copies will reach addressees earlier than two days prior to Washington release. Some addressees necessarily will receive copies following formal release.

You will receive specific notice of release time and identifying pouch containing reports.

Report should be selectively presented to editors, jurists, Government officials, other opinion-leaders at post discretion immediately after repeat after formal release time.

USIA preparing in addition: newsreel clips, newspix, illustrated

62-109090 - 5th UR
- after
202

6454
DECLASSIFIED BY 9803 [redacted]
ON 4/29/82 (Re State Order 2/21/84)

b7C/FBI

62-109090
NOT RECORDED

Drafted by: IOA:JWheeler:pac 9/18/64

Telegraphic submission and State classification approved by: CJ:J.M. [unclear]

3 SEP 21 1964

Clearances: State: Mr. Crockett (In draft)

USIA: Mr. Wilson

White House: Mr. Bundy

NAT. INT. SEC.

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

79 SEP 28 1964
FORM DS-322

dup 9/25 Fly

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

CIRCULAR

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

SEP 23 1 51 PM '64

SEP 21 4 59 PM '64

SEP 23 11 08 AM '64

SEP 23 2 57 PM '64

F. B. I. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
REC'D
FBI DIV.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

principal posts. Wireless File and VOA will backstop with interviews, panels, official comment, domestic and foreign editorial comments, columns and commentaries. Also possibly later 30 minutes TV documentary, and 16mm film for direct projection. Maximum post effort needed to assure foreign recognition that truth concerning assassination fully set forth in Commission's findings.

REC'D CIV RIGHTS
FBI

RUSK

SEP 24 1964

- TO: ADANA
- AREQUIPA
- ASMARA
- BELEM
- BENGHAZI
- BOMBAY
- BUKAVU
- BELO HORIZONTE
- BRASILIA
- CALCUTTA
- CALI
- CASABLANCA
- COCHABAMBA
- CONSTANTINE
- CORDOBA
- CURITIBA
- DACCA
- DOUALA
- DUSSELDORF
- ELIZABETHVILLE
- ENUGU
- FLORENCE

- FRANKFURT
- GEORGETOWN
- GENOA
- GUADALAJARA
- GUAYAQUIL
- HAMBURG
- HONG KONG
- IBADAN
- ISPAHAN
- ISTANBUL
- IZMIR
- KADUNA
- KHORRAMSHAHR
- LAHORE
- LOURENCO MARQUES
- IJANDA
- LUSAKA
- MADRAS
- MARACAIBO
- MARTINIQUE
- MELBOURNE
- MESHED

- MILAN
- MONTERREY
- MUNICH
- NAPLES
- ORAN
- PALEMO
- PARAMARIBO
- PORTO ALEGRE
- RECIFE
- SALISBURY
- SALVADOR BAHIA
- SANTIAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS
- SAO PAULO
- SINGAPORE
- STUTTGART
- SYDNEY
- TABRIZ
- TANGIER
- THESSALONIKI
- TURIN
- ZAGREB

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Secret

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan

Classified by 2040 Pub. 6/25/77
 Exempt from GDS, Category 2
 Date of Declassification Indefinite

September 23, 1964

Current Class. Per CIA letter BY COURIER SERVICE

SP6- [redacted] 2/1/88 #6454 9/23/88
 67C/FBI

- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Papich
- 1 - Lenihan

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
 General Counsel
 The President's Commission
 200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Pursuant to the conversation of Miss Jane Vida of your staff with Special Agent Robert E. Lenihan of this Bureau on September 22, 1964, there were delivered to the Commission on September 22, 1964, the following data:

(1) Two copies of amended page seven of the report of Special Agent James J. O'Connor dated April 21, 1964, at Miami, Florida, entitled "Lee Harvey Oswald, Aka, IS - Russia - Cuba." These amended pages are to replace the two copies of pages seven and eight of the report of Special Agent O'Connor dated April 21, 1964, which is in the possession of the Commission.

(2) Two copies of amended page one of the report of Special Agent James J. O'Connor dated April 21, 1964, which deletes the classification "Secret, Group 1, Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification," which appears on page one of the copies of Special Agent O'Connor's report presently in possession of the Commission.

With the insertion of the amended pages, Special Agent O'Connor's report becomes unclassified.

This will confirm delivery of the aforementioned data to the Commission on September 22, 1964.

Sincerely yours,

SEP 28 1964

W. Edgar Hoover

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

NOT RECORDED
 199 SEP 29 1964

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

REL:pdb
 (9)

3 ENCLOSURES

SEP 28 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Secret

READING ROOM

SEP 23 7 09 PM '64

PROPERTY SECTION

P.P.P.

4th ur after 204
Prok

Secret

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

NOTE:

b2
b3
Instant report of Special Agent O'Connor contained data classified "Secret" [redacted] (S)
[redacted] On 9-21-64 Miss Vida, staff member of the Commission, contacted Inspector Malley to ascertain if Special Agent O'Connor's report could be declassified. [redacted] (S)

b2
b1
[redacted]
This modification discussed with Miss Vida by the Commission by Supervisor Lonihan 9-22-64 and she ascertained from appropriate superiors such modification satisfactory. She requested that amended pages be immediately furnished Commission so the report could be sent to printers afternoon of 9-22-64. Desired amended pages were furnished the Commission 9-22-64 and this letter confirms such delivery. Copy of amended pages one and seven attached along with copy of the original report of Special Agent O'Connor dated April 21, 1964. (S) (u)

- 2 -

Secret

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

34-31

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Action

Control: 17584

Rec'd: September 21, 1964
12:30 p.m.

USIA

FROM: Dublin

Info

SS

ACTION: Secstate 96 PRIORITY

G

DATE: September 21, 4 p.m.

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Reference: DEPCIRTEL 505

NSC

In view unique identification with late President Kennedy, Irish will be intensely interested Warren Commission Report. While not normally beneficiary USIA support, post urges in this instance that all material prepared for press and TV be expeditiously and abundantly provided, including at least 35 copies basic report.

INR

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6454
DECLASSIFIED BY 9803 [redacted]
ON 4/29/92 (for CIA use 2/21/84)

b7C/FBI

62 109090 - 20th after 204

NOT RECORDED
14 SEP 22 1964

[Signature]
NAT. INT. SEC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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61 SEP 30 1964

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Mohr

SECRET

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malley _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

DATE: 9-22-64

TO : W. C. Sullivan

FROM : W. A. Branigan

- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Callahan
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Malley

- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Stokes

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

4-30-92
Classified by 9903
Declassify on: OADR b7c
Per State letter 2-21-84, FBI

Warren Commission

5-1-64

This discusses Commission request on 9-22-64 that we declassify a "Secret" 181-page summary memorandum dated 5-18-64 prepared in this case by our Legal Attache, Mexico City, and proposes because of possible international repercussions that we take this matter up with the Department of State.

At 1:05 p.m., 9-22-64, Mr. Malley received request from the office of W. David Slawson, staff member of the President's Commission, that we declassify our 181-page summary memorandum prepared in this case 5-18-64 by our Legal Attache, Mexico City. This memorandum which contains an elaborate Table of Contents and Index summarizes all of our investigation in Mexico through early May, 1964. In preparing the summary, Legal Attache classified it "Secret" in order to protect

and, in addition, to protect highly sensitive security informants who provided some of the data in the document. Some of these informants are [redacted]. All of the sources who provided information as set forth in the summary are protected therein by 31 informant symbols.

Much of the investigation reported in the summary was conducted by [redacted]. Due to the importance of this investigation [redacted]

Legal Attache has advised us, however, that the Mexicans are insistent that [redacted]

In this

Enclosure
105-82555

JCS:pdh
(10)

58 OCT 26 1964

SECRET

CONTINUED OVER 35

NOT RECORDED
199 OCT 23 1964

bl STATE

5 d NR
261

ORIGINAL FILED

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
105-82555

~~SECRET~~

connection, when Mr. Slawson of the Commission staff and two other staff members were in Mexico in April they

[REDACTED]

Accordingly, the Commission members did not take depositions in Mexico.

