



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

April 6, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

1. QUESTION: Was there any FBI interest in Oswald before the April, 1960 FBI interviews of Mrs. Marguerite Oswald and Robert Oswald? If so, what was the nature and extent of the interest? What initiated the April, 1960 questioning of Mrs. Oswald and Robert Oswald? (U)

ANSWER: Yes. The FBI's first interest in Lee Harvey Oswald arose as a result of a "Washington Capital News Service" release datelined October 31, 1959, at Moscow which announced that Oswald, a 20-year-old former United States Marine, advised the United Press International during his press conference in his room at the Metropole Hotel, Moscow, that he had applied to renounce his American citizenship and to become a Soviet citizen for "purely political reasons." He further announced that he would never return to the United States. (U)

We checked our records on October 31, 1959, and determined that our files contained no information identifiable with Oswald other than a service fingerprint card showing his enlistment in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) on October 24, 1956, at Dallas, Texas. On November 2, 1959, we determined through liaison with the United States Navy Department that the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) contained no record of Oswald. On the same date, his record at the Headquarters of the USMC disclosed that Oswald had been released to inactive duty on September 11, 1959, with obligated service until December 8, 1962. No derogatory information was contained in the USMC files concerning Oswald, and ONI advised that no action against him was contemplated in this matter. A stop was placed in the files of the Identification Division of the FBI on November 10, 1959, so as to alert us in the event he returned to the United States under a different identity and his fingerprints were received. A file concerning Oswald was prepared and, as communications were received from other United States Government agencies, those communications were placed in his file. Our basic interest was to correlate information concerning him and to evaluate him as a security risk in the event he returned, in view of the possibility of his recruitment by the Soviet intelligence services. (U)

The questioning of Mrs. Marguerite C. Oswald and Robert Oswald in April, 1960, arose as follows: In connection with our interest in persons who transmit funds to Russia, we determined on January 25, 1960, that Mrs. Marguerite C. Oswald had transmitted

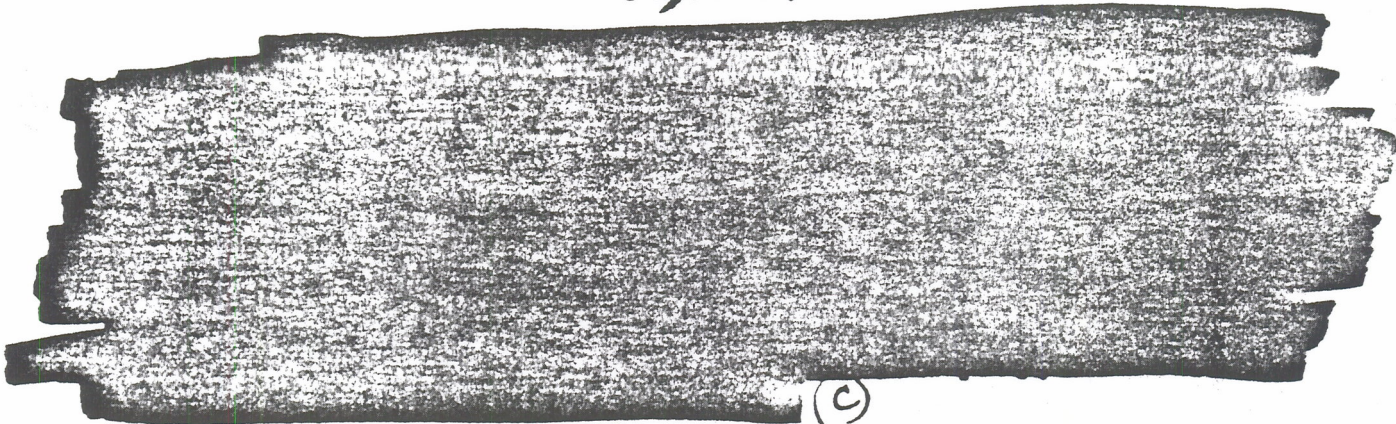
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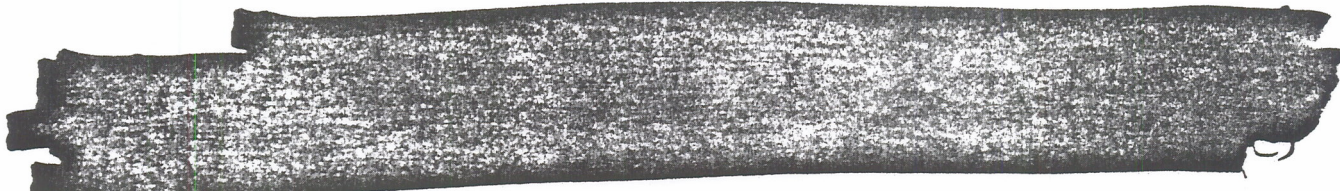
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(c)

10. QUESTION: What prompted the New Orleans FBI Office inquiry into Oswald's activities, which inquiry appears to have begun at least as early as June 26, 1963? (See report of SA Kaack, October 31, 1963, page 3.) (u)

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11. QUESTION: Why are items about Oswald's residence and employment in New Orleans set forth in almost identical form in the report of SA Hosty of the Dallas FBI Office (September 10, 1963) and the report of SA Kaack of the New Orleans FBI Office (October 31, 1963)? Why is there no other mention in the Hosty report of information set forth in the Kaack report under dates earlier than the date of the Hosty report, and in several instances under dates earlier than the items about residence and employment that appeared in both reports? (u)

ANSWER: Oswald's residence and employment in New Orleans, Louisiana, were verified by the New Orleans Office of the FBI on August 5, 1963, and this information was furnished to the Dallas Office by letter dated August 13, 1963. This data was included in the report of SA James P. Hosty, Jr., dated September 10, 1963, to record that Oswald had left the Dallas Office territory and had moved to New Orleans. Since this information was originally developed by the New Orleans Office, when SA Milton R. Kaack submitted his report dated October 31, 1963, at New Orleans, he included that information concerning Oswald's employment and

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