

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 5-1-64

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Conrad
- 1 - Sullivan
- 1 - Halley
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Lenihan
- 1 - Gheesling

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

File Gheesling

pp. [unclear]
[unclear]

SECRET The President's Commission has indicated the necessity for making public the FBI investigative reports which have been furnished to the Commission and which detailed our investigation of Oswald prior to the assassination. The Commission pointed out that these reports made a powerful case for the FBI in that they reveal nothing was uncovered during that investigation to indicate the capability of Oswald to assassinate the President.

These reports and letters are as follows:

(1) Report of Special Agent John W. Fain dated 5-12-60 at Dallas captioned "Funds Transmitted to Residents of Russia, IS - R." This report was classified "Confidential" as it disclosed the FBI's investigative interest in persons in the U. S. who transmitted funds to residents of Russia. Declassification of this report at this time would not seriously jeopardize the Bureau's interest and this report contains no information which would result in embarrassment to the Bureau if it is made public.

(2) Bureau letter to Office of Security, State Department dated 6-3-60. This letter referred to a State Department Foreign Service Dispatch concerning Oswald's renunciation of his American citizenship at the U. S. Embassy, Moscow, and requested the State Department to furnish any current information State possessed concerning Oswald. There are no objections to publicizing information contained in this letter.

(3) Bureau letter to Office of Security, State Department, dated 2-27-61, captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R." This letter advised State that information had been received from the Office of Naval Intelligence that Oswald had been given an undesirable discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve and requested any additional information contained in the files of State Department be furnished to the Bureau. There are no objections to publicizing information contained in this letter.

105-32555

REC-42 Classified by 2040
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite 9/29/78

TEL: WNG: pdb: pah

MAY 14 1964
MAY 15 1964

SECRET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Some papers [unclear]

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(4) Report of Special Agent John W. Fain dated 7-3-61 at Dallas captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R." This report was classified "Confidential" in order to protect our Legat operations as it contains information obtained from the Swiss Federal Police (concealed by T symbol) by Legat, Paris, and because it referred to information obtained from two Dallas confidential informants. This report was declassified at the time it was previously furnished to the Commission as disclosure of information in this report would not jeopardize Bureau operations or adversely affect Bureau's informant coverage. Page nine of this report contains information from Mrs. James E. Taylor, 4936 Collingwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas, a former neighbor of subject, to the effect that Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, subject's mother, was in poor health and extremely nervous and that she often quarreled very loudly with both subject and his brother, Robert. Although Mrs. Taylor at the time she furnished this information on 6-28-61 did not request her identity be concealed, she might object to this information being made public. This report contains no other information to prevent its being made public.

This is merely your assumption.

(5) Report of Special Agent John W. Fain dated 7-10-62 at Dallas captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R." This report was classified "Confidential" as it contains information from Navy which is so classified. That information concerned Oswald's having been given an undesirable discharge. Since this information is now public knowledge, this report was declassified at the time it was previously made available to the Commission. This report contains results of our several reviews of State Department records as well as information obtained from other U. S. Government agencies' records and results of our first interview with Oswald. There would not appear to be any objections to this report being made public.

(6) Report of Special Agent John W. Fain dated 8-30-62 at Dallas captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R." This report was classified "Confidential" as it contained results of our contact with two confidential informants familiar with Communist Party activities at Fort Worth concerning subject. This report was declassified at the time it was previously furnished to the Commission as disclosure of its contents would not adversely affect Bureau's informant coverage. This report contains results of our reinterview with subject and background data concerning Marina Oswald as obtained from Immigration and Naturalization Service records. There would be no objections to this report being made public.

(7) Report of Special Agent James P. Hosty, Jr., dated 9-10-63 at Dallas captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R." This report revealed information that subject was a subscriber to "The Worker," an East Coast communist newspaper, and that on 4-21-63 subject was in contact with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) in New York.

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Although this latter information was obtained from an anonymous source, the information is paraphrased in such a manner that this source is protected. Attached to this report is a current Bureau approved documentation of the FPCC, the accuracy of which has been verified by the New York Office. There would be no objections to this report being made public.

(8) Report of SA Warren C. De Brueys dated 10-25-63 at New Orleans captioned "Fair Play for Cuba Committee - New Orleans Division, IS - Cuba; RA - Cuba." This report contains a current documentation for the FPCC, Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, and for Corliss Lamont. New York has verified the accuracy of these documentations. No objections to making public.

(9) Report of SA Milton R. Kaack dated 10-31-63 at New Orleans captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R." This report was classified "Confidential" as it contained security information from current informants. This report was declassified at the time it was previously furnished to the Commission, as disclosure of its contents would not adversely affect the Bureau's informant coverage. Page three of this report contained information from an anonymous source, however, public disclosure of this information would not jeopardize that source since this information could have come from a live informant. This report also contained current documentations for the FPCC, the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, and for Corliss Lamont, all three of which New York has verified as to their accuracy.

(10) The Commission referred to the report of SA James R. Hosty, Jr., dated 12-11-63 at Dallas captioned "Ruth Hyde Paine" as containing additional investigation conducted by the Bureau concerning Oswald immediately prior to the assassination, consisting of interviews with Mrs. Paine. The Commission noted that this information is duplicated in the report of SA Warren C. De Brueys dated 12-2-63, Dallas. The Commission expressed the desire to make public Hosty's report of 12-11-63 rather than De Brueys' report of 12-2-63, in view of the tremendous volume of the latter report (737 pages) most of which consists of information developed subsequent to the assassination. Public disclosure of Hosty's report dated 12-11-63 could create some real problems for the Bureau. For example, page three contains information from Mrs. Paine's brother, Dr. Carl D. Hyde, to the effect that Ruth Paine was experiencing marital difficulties. Page four contains information from Dr. Hyde that all members of his family, including himself, were "tolerant of others' point of view" and explained by this he meant that, should a person make it known