(S)
b1
STATE

OBSERVATIONS:

The action of the Commission at this time in requesting the Bureau to declassify its summary of investigation in Mexico may

(S)

[REDACTED]

could result in serious diplomatic repercussions between this country and Mexico.

RECOMMENDATION:

b1
STATE

In view of the possible consequences, it is recommended that the matter of the declassification [REDACTED] be taken up with the Department of State. Attached for approval is a letter to State enclosing a copy of the summary in question.

(S)

JS *over* *Wal-*

b1
STATE

This is the reason we should consult State Dept & the decision is up to State. Suggest Supervisor Bartlett deliver to State & get an immediate answer.

ite kept
est kept
immedia

answer

OK ✓

Letter with encl. delivered to State 9/24/64. H.B. Mills, State orally answers 9/26/64. Confirmed in writing 9/30/64. E.H.S.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

This document consists of 1 pages.

Number 1005 copies, Series 4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH
WASHINGTON

6454
DECLASSIFIED BY 9803
ON 4-29-92
PER STATE LETTER DTD 2-21-84

67C/FBI

September 29, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable.
John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice.

*Rec'd 893064
na liaison
C/S*

5144

SUBJECT : LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

I refer to your memorandum on the above subject dated September 23 and bearing the file number (S) 105-82555. The President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy asked that you declassify a memorandum of May 18, 1964, prepared by your Legal Attache in Mexico City on the Oswald case, to enable its inclusion in that portion of the Commission's report which will be released to the public. The Department's position on the desirability of your acceding to this request was telephoned on September 26 by H. Bartlett Wells of INR/DDC to Mr. John F. Wacks, who was then acting as duty officer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This memorandum will serve to confirm that conversation.

Mr. Wells said that the State Department considered that declassification of the May 18 report, in the manner and for the purposes described, would not be likely to cause subsequent harmful repercussions between the Governments of the United States and Mexico.

Thus if the Federal Bureau of Investigation sees fit to accede to the Commission's request of September 22, 1964, the Department of State will have no objection.

62-107109-10

NOT RECORDED
199 OCT 23 1964 15th NR

261

Thomas L. Hughes
Thomas L. Hughes

~~199 OCT 23 1964~~

*Blairson & Sullivan
10/14/64
2
JES:pad*

SECRET

5-85
[Signature]

58 OCT 26 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-82555-5558-51

ORIGIN/ACTION

EUR-6

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

PP 10 C2ECH
AR Pbl 15-1 US/KENNEDY
FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	ST
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AGR	COM	FRB
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TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
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OSD	USIA	NSA
	8	
		FBI
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

HANDLING INDICATOR

NO. 1191
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 INFO : MOSCOW, VIENNA, MUNICH
 Vienna for SPO, Munich for EAS DISTRIBUTION

FROM : AmEmbassy PRAGUE
 DATE: October 5, 1964
 SUBJECT: ~~Czechoslovak Press Comments on Warren Commission Report~~

REF

Czechoslovak press coverage of the Warren Commission Report has been moderate to heavy. The general trend is critical disbelief with many of the Commission's findings. Why, asked Rude Pravo (September 28 and 29) were ten months required for issuance of the report when the investigations and the interrogations were completed and all was "clear" by the beginning of this year. It asserted that the testimony of witnesses was full of contradictions and that the Commission chose to publish only those portions of the testimony favorable to its conclusions.

Rude Pravo also queried the report's conclusions regarding the number of snots fired, the direction(s) from which fired, and the guilt of Oswald. It stated that the Commission's "proof" that Oswald was actually in the room from which the fatal shots were supposedly fired would not be upheld before any court in the world; that the Commission offered no word as to Oswald's motivation; and that the report contained no indication that he hated Kennedy or disagreed with his politics. The newspaper emphasized that Oswald confessed nothing despite a twelve-hour interrogation; that the interrogation by Captain Fritz of the Dallas Police Force was not recorded; and that members of the FBI and Secret Service were present only intermittently during the interrogation.

Rude Pravo also stated that there was no satisfactory explanation of why Officer Tibbits stopped Oswald on the street, or why he tried to draw his gun, since the contention that the description broadcast on the radio matched Oswald more than any other person in Dallas was "fantasy." The paper concluded that the report is insufficient to satisfy American and world opinion.

REC-23-62-109090-281
 DECONTROLLED FOLLOWING OCTOBER 5, 1967 NOT RECORDED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

b7c
 FBI
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 11/22/82 BY 9805
 (E.O. 12958, 12/1/81)

Drafted by: *WCC* EGCrosswell:bjn 10/2/64

Contents and Classification Approved by
 EEBlankinship

Clearance: *80 CM*
 6 OCT 16 1964

RESEARCH SATELLITE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page Two of
From PRAGUE

OCT 12 5 27 PM '64

OCT 13 1964

COMMENT: ~~RE~~ above comments appeared under a Washington dateline.
The Embassy sent full texts of the Commission's report to leading
Czechoslovak newspapers, including Rude Pravo, on September 30.

For the Chargé d'Affaires, a. l.:

Edward W. Burgess

Edward W. Burgess
First Secretary of Embassy

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



RECEIVED FROM
OCT 12 1964
STATE DEPT OHB

MA [Signature]

*WATKINS
R [Signature]
H [Signature]*

Research and Reference Service

Warren Commission

INITIAL WORLD PRESS REACTION TO THE
WARREN COMMISSION'S REPORT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-17-82 BY 92103 [Redacted]
Per State letter 2-21-84

*b7c
FBI
EX-102*

REC-31 62-109090-291
R-147-64 NOT RECORDED
16 OCT 14 1964

October 1, 1964

*File
5102*

This is a research report, not a statement of Agency policy

62-109060

94
79 OCT 16 1964

**INITIAL WORLD PRESS REACTION TO THE
WARREN COMMISSION'S REPORT**

SUMMARY

The Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy received heavy and prominent news coverage in most countries. U.S. and foreign wire-service accounts were widely played and many papers ran extensive selections of the text.

Editorial comment on the Report has been extensive in Western Europe and in most of the Near East and South Asia. In Latin America, it has been moderate to heavy. In the Far East, comment has been light, and in Africa, sparse. As full texts of the Report circulate, as reactions are cross-played as news and as the Report continues to generate U.S. actions and discussion, foreign editorial attention continues.

Responses to the Commission's findings varied widely in the non-communist press. That Oswald acted alone was singled out by most news coverage and commentary as the Report's chief conclusion, but editors showed a wide range of difference in accepting or rejecting it.

In most countries of Western Europe, --notably Britain, Germany and the Scandinavian countries--most of the press endorsed the findings of the Commission and gave high praise to the thoroughness, integrity and objectivity of its members. In France especially, and to a slightly lesser extent in Belgium and Austria, critical questioning of the Report--ranging from skepticism to flat disbelief--outweighed favorable comment.

In Latin America, while the integrity of the Commission's members was rarely doubted and the painstaking thoroughness of the investigation was generally praised, reactions range from acceptance to rejection, with many uncertain that the report will satisfy the dubious. A prevalent theme was that "in the final analysis, history will have to give the definitive version of what happened in Dallas."

In the Near East and South Asia, only the Indian press largely accepted the view that Oswald and Ruby had acted alone. Belief in the existence of a conspiracy, however, continued to command widespread support in the Arab press and in Pakistan. Aegean-area papers generally accepted the Report as above suspicion, but expressions of doubt persisted.

In the Far East, comment runs the gamut from complete acceptance to an outright attack on the validity of the report. Commonwealth countries in the area call the report thorough and convincing, and hold that it should dispel existing allegations and doubts. In the Philippines and Japan, commendation of the Commission's work is coupled with doubt that it will put an end to questions about possible conspiracy and motivations, and some see popular legends emerging that are impervious to fact.

The available limited African comment has tended to accept the finding that Oswald was solely guilty, although Ghanaian media have been highly critical. In a number of African countries, broad news coverage gave prominence to foreign wire-service accounts reporting qualified acceptance or skeptical criticism elsewhere.

