

Oswald Wrote to Connally About 'Injustice'

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By PETER KIHSS

H. Oswald once warned the Navy Department that he would "employ all means to correct the gross mistake or injustice" that he contended had been done to him.

The Texan who has been charged by the Dallas police with being the assassin of President Kennedy—a charge he denied—had been complaining about an undesirable discharge given him by the Marine Corps. It occurred after he had gone inactive status as a hard-core case, only to turn up in

the warning was in a letter from Minsk in the Soviet Union. It was apparently written in New York, 1962—and misdated to 1961—and addressed to B. Connally Jr. as Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Connally was then Governor of Texas, and he was wounded in the same car in the assassination of President Kennedy was read.

The 24-year-old Oswald had been interviewed in a New Orleans restaurant Aug. 21 that he was a "Marxist" and different from a "Communist." But yesterday Police Chief Jesse Curry has quoted him as having told police interrogators that he was "a member of the Communist party" and that he was "proud of being a Communist."

The Communist party issued a statement here categorically denying that Oswald had "any affiliation" with the party. The statement declared that the assassination "could only be the work of a mentally deranged person or the deliberate deed of an enemy of democracy," and that it was "the ultra-Right advocate of this case."

Oswald himself exclaimed to newsmen in the corridor on the way to more questioning yesterday.

Want to contact Mr. Connally

'62 Letter Citing Undesirable Discharge as a Marine Was Sent From Russia

in New York to defend me as my lawyer."

John J. Abt, who has been representing the Communist party against a charge of having failed to register under the Subversive Activities Control Act, said yesterday he had never heard of Oswald.

As to why Oswald mentioned him, Mr. Abt said that he had "accumulated a reputation for representing the underdog."

"Scarcely a week passes without some poor unfortunate paranoid who thinks he is being oppressed in some way or other by the Government asking me to represent him," the lawyer said.

Presumably Oswald must have denied that he was a Communist when he was issued a passport by the State Department office in New Orleans last June 25. Passport applications warn that it is illegal for a member of the Communist party to apply for or to use a passport. The applications also require the applicant to swear that he has not been a member of a Communist organization for 12 months or ever sought or claimed the benefits of the nationality of any foreign state.

Oswald had sought to become a Soviet citizen in October, 1959, but later said that Soviet officials refused to grant him citizenship. Yesterday, State Department authorities in Washington said that they had no evidence indicating involvement of the Soviet Union, Cuba or any other foreign power in the assassination of President Kennedy.

Oswald's letter from Minsk addressed to Mr. Connally

Secretary of the Navy, written in longhand, was made public by the Defense Department in Washington yesterday. Giving Oswald's Marine Corps Reserve serial number, it read:

"I wish to call your attention to a case about which you may have personal knowledge since you are a resident of Fort Worth as I am.

"In November, 1959, an event was well publicized in the Fort Worth newspapers concerning a person who had gone to the Soviet Union to reside for a short time (much in the same way E. Hemingway resided in Paris).

"This person in answers questions put to him by reporters in Moscow criticized certain facets of American life. The story was blown up in another 'turncoat' sensation with the result that the Navy Department gave this person a belated dishonorable discharge although he had received an honorable discharge after a year's service on Sept. 11, 1959 at El Toro Marine Corps Base in California.

"These are the basic facts of my case.

"I have and always had the full sanction of the U.S. Embassy, Moscow, U.S.S.R. hence the U.S. Government, as much as I am returning to the U.S.A. in this year with the aid of the U.S. Embassy, I bring with me my family (since I married in the U.S.S.R.) shall employ all means to right this gross mistake or injustice to a boni-fied US citizen ex-serviceman. The U.S. Government has no charges or complaints against me. I ask you to look into this case and take necessary steps to repair damage done to "me" and my family. For information I would direct you to consult the American Embassy, Chickovski Street

Thank you