

Oswald Interview 'Recalled'

By FRED POWLEDGE

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NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 29 — Lee H. Oswald told an interviewer here last summer that his two and a half years in the Soviet Union had left him disappointed with the Russian brand of Communism.

The professed "Marxist" seemed much more at ease when discussing the Communism of Cuba under Fidel Castro, the interviewer said.

It was Oswald's participation in a pro-Castro campaign here during the summer that led the interviewer, William K. Stuckey, to seek out the 24-year-old former marine and ask him his views.

Mr. Stuckey, a former newspaperman who now works in public relations here, made a 37-minute tape recording for a radio program he conducts, "Latin Listening Post." The tape was never used.

Mr. Stuckey declined today to allow publication of direct quo-

tation from the tape recording, which he considers a valuable historical document.

But in a 3,000-word memorandum he paraphrased the words of the man who was accused of murdering President Kennedy one week ago, and who himself was slain two days later.

The interviewer also recalled this statement by Oswald, which he said the young man made after the taping session, while drinking a beer in New Orleans' French Quarter:

"I was disappointed with Russia. It wasn't what I expected. In many ways, it's just as bad as it is here. In the factory where I worked, I saw a lot of selfishness and pettiness. It seemed like they were trying to copy many of our ideas about the economy and about production — many capitalist ideas. They are a long way from true Communism."

Mr. Stuckey noted that Oswald achieved public notice here last August when he passed out literature signed by the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, a pro-Castro organization. The interviewer said Oswald told him that a similar organization would never be allowed to exist in Russia.

"Life is very bland there," Mr. Stuckey quoted Oswald as having told him. "They have eliminated all the dissenters."

Conversation With Stuckey

Most of Oswald's taped conversation with Mr. Stuckey concerned Cuba. He said, in paraphrase:

¶That democracy, in his opinion, meant the right to be a member of a minority and not to be suppressed—a right that is lacking in the United States, he said, for persons who want to see Cuba for themselves.

¶That those who believe in democracy should also believe in supporting Premier Castro and his right to govern the island nation any way he wants to govern it.

¶That Premier Castro is independent of Russian authority. This may be shown, he said, by an examination of Cuba's trade with independent nations and by Castro's differences with Soviet Premier Khrushchev over the removal of Russian missiles in Cuba.

¶That he, as a purported member of the Fair Play For Cuba Committee, felt Russian

imperialism in Hungary was a bad thing. (The Fair Play For Cuba national headquarters has denied any connection with Oswald.)

¶That all Cuban refugees in the United States are either supporters of former dictator Fulgencio Batista, lazy or uneducated.

¶That the United States drove Premier Castro into the arms of the Russians by cutting its Cuban sugar quota.

Appeared on Panel Show

On Aug. 21, Oswald appeared on a radio panel program on a New Orleans station, WDSU, with Mr. Stuckey and two other local critics of Castro.

Mr. Stuckey said he had asked Oswald if any event in his personal life had led him to Marxism. The interviewer recalled this reply:

"It wasn't from my family. They were pretty typical New Orleans types, and don't understand ideas like these. For anyone who is interested in the subject, though, all he has to do is to go to the public libraries. There are many books on these subjects there."