In other areas as well, cross-reporting of unfavorable comment has been frequent, citing especially the critical statements of Bertrand Russell, Thomas Buchanan and Mark Lane.

The Commission's criticisms of measures taken to protect the President were widely noted and discussed.

Some comment held that the Report did much to clear American society of charges of widespread lawlessness and violence, contending that the Commission's work not only showed the "advantages of democracy in the search for truth" but had also "destroyed the legend of an 'Evil' America." Other comment saw the tragedy in Dallas as reflecting an atmosphere of violence, political extremism and racial conflict: "When all the Commission's recommendations are adopted there will still remain the problem of too much extremism and too many guns."

A recurrent note in discussion of the Report was the expression of renewed sadness and regret for the loss of a man who had won world-wide admiration and respect.

(Accounts of area treatment and reaction, with a section summarizing Soviet Union and Eastern European propaganda treatment of the Report, follow.)

INITIAL WORLD PRESS REACTION TO THE
WARREN COMMISSION'S REPORT

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	<u>Page</u>
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WESTERN EUROPE -----	1
LATIN AMERICA -----	6
FAR EAST -----	12
NEAR EAST - SOUTH ASIA -----	15
AFRICA -----	23
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WESTERN EUROPE

The Warren Commission report was the top story in all West European papers. Its publication was greeted with banner headlines and a number of important papers devoted several pages on successive days to publishing its conclusions. Many papers supplemented their own initial views by quoting extensively the opinions of other European and American papers.

The communist and fellow-traveling press bluntly condemned the Report as a whitewash. Other European papers followed country rather than party lines in their assessment of it. In the majority of countries, the press welcomed the Report and endorsed its findings. This was not the case, however, in France, Belgium and Austria, where critical questioning outweighed favorable comment.

Many papers pointed to the high integrity of the Commission members and the painstaking thoroughness of their work to support their own endorsement of the Report. There is little evidence, however, that the Commission's findings have forced any real change of view among those papers where conspiracy theories initially found fertile ground. Both supporters and skeptics pointed to the difficulty for Europeans to accept the idea that the Kennedy assassination was committed by one deranged individual eager to make his mark in history.

The publication of the Report also led to new questions, particularly among those critical of its findings. Texas Governor Connally's disagreement with the Commission was widely noted. Some papers alleged that Robert Kennedy did not agree with the report and used this to buttress their own doubts. Others gave sensational coverage to what they called President Kennedy's premonition of assassination.

Many papers focused secondarily on the Commission's criticism of those charged with protecting the President and on the alleged "unbelievable ineptness" of the Dallas police. Virtually all welcomed the Commission's recommendations

for the improvement of presidential security measures. A few papers held that the Report served to vindicate American society, but for a good number of others it was an additional reminder of the tendency to violence and extremism which they believe permeates the U.S.

Endorsement

In the majority of Western European countries, the press with a few significant exceptions endorsed the findings of the Warren Commission and gave high praise to the integrity and thoroughness of its members. Many felt that the Commission had more than adequately considered all possibilities and that its conclusions that Oswald and Ruby had each acted alone would be the definitive version of the Dallas tragedy.

In Britain, the influential London Times described the report as "thorough, painstaking, voluminous, frank and, above all else, scrupulously careful in its analysis and conclusions." The liberal Manchester Guardian believed that "only the most skeptical will continue to harbor doubts about the assassination in the face of this massive report. The event remains a ghastly tragedy, but no longer a mystery." These sentiments were widely echoed in other countries of Western Europe. Hamburg's influential Die Welt wrote: "There was no conspiracy, no plot of American extremists, no plan or participation of foreign powers ... At the same time, American society has been acquitted of the charge of being a playground of sinister underground forces. The integrity of the persons, both Democrats and Republicans, who tried to find the truth during these long months speaks for itself."

In the Scandinavian countries the majority of papers agreed that the conclusions of the report constituted the final answer to the riddle of Dallas. In Oslo, Norway's largest paper, the Aftenposten, spoke for much of Scandinavian press opinion in calling the report "convincing" and in concluding that it "will go down in history as the truth about the dramatic happenings in Dallas." In Italy, center and right-wing papers cited the work's independence and objectivity and stressed the Commission's finding that the assassination was a one-man job. Italy's Socialist Avanti was, however, more cautious, contending that the "presence of a third man cannot be categorically excluded." The Spanish press generally accepted the accuracy of the Commission's findings and held that the report cleared

up most of the questions which had arisen. In Spain and Italy, however, there are indications that the general public remains more skeptical than the press comment would indicate.

There were only a few papers which openly admitted to changing their view as a result of the report. The most notable of these was the influential Neue Zuercher Zeitung, which now revised its initial comment that "until proof to the contrary is provided nobody can suppose that the murder of Oswald does not point to the existence of a widespread conspiracy." After publication of the Report the paper concluded that "there can be no doubt that proof to the contrary has (now) been provided."

Critical Questioning

Not all papers, however, endorsed the Commission's findings. Even in those countries where the Report found greatest favor some criticism was heard. Leeds' conservative Yorkshire Post found it curious that "very little attention seems to have been paid by the Commission to the possibility that Oswald was inspired by communism, not of the Russian but of the Chinese variety." The paper reasoned that Oswald's discontent and failure as a human being made him ideal material for Chinese utilization. In West Germany, the independent Muenchner Merkur held that the Commission "was unable to furnish conclusive evidence." It concluded that "for Washington, which hoped that the Commission would disperse all the clouds that have gathered over U.S. domestic policy after Dallas, this will be a disappointing result."

In France, Belgium and Austria criticism of the Commission's report and open disbelief of its findings considerably outweighed positive judgments. The skepticism in these countries was perhaps most neatly summed up by the pro-Gaullist Paris-Presse. It held that the report "will certainly convince the great mass of Americans. But the French say to themselves instinctively, 'We don't believe all that because it isn't believable!'"

The two leading Parisian papers -- elite-oriented Le Monde and rightist Le Figaro -- voiced the opinion of many lesser papers in challenging the validity of the Commission's conclusions. Le Figaro headlined: "Gaps, Contradictions and Statements Hard to Believe in the Warren Report." The paper's Washington correspondent quoted James Reston's article in the New York Times to buttress his own skepticism and strongly hinted that the Kennedy family was having a private investigation conducted. Robert Kennedy's alleged statement that he had not read the report was sometimes interpreted

by critics as casting doubt on the work of the Commission. Paris-Press even alleged that the former Attorney General had declared that Oswald "did not think of it (the assassination) by himself." Le Monde held that "an important fraction of the Old Continent's public opinion remains skeptical" about the report. The paper's Washington correspondent advised that "there must be no mistake about the truth which has been presented to us. It is a voluntarily limited truth." Conservative and frequently pro-American l'Aurore of Paris was virtually alone among the important French dailies in sustaining the findings of the Report. It believed that "the amateurs of mystery stories will be disappointed by the Warren report. The report is simple, clear, and precise, and its internal logic is prodigious: Lee Harvey Oswald is the sole and only culprit."

Press comments in Belgium and Austria were equally skeptical. Brussels' independent Le Soir doubted the Report's validity on the grounds that it could be either a calculated plan to mislead the American public or the result of naive investigation. The independent Lanterne of Brussels refused to believe that the crime was the work of a single unbalanced man and the Catholic conservative Metropole of Antwerp expressed interest in the "real motives" of Ruby and Oswald. Catholic Le Rappel of Charleroi was one of a number of papers which held that Kennedy had a "premonition" of his death. The paper rather enigmatically contended, therefore, that "the secret of the whole affair belongs to the victim and certainly not to his murderer." Vienna's right-center Volksblatt was typical of many Austrian papers in its open skepticism of the Report's findings. It concluded rather ominously that "it is definitely good for the world and for peace that the Warren Commission did not arrive at some other conclusion, or that it kept silent to spare the world the din of clashing arms."

