

PAPERS CONCERN HIS RESIDENCE THERE, EFFORTS TO OBTAIN VISAS

SV 2/1

Unusual Gesture Seems to Reflect Kremlin Concern Over Soviet Links

By JACK RAYMOND

© 1963, New York Times News Service
WASHINGTON, Nov. 30—The Soviet Union, in an unusual demonstration of co-operation, turned over to the State Department today an exhaustive file of documents that it believed might be of help in the investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The documents included official Soviet files concerning the residence in the Soviet Union of Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged assassin of the President.

The files include also information on Oswald's attempts to obtain travel visas to the Soviet Union, both successful and unsuccessful.

Dobrynin Submits Files

Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin called at the State Department and submitted voluminous consular files dealing with Oswald.

The documents, all in Russian, were transmitted to the Department of Justice. Language specialists immediately began translating them.

A State Department spokesman said that the Soviet action was voluntary. There was no indication in advance of whether the material provides any further clues to the events that led to the President's assassination in Dallas Nov. 22.

Dobrynin called at the State Department at 2:30 p.m. He presented the Soviet documents to Secretary of State Dean Rusk personally.

The Soviet action appeared to reflect Kremlin concern lest reports that Oswald was a Marxist who had a Russian wife and other Soviet links might place the Soviet Union in an unfavorable light in American public opinion.

Soviet leaders were believed to fear that the reported connections between the accused assassin of President Kennedy and the Soviet Union might be utilized to increase tension between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Stressed Sympathy

Ever since the assassination of the President, Soviet officials have stressed their sympathy with the American people and their own sense of loss of an American leader with whom they felt they could negotiate world problems.

Thus, Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev quickly made a personal call at the American Embassy in Moscow to express condolences. In addition he sent Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan to attend the funeral of the President.

Oswald lived in the Soviet Union from Oct. 13, 1959, to May 1962.

Last Sept. 26, he went to Mexico City and sought without success to obtain visas to Cuba and the Soviet Union.

He was in Mexico until Oct. 1.

It was understood that the documents turned over to the State Department today included reports on these efforts in Mexico as well as other official Soviet papers regarding Oswald's movements.

Unprecedented Act

Officials in Washington could recall no similar act of co-operation by the Soviet Government in a major United States undertaking in which Soviet official papers might have been useful. The Soviet action coincided with the prospects of an orderly, comprehensive and unhurried inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy and the murder of his accused assassin.

Judicial silence was swiftly imposed on the plans of the seven-man investigating commis-

sion appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson last night.

Chief Justice Earl Warren, the chairman of the commission, apparently sought to reduce the flow of speculation regarding the manner in which the investigation would be conducted. He did not inform other members of the commission of his plans for the preliminary, organizing meetings. There was no indication of the identity of the investigative staff members.

The only public announcement today concerning the inquiry was the release of the text of the executive order signed by President Johnson last night.

An Historic Inquiry

Many presidential fact-finding bodies have been established

over the years, but only one other in modern times is considered here to be as significant in terms of history and nationwide interest. That was the inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor that brought the United States into World War II.

The Pearl Harbor commission was also headed by a member of the Supreme Court, Associate Justice Owen J. Roberts.

In addition to Chief Justice Warren, the members of the presidential commission on the assassination of President Kennedy are:

Senator Richard B. Russell (Dem.), Georgia, who is chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Senator John Sherman Cooper (Rep.), Kentucky, a personal friend of Mr. Kennedy.

Representative Hale Boggs of Louisiana, House Democratic whip, or assistant majority leader.

Representative Gerald R. Ford, Michigan, chairman of the House Republican Conference.

Allen W. Dulles, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

John J. McCloy, former disarmament adviser to President Kennedy.

Duties Stated

The executive order said that the commission was to:

"... ascertain, evaluate and report upon the facts relating to the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy and the subsequent violent death of the man charged with the assassination."

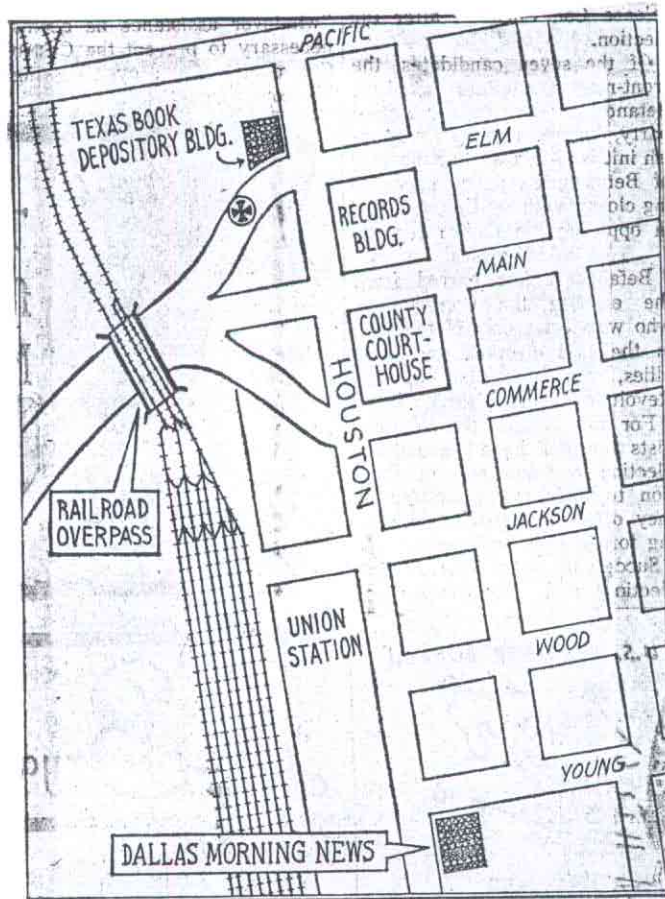
The order instructed the commission to report to Mr. Johnson with "findings and conclusions" after carrying out the fol-

lowing:

An examination of the evidence developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any additional evidence that may come to light or be uncovered by federal and state authorities.

A further investigation, as deemed necessary, to bring out information that the commission feels it requires in addition to that developed by the investigative agencies.

An evaluation of all the facts and circumstances surrounding the assassination of Mr. Kennedy, including the subsequent violent death of the man charged with the assassination.



By a Post-Dispatch Artist

The Maltese cross marks the approximate location of the presidential automobile when the shooting took place, showing the relative distance between the book depository building and the railroad overpass.