Communist Treatment

Communist and fellow-traveling papers in Western Europe characterized the report as a whitewash of America's racists and reactionaries, whom they blame for the death of President Kennedy. Under the headline "Service to the Right," London's Daily Worker condemned the Commission's findings as "all very convenient for the American ruling class." In Paris, l'Humanite headlined "The Real Questions Remain Unanswered," and described the report as a "concealment." In Rome, the Communist Party's condemnation played skillfully on real and alleged statements of others. The Party's organ, L'Unita, held that "with the exception of those papers which had accepted the 'official version' from the beginning, reactions to the report vary from the implicit reservations of the (London) Times to the open criticism of Figaro (Paris), from the incredulity of Governor Connally to the

rejection of the report by Buchanan and the harsh condemnation handed down by Bertrand Russell." Fellow-traveling Paese Sera advised that "James Reston's view that the report will probably fail to convince historians should be completely endorsed."

The American Temper

Many commentators hold that political extremism and racial conflict have created an atmosphere of violence and lawlessness in the U.S. which in turn made the Kennedy assassination possible. Others pointed to the existence of these conditions to explain why so much of West European opinion is skeptical of the Warren report. Financial Les Echos of Paris, for instance, contended that "the Dallas tragedy took on a suspicious tint because of the passionate climate created at the time by three fundamental elements: the controversial character of President Kennedy, the offensive... for racial equality, and the existence of a small group of extremists." The pro-Gaullist La Nation, also of Paris, speculated on the Commission's emphasis on the absence of a precise personal motive on the part of Oswald and asked if it "wanted to suggest that the isolated mad murderer was only the unconscious instrument of the hatred of the South for the anti-racist action of Kennedy." A number of papers pointed out that although Oswald may have acted alone, his "terrible deed nevertheless benefitted a powerful group of persons" (Vienna's pro-coalition Neues Oesterreich).

The London Times, along with many other papers, praised the Commission's emphasis on the need for tighter security protection, but added that "when all the Commission's recommendations ... are adopted there will still remain the problem of too much extremism and too many guns." In West Germany, where the Commission's conclusions regarding the failures of those charged with protecting the President were extensively highlighted, the pro-Socialist Neue Rhein Ruhr Zeitung held that the Warren report leaves behind "the bitter impression that this great tragedy with its tint of Wild West crime was only possible in Texas." By contrast, some papers felt that the report did much to exonerate American society. Reykjavik's Morgunbladid stated that "the Warren report will strengthen popular trust in the American government" and that the Commission's work shows once again "those advantages of democracy in the search for truth." Berlin's independent BZ held that the Warren report "has destroyed the legend of an 'Evil' America. That is its biggest accomplishment."

LATIN AMERICA

News coverage of the Warren Commission report has been widespread, while editorial comment has been moderate to heavy. Noncommunist comment varies from general acceptance of the Report, through speculation and doubt about certain aspects, to outright condemnation and rejection. Communist media comment is altogether negative as expected. Noncommunist editors rarely cast any doubt on the veracity of the Commission and generally praise the painstaking work of the investigation itself, but many do have real doubts that the Report itself is the definitive analysis of President Kennedy's assassination and the motives and events that led up to it. There are numerous references to Bertrand Russell's charges that the Commission had suppressed many facts and distorted the truth, and many Brazilian commentaries are based as much on European evaluations as on the Report itself. The most frequent theme is that many people still remain unconvinced by the Commission's findings and that history will have to provide the final clarification of the Kennedy assassination.

Favorable Comments

Bogotá (Colombia), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Lima (Peru) and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) newspapers gave the release of the Warren Commission report heavy wire-service coverage. The headlines stressed the Commission's conclusion that Oswald had acted alone in the assassination of President Kennedy and that there was no discernible conspiracy, either domestic or foreign. In Trinidad, for example, the independent Guardian headlined "Oswald Acted Alone" and devoted an inside page to the story under the heading "Probers Spike Murder Myths."

Moderately liberal and very influential El Tiempo of Bogotá condemned all the "suppositions and the sensationalist accounts which had been fabricated about this tragic event in American history." The editorial called the Warren report "the reality of the drama," adding that it was patently "not interested in being another chapter in this novelesque series of hypotheses meant to attract people's curiosity rather than tell the true facts." If the crime in Dallas was shameful, the paper concludes,

it is even more shameful "to give credence to what has been written about it and to censure a people who were the first victims of this ignominious incident."

Two signed editorial comments have appeared so far in the Chilean press. Raúl Silva Castro, writing for conservative El Mercurio, notes that the report blames "careless police protection and technical errors committed by different agencies" for the President's assassination and the "lamentable indolence" of the Dallas police in the case of Oswald's death. He also comments on the "astonishing declarations of Bertrand Russell" and the "gross epithets" which Russell used to refer to the members of the Warren Commission. He concludes that Oswald probably belonged to "that group of criminals who commit an act [of this kind], without having any clear political ideology at all, moved by the megalomaniacal impulse to attract attention and find a place in history."

The story of the Warren report received front-page headline treatment in all Costa Rican newspapers and was given prime time on both radio and television. Starting on September 29, San José's leading independent newspaper, conservative La Nación, began serializing a 12,000-word summary of the Report. La Nación likewise editorialized on the "impressive precision and clarity with which the Warren report gets to the bottom of the facts" and concludes that the report "leaves no room for doubt." Also praising the report, leftist-liberal La República of San José says that "the seriousness of the report, the minute and extraordinary compilation of data and testimony . . . must perforce dispel the dark, mysterious theories that have been elaborated around the brutal and unforgettable act." An editorial in conservative Diario de Costa Rica equally lauds the Report's thoroughness and completeness and declares that erroneous versions of the assassination which "until only a few hours ago were still being believed and circulated, in the European press especially, fall to the ground on the basis of this report." It concludes with the observation that the Report finally demolishes "a series of dangerous political distortions and protects the prestige of the American nation so harshly attacked by versions that were not always circulated without hidden purposes."

Lima's popular tabloid La Crónica praises the Warren report as a "model of seriousness and responsibility and well-founded investigatory technique." The editorial says that the findings establish that "President Kennedy was undoubtedly assassinated by Oswald, a psychopath confused by Marxism and inspired by hate for every manifestation of authority, who acted alone without advice or assistance." Moderately conservative Ultima

Hora of Lima likewise finds that "the laborious conscientiousness and objectivity of the investigation and the indisputable moral integrity of the members of the Commission help to dispel finally the speculation that had taken place concerning the facts and circumstances" of the Kennedy assassination.

Conservative (Blanco Party) El Plata of Montevideo (Uruguay) gave a qualified editorial approval of the Warren report: "The conclusions of the Warren Commission establish the guilt of Lee Harvey Oswald beyond all doubt ... The report ... carries conviction." But, it adds: "It is possible that the conclusions of the report may be totally or partially questioned ... It is legitimate to suppose that, in the final analysis, history will have to give the definitive version of what happened in Dallas at midday of November 22, 1963."

The English-language Daily Journal of Caracas (Venezuela) likewise says: "We believe the report will persuade most Americans that there was no plot and that the murder was the isolated job of a demented or twisted person, but it will probably not convince Europeans, to judge by initial reactions." In conclusion, the editorial advises its readers "to accept the Warren report. Despite what some people call unanswered questions, it has far more substance than the speculations designed to belittle it."

In Jamaica, The Daily Gleaner (independent) carried the full text of Chapter One of the Warren report on two days (September 28 and 29), devoting a total of 21 columns to it. Editorially, it said that "those who doubt that Oswald acted alone will never be completely satisfied" and "its conclusions will continue to be questioned by those who will always be skeptical, but until, if ever, a scrap of evidence is unearthed to show that these conclusions are wrong, the report must be accepted as factual and complete."

Critical Reactions

Following the initial wide news coverage of the Report's release, the Rio press concentrated on the worldwide reactions to the Warren Commission's findings. While many papers quote Robert Kennedy's statement that he is satisfied with the report, the overriding impression created is that world opinion remains divided. For example, nearly all papers quote Bertrand Russell and many draw heavily on numerous sensational French reports, and both nationalist Jornal do Brasil and leftist-nationalist-

oriented Correio da Manha headline Robert Kennedy's satisfaction with the report and continuing European skepticism. Even a reasoned argument written for conservative O Jornal by columnist Barreto Leite Filho, after stressing the impeccable work of the Commission and its members, concludes that only history will be able to render the final verdict. Correio refers to doubts raised by such people as Mark Lane, writing for Paris' L'Express, and Thomas Buchanan, in his book "Kennedy's Assassins." It says that although "one cannot question the legitimacy of the investigation ... the final word belongs to history." The Warren report, it continues, "is condemned by a large part of the U.S. and international press, as incomplete, ambiguous, and doubtful." Similarly, highly-conservative Jornal do Comercio reports that while half the European press accepts the Report's findings, the other half speculates "according to their respective political orientations."

A shrug of the shoulders and the opinion that "we'll probably really never know" seems to express the feeling of the editorials that have appeared so far in Mexico City. Moderately-conservative Excelsior says: "The Warren report is very probably correct, in spite of the disquieting fact that a Russian (sic) benefactress found Oswald the job that he used for the assassination ... It may also be, as many are saying, that the truth will never be known. But one thing we know for sure: the events of November 22, 1963 in Dallas will continue to be discussed for a century." The paper also criticizes the Dallas police and concludes that "doubts and shadows probably persist. Perhaps the truth will never be known." Conservative El Universal Gráfico commends the report, but notes that doubts are still held by some people. Independent nationalist La Prensa carries a cartoon depicting the Warren Commission in a surrealist painting with the question: "And this is to clear up the doubts?"

El Comercio, the conservative dean of the Peruvian press, says that the report has "truly disconcerted the world -- and something more than half the world shares the doubt and rejection of the worthy old pacifist /Russell/.... The suspicion remains that beyond Oswald the assassination of Kennedy was elaborated to eliminate his well-intentioned decisions from the scene."

The Panamanian press gave heavy wire-service coverage to the report of the Warren Commission. An editorial in conservative La Estrella de Panama predicts that "millions of persons within and outside of the United States ... will be disappointed" because they were expecting the report to contain some startling new revelations. Although it concedes that "it is

possible, of course, that Oswald may have committed the crime by his own exclusive determination, as reflected by his strange personality full of frustrations, and it is also possible that Ruby, inflamed with indignation at President Kennedy's death, may have decided to punish the killer with his own hand. But nobody can deny that all this is very strange, especially the latter." The editorial concludes that the report, even though it "ends the official investigation;" lacks satisfactory explanations and invites further "speculations and conjectures" for a long time to come.

The far-rightist Prensa Libre of Santo Domingo labels the Warren report "a masterpiece of confusion and ambiguities," and sees the Communists "wringing their hands with joy ... Now the Communists can wash their hands ... as Pilate did 2,000 years ago."

Cuban and Other Communist Judgments

Cuban media stressed that the Warren Committee report does not close the "shameful page on the unpunished crime against the President." They insist that Oswald was a tool of rightist groups -- "headed by Texas reactionary leaders" -- who plotted President Kennedy's death. They continue to express suspicion of the Report's completeness and accuracy. An El Mundo editorial says the Report "does not explain anything in a satisfactory manner. It speaks of "secret documents" not included in the Report and concludes that their omission justifies the suspicion that the "truth" is being suppressed.

A Havana TV broadcast declares that the report leaves "thousands of questions unanswered." Radio Havana to Latin America states that Oswald's mother described the Report as "ridiculous." A broadcast to Europe says the Report "is going to be the basis for questions from now on." It asserts that if Oswald wasn't actually in the employ of rightists, he was so affected by their anti-Kennedy propaganda that he committed the murder. The comment belittles Oswald's connection with communism, and one broadcast declares: "If Oswald was committed to Marxism, then that fact alone would make him opposed to political assassination." Only the CIA and the FBI encourage political murder, the comment concludes. Radio Havana to Latin America insists that the Warren Commission report affirms "against all evidence" that Oswald acted alone.

The most violent Cuban comment was a report of the statement by Bertrand Russell, President of the "Who Murdered Kennedy Committee." According to Radio Progreso, Russell said the Warren Commission report is "lamentably incomplete and covers its authors with infamy." He reportedly said that the "three official versions" of the assassination contain omissions, lies and distortions.

Trinidad's socialist-oriented Mirror ignores the report. Several Peruvian papers, where the Warren report shared the front page with de Gaulle, carry an Agence France Presse item reporting the Russell charges.

Pro-Castro El Diario de México says that the Commission has handed down a report which "has one single virtue: it satisfies nobody. Nevertheless, let us be serene and trust the investigators. Perhaps it is better thus."

Roberto Landaeta, of the Chilean Communist Party organ El Siglo, renders the judgment that "the entire report of the Warren Commission is invalidated and without political, social, or moral basis when it admits: 'Because of the difficulty of proving negative facts to achieve certainty, the possibility that there were others implicated ... cannot be established categorically.'" He goes on to say that "it is irritating the way the famous Commission worries about all the 'no's' to avoid having to express itself on the 'yeses,' that is, on the true proofs ... The Commission leaves the question open."

FAR EAST

Heavy news coverage but light editorial comment marked the Far Eastern press response to the Warren Commission Report. Comment ran the gamut from complete acceptance to an outright attack on the validity of the Report. Editorial comment from the British Commonwealth countries in the area viewed the Report as thorough and convincing and believed it should dispel existing rumors, allegations and doubts. Editorial comment from the Philippines, however, was dubious that the Report would be convincing to all and felt that many of the rumors and allegations had already become so firmly established as legends that they would survive despite the Report's contrary findings. Japanese editorial comment, while voicing acceptance of the Report, was also skeptical that its explanations were sufficiently complete to destroy existing doubts on the vital questions of "conspiracy" and "motivation". The only critical comment appeared in the Cambodian paper La Depeche.

Although there has been considerable straight news coverage of the Warren report in the Far East press, comment has been light. The editorials and special columns that have appeared to date range from complete acceptance to skepticism to outright attack (in one instance).

The British Commonwealth countries praise the thoroughness of the report and find it convincing. For example, an editorial in Kuala Lumpur's Straits Times entitled "Simple Truth" says in part: "All except morbid-minded and right-wing and left-wing fanatics, who believe what they want to believe, will be satisfied by the Warren Commission's report on the assassination of President Kennedy ... Absolute negatives are difficult to prove, but most exhaustive investigation has failed to disclose any trace of evidence of conspiracy, any indication that foreign agents or subversive organizations participated in either crime."

New Zealand's Dominion Wellington similarly comments: "Though the report of the Warren Commission ... will have occasioned no surprise to most people, it should dispose once and for all of the rumors and allegations that gained currency in the wake of that horrendous tragedy."

Hong Kong's South China Post also expresses confidence in the soundness of the report: "The mystery, the doubts, and the dark speculations that have appeared in print were systematically considered and rejected. For clearing away the fog of /rumor/, likewise for its sense of detachment and its strict adherence to facts, the report indicates that a tedious, exhausting job has been thoroughly and expertly undertaken. No less important are the frank criticisms of various law enforcement departments (including the circumstances surrounding the shooting by Jack Ruby) and these will now be -- if they have not already been -- the subject of strict examination by the agencies concerned."

From Australia, the report receives commendation in several newspapers. The Melbourne Age says: "There can be no question of the authority or integrity of the Commission appointed by President Johnson or of the massive labors which it undertook." The Sydney Daily Mirror expresses equal confidence: "The findings of the Warren Commission's inquiry are comprehensive and convincing and will be accepted by sensible people. The report will surely end the wild speculations of international and domestic plots circulating since the President's death." More praise is voiced in the Sydney Herald: "The report's cogent analysis of verified facts demonstrates beyond rational doubt that one unhappy, violent man alone planned and carried out this appalling crime." And the Melbourne Herald adds this to Australia's commendation: "The report is critical of security measures and makes some detailed recommendations for matching safeguards to the disturbingly high risks around the American presidency. To the outside world, which shared the distress of the American people in the Kennedy tragedy, dispelling of rumors of sinister intrigue is one of the positive values of the Warren report."

Press comment from Japan and the Philippines express skepticism. Tokyo's Sankei is willing to accept the Warren Commission's opinion that the assassination was an individual act and not the result of a conspiracy. The editorial notes, however, that doubts will remain in many minds; and it is plain that these will include Japanese minds. Sankei thinks that the question of conspiracy is crucial, because if there should be proof of conspiracy this might constitute a threat to American democratic institutions and even to world peace: "We will believe the Warren report in its full context, but cannot help but tremble to hear that such a person (Oswald) existed and that a president has been assassinated by such a person... . If he had acted in conspiracy with either the right or the left, or with any foreign elements or any other organization ... the incident would have grave consequences on the democratic order of the United States and the

peace of the whole world." Similarly, in a commentary in the Mainichi, writer Yoricika Arima expresses the opinion that doubts about the assassination remain and that the Warren report does not analyze sufficiently the motive behind the crime. Mild Japanese radio commentary also worries about the motivation and remarks on continuing skepticism in Europe. The English-language Japan Times is an exception to the general tone of the press. Its comment is, as usual, reasonable and objective and inclined to accept the Warren Commission's conclusions. However, the paper cannot be considered representative of Japanese public opinion or widely influential in forming it.

The Manila Times also expresses doubts. An editorial, entitled "Why the Warren Report Will Never Be Final," says that the Report ought to silence all doubts about conspiracy but will not. The writer bases his conclusion upon the argument that the initial confusion in the first Dallas police reports created suspicion which cannot be silenced by any amount of logic and investigation, now that the tragedy has become legend: "The Warren report ... should dispel all doubt that the killer (Oswald), like his own assassin (Ruby) later, was not acting for a group of conspirators. But it doesn't actually. Like other tragic events in history in which the protagonists left no written record, this one is bound to remain a mystery to later generations ... The Kennedy assassination was such an event. It was not the skeptics who created the mystery but the confusion which attended the first reports from the Dallas police ... Ironically enough, the more complete the report became, the more it was likely to make many observers in other countries doubt its conclusions. To them, so much effort is suspect ... Even supposing that the present generation will eventually come to accept the Warren report as conclusive, the 'mystery' is certain to be revived by posterity ... This is no longer a case of truth or error. Within a relatively short time, it has acquired the nature of legend."

Cambodia's leftist La Depeche attacks the Report. The daily says in part: "We know we have been deceived ... This report poses more problems than it resolves ... The ... report gives ... the impression that, less than a mission of truth, it was a mission of social conformism in the service of the Government ... What disturbs us the most is that the report adapts itself too well to the wishes of the rich and contented and magnificently serves their interests."

NEAR EAST AND SOUTH ASIA

The Warren Commission report received extensive coverage throughout most of the Near East and South Asia. The Indian and a large segment of the Arab press also provided voluminous comment. In the UAR, however, editorials appeared only in sensationalist al-Gumhuriya. Most of the area's press considered the Report's major findings to be that Oswald had acted alone and that the security forces in the United States had been grossly lax and culpable. Widespread skepticism was expressed, however, about the finding that there had been no conspiracy -- a skepticism that was especially prevalent in the Arab and non-Arab Middle East and in Pakistan. And only in India did a large segment of the press accept the theory that Oswald and Ruby had each acted alone. Most commentators felt that a mystery still remained -- one that would probably never be resolved.

Coverage And Stress

The Warren Commission report received extensive coverage and voluminous comment in the Indian press. Several Indian papers considered one of its major findings to be the characterization of the assassination as "a senseless, irrational act." As Bombay's Indian Express put it: "One of the more satisfactory findings of the Commission is the 'exoneration' of the Soviet Union and of other countries from suspicion of complicity."

Extensive press coverage and comment were given to the Report in Israel and in all Arab countries, with the exception of Cairo, where only al-Gumhuriya editorialized on the subject. The rest of the Cairo press limited itself to straight reporting without comment. The Baghdad press, with the exception of al-Manar, reported it straight, but gave extensive coverage to adverse reaction to it in various parts of the world.

Excluding Beirut's usually pro-UAR ash-Sharq and independent al-Hayat, the Lebanese Arab-language press generally rejected the findings of the Commission, particularly its conclusion that Oswald had acted alone. The Israeli press, with the exception of the Communist Kol-Shay,

accepted the Report and limited editorial comments to the failure of the American security organizations to protect the late President.

The Report was given top headline coverage in the Greek and Turkish press. Its major findings were also given prominent coverage in the Cypriot press, despite its preoccupation with the Cyprus-Turkey crisis. Editorial comment, surprisingly, was extremely limited in the Greek and Turkish papers and completely absent from the Cypriot press, although considerable editorializing through headlines was evident in all three countries. And in Turkey, three major Istanbul papers with national circulations and an Ankara paper all serialized a 12,000 word textual summary of the Report.

There was extensive news and headline coverage of the Report's release and some editorial reaction to its findings in the press of Iran and Pakistan but not in that of Karachi. Papers in all three countries played up Lord Russell's critical comments and charges. Iranian and Pak papers pointed up as major findings of the Report the conclusion that Oswald had acted alone and the failure of the U.S. Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Dallas police to perform their respective duties. In the Aegean area, all papers similarly highlighted the Commission's major findings that Oswald and Ruby had acted alone, that the two men had not known each other, that Oswald had also murdered a Dallas policeman (Tippit), and that there was no evidence of either a domestic or foreign conspiracy.

Predictability

Few if any papers in India found any surprises in the Commission's findings. There were "no dramatic revelations" in the Report, wrote the Economic Times of Bombay, and The Statesman of Calcutta said that it "follows the entirely obvious and unsensational lines generally expected." In Dacca, Pakistan, English-language Morning News declared that the Report's findings were "not unexpected," though "disappointing." Another paper in Dacca, the Urdu-language Pasban, however was surprised. "For us," it said, "it is a great surprise that President Kennedy was not assassinated in a conspiracy, but that his murder was the result of an individual's action who believed in Marxism." No Arab papers expressed surprise at the findings.

Credibility

In India, Chief Justice Warren was praised as "a man of known integrity and incidentally a Republican," as The Statesman put it. "President Johnson could not have constituted a more thoroughgoing and impartial investigation," the National Herald of Lucknow opined. The Report was termed "a valuable justicial document" by Calcutt's Amrita Bazar Patrike, and Bombay's Economic Times concluded that it "should set at rest all suspicion."

The Arab press rejected the Report either directly or indirectly by emphasizing world press comment hostile to it. The latter approach was particularly evident in the Baghdad press where al-Manar headlined: "Europe Rejects Warrent Report." Beirut's usually pro-UAR ash-Sharq was alone in praising the character of the Commission's members. On the other hand, Beirut's pro-Baathist al-Ahrar suggested that the Commission's members were hostile to the late President and belonged to a "capitalist reactionary class in the U.S." President Kennedy "was killed twice, once at the hands of criminals and again at the hands of justice," wrote Beirut's leftist ash-Shaab.

The simultaneous play of Lord Russell's critical comments about the Warren Commission Report in the press of Iran and Pakistan naturally raised doubts about the Report's credibility. And in Dacca, the Bengali-language Ittefaq said: "It will be folly to expect that this (report) will settle questions that arose in the minds of many regarding the mysterious side of the murder. It can not erase very soon from the minds of the people that many definite questions that newsman Buchanan as an eye-witness raised in his book, particularly regarding the role of the Dallas police and the activities of the numerous oil companies of Texas." Partially offsetting this doubt in Iran, however, was Radio Iran's news coverage, which featured British press reactions that the Report was just, objective and satisfactory.

Aegean area papers generally accepted the Report as a bona fide and nonsuspect effort of the U.S. Government to get at the bottom of the assassination, but a number of papers used headline question marks which had the effect of supporting the persistent doubts that all had been revealed about the Dallas shootings. For example, the widely-read pro-Government To Vima of Athens headline read: "888 Pages or 300,000 Words -- The Relentless Question Remains ... The Warren Report: Does it Substantiate the Truth About Kennedy's Assassination?"

The widespread second-day publication of "world reactions," featuring statements by proponents of the "conspiracy school," such as Bertrand Russell, lent further support to the doubters. Robert Kennedy's statement that he did not intend to read the Report was presented by some papers in such a way as to suggest that this was because he had no confidence in its findings. Other papers, by contrast, gave prominence to the former Attorney General's endorsement of the Warren Commission report. Ethnos of Athens, for example, headlined: "Kennedy's Assassination Was Not Due to Conspiracy -- Robert Kennedy Too Agrees with Warren Commission Conclusions."

Extreme-leftist Domokratiki Allaghi (Athens) was the only paper to carry a frankly hostile comment. Its editorial, entitled "The Perfect Crime," sarcastically concluded that the Warren Commission's "great pains ... have led to this triumph of justice. All we need now is to have Goldwater win the elections."

Completeness

Because evidence was lacking to determine Oswald's motives, the consensus of the Indian press was that although "the case is closed, the mystery (remains) at least partly unresolved" (Hindusthan Standard, Calcutta). "None of the reasons attributed to Oswald's action," wrote Calcutta's Urdu Rozana Hind, "seems strong enough to motivate him for such an extreme action ... Not even a child can believe that the poisonous atmosphere on the racial issue had nothing to do with the event ... We do not believe that Kennedy assassination was the result of only one man's enmity against him." Other Indian papers, however, felt that "the Warren Commission's report should put an end to the thrillers, based on surmises, which imitation Ian Flemings have been bringing out" (National Herald, Lucknow). And the Hindustan Times of New Delhi said that "it is unlikely that the future will throw up evidence of some dark plot."

Only the two Lebanese papers ash-Sharq and al-Hayat, and the Israeli press, were prepared to let the Report write an end to the tragedy. The remaining dailies preferred various forms of the conspiracy theory.

Practically all accounts in the Aegean area touched on the extensiveness of the Commission's investigation and the resultant report, noting that the Commission had examined 552 witnesses and studied 30,000 pages of documents before reaching its conclusions. The fact that the Report contained 888 pages and 300,000 words was also much publicized. However, some

papers indicated doubts that the Report, which "officially closed the door" on the Kennedy assassination and the sordid Ruby sequel, would satisfy many people. The Athenian newspaper Imera, in a front-page column, asked rhetorically: "Will the Warren Report satisfy the U.S. and the world public in general after its utterly simple presentation of matters? Who knows whether the Report -- categorically closing the door of suspicion -- will not be a great disappointment for the masses? ... The Report confines the whole case to only a shadow individual who, appearing as an anarchist, loses his materiality."

Radio Iran featured British press reaction, which characterized the Report as satisfactory. In Lahore, the Pakistan Times said editorially: "Publication of the Report should ... be followed by thorough administrative investigation into the behavior of the Secret Service and the Dallas police. Those found guilty of permitting Oswald to be silenced should be punished. After all, it was Oswald alone who could have said why and how President Kennedy was killed. Doubts expressed by Lord Russell and shared by many that much is still being hidden from the public ought to be allayed."

The Conspiracy Theory

The fact that the Report had scotched the "conspiracy" theories was labeled as one of its major contributions by a large segment of the Indian press. The prevailing friendly relations between the United States and the Soviet Union and the good personal relations between President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev were considered sufficient by the National Herald of Lucknow to render a Soviet conspiracy unfeasible. "It was necessary for the American people to grapple with the theory of conspiracy, and the rest of the world will be as relieved as the United States that ... Oswald acted alone." Calcutta's Statesman accused Earl Russell of not having read the Report, or else he could not conceivably have made his derogatory comments.

Cairo's al Goumhouria intimated that internal politics were in some way involved in the assassination. The Report, said the paper, did not take into consideration the existence of "extremist reactionary trends, fascist terrorist gangs and greedy monopolies." The paper also noted that "oil magnates in Texas" were not in agreement with President Kennedy's policies.

The Communist Israeli daily Kal Haam rejected the Report, but did not elaborate. Baghdad's alThawra al -Arabiya contended that a Zionist plot had led to the Kennedy assassination. "The whole world which followed the crime from the beginning and which knows the extent of Zionist infiltration and aggression against liberties is still awaiting the truth which the Report did not reveal and which perhaps history will reveal in the future," the paper wrote. The Damascus daily Ba'th raised the possibility that the Warren Commission had suppressed the truth because it feared reprisal from unidentified criminal gangs. Both Ba'th and al-Thawrah of Damascus gave heavy coverage to foreign comment casting doubt on the findings. Equally vague conspiracy charges were made by the pro-UAR Beirut daily al-Anwar which referred to racial discrimination and arms dealers. "The sheer notion on the part of American officials to believe the Warren Report is a greater scandal yet," the paper asserted.

Despite their widespread publication of world-wide reactions in which continuing doubts and speculations about a conspiracy were played up, most papers seemed prepared to accept the Commission's finding that there had been no conspiracy. Imera (Athens), commenting on the Commission's findings, said: "In all this tragic case of Kennedy, the essence is that behind the anarchist and insane man (Oswald) were no dark and logical forces premeditatively pushing to war." The Athens Daily Post similarly said: "The Report stresses that the assassin, Lee Oswald, acted on his own and that no one was behind the insane hand that interrupted John F. Kennedy's life. This is a relief for U.S. public opinion and, indeed, for world opinion."

Although no papers in Iran or Pakistan came right out and said that President Kennedy was "really" murdered as the result of a conspiracy, the idea was suggested in both countries by the press' simultaneous playing up of critical comments by Lord Russell, General Walker and the Soviet Union.

Lahore's Pakistan Times, for instance, declared: "The tragic events had given rise to a widespread belief that the murders were part of a conspiracy variously described as being instigated by Communists or Southern reactionaries. The Warren Commission's report would seem to set these doubts at rest."

Culpabilities

The "frightening degree of incompetency by the various authorities responsible for the President's safety" (The Statesman, Calcutta) was mentioned in various forms by most Indian papers. The Secret Service, the FBI and the Dallas police have been "rightly censured," said Calcutta's Hindustan Standard, which echoed the opinion of other papers, the majority of which tended to put the major blame on the Dallas police. The Times of India, however, blamed "the ease with which a man in the U.S. can obtain fire arms" and the general atmosphere of hate. The Report "cannot possibly still the feeling that the assassination of President Kennedy could take place only in the atmosphere of hate and violence that then prevailed in the U.S.A. In a deep moral sense, racialism and extremism were accessories to Oswald's crime," it wrote.

Imera Athens declared that Oswald's ideal, "anarchy, which is an abstraction," was the real culprit. For this reason, it suggested, many people will be reminded of the political assassination at Sarajevo which started World War I when they recall the senseless crime in Dallas.

Lessons

The lesson of the Report is the need for "everlasting vigilance," several Indian papers concluded, and added, "it is hoped that not only America but also other nations will take lessons from this incident" (Patna's Pradip). "Democracy is no protection against assassination," said Calcutta's Amrita Bazar Patrika. "Protection should be given by the police whose job it is."

The Israeli press was alone in the Near East in commenting on the lessons to be gained from the assassination. "How Not to Protect a President," headlined the independent Yediot Aharanot. Both the liberal Haboker and the pro-government Jerusalem Post gave extensive coverage and comment to the Report's criticism of American security organizations.

In Dacca, English-language Morning News commented that, despite the Warren Report, President Kennedy's assassination will "continue to weigh on the national conscience of Americans." In Tehran, Ettelaat ran a banner headline which said: "Committee Established to Protect Johnson as Part of Recommendations by Warren Commission to Step up Precautionary Measures for Protection of President."

The sad comment that no investigation -- however meticulous, thorough, and praiseworthy -- can alter the fact that the life of the world-admired young President was snuffed out by an assassin's bullet was a constantly recurring theme. Athens Daily Post said, for example, that the world will welcome the finding of no conspiracy: "However, the fact remains that a great President of the United States, whose courage and wisdom had been tested successfully on many occasions, lost his life. This is something that no report can change in the hearts and minds of all." The Turkish newspaper, Demokrat Izmir, likewise added: "Thus, the investigation of the abhorred assassination of one of the most-beloved Presidents of the U.S. is 'officially' closed. It remains to be seen whether the Warren Commission Report will satisfy those millions who have carried armfuls of flowers to the humble graveyard for the last ten months. And the main verdict will be given by history which will be read in the future by our children and grandchildren."

AFRICA

With the exception of Ghanaian comment, which termed the Warren Commission report "shocking" for its alleged intention to "suppress the facts," scattered African media comment on the report has tended to accept its basic finding of Oswald's sole guilt. On the other hand, broad news coverage in a number of areas has included foreign wire service accounts expressing qualified acceptance or skepticism, particularly crossplays of criticism by Messrs. Buchanan and Lane and the reprinting of a Komsomolskaya Pravda editorial in two Tunisian dailies directly charging that the assassination resulted from a reactionary-led conspiracy. Textual materials on the Warren report and Robert Kennedy's widely-publicized approval of the report have tended to balance, if not offset, the inimical coverage. Ethiopian and Ghanaian comment, in particular, regretted the lack of adequate security precautions for President Kennedy's safety.

Unqualified Acceptance

Newspapers in Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa have accepted the Warren Commission's findings at face value and one paper in the Sudan reported the findings in an editorial regretting the loss of President Kennedy "for America and the entire world." South Africa's liberal Rand Daily Mail declared that "all rumors that have circulated about the assassination ... are demolished by the report...." Likewise, Kenya's Daily Nation announced that "the report will thus dispel many rumors which have cropped up since the assassination. By recording the known facts as faithfully as possible," the Nation concluded, "the Warren Commission has once and for all silenced all these rumors." The official Ethiopian Herald repeated this theme, but less emphatically, noting that "among the criticisms made against the ... report is the charge that a number of questions have either been avoided or evasively treated." The Herald added, however, that until the critics specify the "questions" and provide supporting evidence "the Warren report is definitive."

Press headlines in some countries also indicated unqualified acceptance of the Warren report. The Tanganyika Standard headline ran: "Oswald is Naked, He Killed Kennedy -- Official." The ruling party organ in Tanganyika, The Nationalist, headlined its lead article: "Warren Report -- Oswald Shot Three Rounds." Tunisia's La Presse headline ran: "Robert Kennedy -- Oswald Alone Killed Kennedy."

Ghanaian and Other Skeptics

In an editorial titled "Shocking Report," Ghana's government-controlled Daily Graphic said the shock the world had sustained from the Kennedy assassination was "nothing compared to the blood-chilling report" of the Warren Commission. The Graphic editorialist supported Bertrand Russell's reported contention that the Commission was constituted to suppress the facts and observed, "true ... no foreign nation (was) involved ... but is it also true that the hands of the imperialists and neocolonialist hounds who were opposed to Kennedy's peaceful policies are also clean?" News coverage in the official Ghanaian Times cited the Russell statement plus skeptical editorial comment from Denmark and Italy under the headline: "Kennedy Death -- Warren Report Hides Facts." Without commenting directly on the report, a Radio Accra commentary mentioned the Commission's findings and strongly praised President Kennedy's courage and policies.

In some cases, news-coverage headlines suggested mixed reactions to the report. The Moroccan Istiqlal opposition organ Al-Alam headlined: "World Reaction to Warren Report ... Moscow -- Report Did Not Eliminate All Doubts ... World Reaction Ranges From 'High Praise' to 'Not Complete Enough'." Tunisia's semi-independent daily, Le Petit Matin, carried the following: "The Author of Who Killed Kennedy: Did Oswald Have Relations With U.S. Intelligence Agencies?"

News coverage in a few other countries has also tended to be skeptical. Comments critical of the Warren report by Thomas Buchanan, author of the book Who Killed Kennedy?, and Mark Lane, lawyer for Oswald's mother, were carried by several papers in Ivory Coast, Morocco and Tunisia. Two papers in Tunisia, the official Al-Amal and independent Al-Sabah, reprinted a Soviet Komsomolskaya Pravda editorial released before the Warren report which claimed "the report will lay the responsibility on Oswald, but world opinion is sure that Kennedy's assassination was the result of a conspiracy arranged by reactionary forces in the U.S." Tunisia's independent La Presse carried a front-page commentary by a Paris correspondent critical of speculation and rumors on the assassination but which sardonically accepted the

Warren Commission's findings. Textual news stories and Robert Kennedy's approval statement of the Warren report appeared in the same papers printing the above coverage and tended to balance it.

Awareness of Security Problem

The Ethiopian Herald and Radio Accra were the only media to comment on the lack of adequate security precautions for the late President's protection, although this subject was well-covered in straight news stories. The Herald quoted the Warren report to the effect that "security measures had been lax and inefficient," and noted that President Johnson had undertaken "in earnest" to carry out the Commission's security recommendations. It added, however, that "as long as there are people in America who are as fanatical as Oswald, no U.S. president could be guaranteed absolute protection." Radio Accra added that President Kennedy's death was "a bitter tragedy because he was entitled to the best means of protection."

SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE

Soviet and East European media gave wide publicity to the Warren Report but questioned its validity, suggesting that the Commission has failed to reveal the truth. Some reports tried to link the Report with the election campaign. All agreed that "not everything concealed has been revealed." Yugoslav reaction to the Report was generally milder than Soviet or other East European comment. This Soviet and East European reaction to the Warren Report was neither unexpected nor unusual in view of the allegations and innuendos circulated by Communist media since November 1963.

Soviet Union

Soviet media reacted quickly to the Warren Report. On the day that the Report was released, Komsomolskaya Pravda "cited facts" indicating that the assassination of President Kennedy "was a result of a conspiracy by the most reactionary forces of the U. S." The Soviet youth paper also implied that "the oil business had played a fatal part" in the crime. Later the same day, TASS summarized the Commission's finding. Noting the Report's finding that Oswald had acted alone, TASS asserted that "not everything concealed has been revealed." TASS also stressed the absence of evidence that "Oswald's contacts with the Communists had any connection with the subsequent assassination of the President."

On the following day (September 28) Pravda carried the TASS story under the title: "The Warren Commission On The Crime in Dallas--Report Published, Doubts Remain, Notes The American Press." In its summary, Radio Moscow claimed that "the long report has not dispersed doubts about the Dallas crime." Echoing the same propaganda theme, another Radio Moscow commentary asserted that "mistrust in the official version of the Kennedy assassination is mounting both in the U.S. and in Western Europe."

Eastern Europe

East European media also shared Moscow's doubts about the Warren Report. Radio Prague declared that the Report "supports the official version" and "throws no new light on the suspicious circumstances of the assassination." According to the Czechoslovak broadcast, "the most

important factor challenging the reliability of the Report is the complete inability of the Commission to find any motive for Oswald's alleged crime."

Bulgarian commentators for Trud and Radio Sofia also asserted that the Warren Commission had failed to "unmask the real perpetrators" of President Kennedy's assassination. According to these accounts, the Report is "a clumsy attempt" to "conceal the truth." In an effort to link the Report with the election campaign, Trud maintained that the Commission's alleged attempt to conceal the truth when "the madmen" in the U.S. "are making an open bid for power" gives cause for "peace-loving peoples to intensify their vigilance."

Yugoslavia

Yugoslav reaction to the Report was mixed. Borba said that the Report "has cleared up many uncertainties which were the source of doubt, disbelief, and rumors" and has destroyed "once and for all the suspicion that the Soviet Union was somehow behind Oswald's act." On the other hand, Politika claimed that the Warren Commission Report did not answer the crucial question: "Why did Lee Oswald commit the crime?" Without questioning the integrity of Chief Justice Warren, the paper said that "there have been cases in history, like the Dreyfus affair, when the truth has been withheld because the ruling authorities feared that the public might lose confidence in them." Both papers noted that the American public had received the Report with confidence and that world reaction was on the whole favorable.