

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 12, 1963

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Specialist Four NELSON DELGADO, 30 Oakwood Road, Leonardo, Middletown Township, New Jersey, advised he was born June 3, 1939, at Brooklyn, New York, and is presently assigned to Battery D, Fourth Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery, Fort Hancock, New Jersey. He said he is married and has no children.

DELGADO noted he was a member of the United States Marine Corps from November, 1956, to November 1, 1959, and his Marine Serial Number was 16 44 884. He stated that he was honorably discharged. After working for a short time in Brooklyn he enlisted in the United States Army on November 2, 1960, and is now assigned as a cook in Battery D.

DELGADO advised he was assigned to Marine Control Squadron Nine, Santa Ana, California, in July 1, 1958, as a Radar operator, and the subject was also assigned to the base about the same time. In January, 1959, both he and the subject were assigned to the same Quonset hut living quarters with six other men, but the other four did not have anything to do with OSWALD. DELGADO could not recall the names of these men.

DELGADO said about this time he himself was very much interested in the situation in Cuba and supported CASTRO's overthrow of the BATISTA Government. He advised he is of Puerto Rican background and felt in 1959 this was the best thing that could have happened for the Cuban people. Apparently, because of this, the subject became friendly with him, and he had many discussions with the subject.

OSWALD claimed to be an atheist and, knowing that DELGADO considered himself a religious person, was always "teasing" him with quotes from the Bible and trying to show him how wrong the Bible was. However, it was apparent that he just wanted to have someone to talk to and chose this method to get DELGADO started arguing. However, OSWALD never became violent in his discussions and would usually break off if he was getting DELGADO visibly upset. These discussions led from religion to politics, but DELGADO said he was not well versed in politics, and OSWALD did not pursue most political discussions for any length of time. When the talk got around to Cuba and CASTRO, however, he would continue talking indefinitely.

On 12/10/63 at Leonardo, New Jersey File # Newark 105-15291

by SA JAMES A. MARLEY, JR./jrp Date dictated 12/11/63

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OSWALD brought out his feelings concerning socialism on several occasions by making a comparison with military life. DELGADO advised he did not understand what OSWALD meant, but OSWALD said that all military people live under the rule of one leader. He tried to compare this with socialism and said that if Americans could live under military discipline they should be able to live under the socialistic form of government. He was always praising the socialist form of government but never mentioned the word communist or communistic. OSWALD also stated the United States would eventually have a revolution to get a real democracy. However, he never said anything about how the revolution should be brought about.

OSWALD was not a "braggart" according to DELGADO, but he would not miss the opportunity to show he was intelligent. However, he would not waste his time in discussions with anyone who did not have any real background in the subject under discussion. As an indication of his intelligence, DELGADO advised he started to teach OSWALD Spanish sometime in January, 1959, and by early April, 1959, he was able to carry on conversations in that language. He became so proficient in Spanish that he would discuss his ideas on socialism in Spanish. It seemed to give him some sort of feeling of superiority by being able to talk about what interested him while his superior officers were in the immediate area and could not understand him. Because of the common interest in the Spanish language, DELGADO learned OSWALD also spoke German and Russian.

DELGADO advised that because of the nature of their assignment at Santa Ana, the Marines were required to fire the rifle only once a year and that sometime in the spring of 1959 the whole group, including OSWALD, went to a nearby rifle range, which he believed belonged to the National Guard or the United States Army. He said feelings among most of the Marines ran high as to who would be the best shot and a "pool" was started for the Marine getting the highest score. OSWALD and all others joined this "pool". The subject did not come close to winning. As a matter of fact, since all the Marines attending had to qualify, OSWALD just about did qualify, and it has always been DELGADO's opinion that OSWALD "penciled in" his qualifying score. It was DELGADO's further opinion OSWALD was not a good shot while he was with the Marines at Santa Ana, California; that OSWALD never showed any unusual interest in rifles or guns and appeared less interested in weapons than the average Marine.

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DELGADO declared OSWALD was always griping about the military life. This griping was not much different than most of the Marines who always can find something wrong with their lot in life.

Most of the discussions DELGADO had with OSWALD dealt with CASTRO and his liberation of Cuba from BATISTA. DELGADO observed since he himself was happy to see Cuba freed from the control of BATISTA, he at first felt that this was OSWALD's only interest in Cuba. However, it became evident he wanted to do more than just talk about helping CASTRO. On one occasion OSWALD said he admired the man who had deserted the United States Army and gone to Cuba and was made a major by CASTRO. He spoke of the fact he understood the man's roll as "trigger man" for CASTRO and supported the job he was doing in removing the enemies of the CASTRO government. He supported CASTRO all the time. He never wavered in this support and said at one time CASTRO was the best thing that happened to the Western Hemisphere.

As a result of these comments, DELGADO told OSWALD if he felt that way about the CASTRO government why not write to the Cuban Embassy. DELGADO noted he said this in an off-hand manner, but, to his surprise, OSWALD thought it was a good idea and he began a correspondence with the Cuban Consulate in Los Angeles. After writing to the Cuban Consulate, he started to receive mail from them regularly, and he wrote to them regularly. He received newspapers and other mimeographed material from the Cuban Consulate, some of it in Russian and some in German.

At about the same time, OSWALD started to accompany DELGADO on Friday nights to Los Angeles every other week. Up to this time, OSWALD rarely left the base. OSWALD would always leave DELGADO at the terminal, and, from what DELGADO learned, he was usually back at the base by Saturday night. After one of these trips, OSWALD told DELGADO he had been to the Cuban Consulate. When DELGADO told OSWALD that he did not believe him, OSWALD showed him a letter bearing the seal of the Cuban Consulate in Los Angeles. It was DELGADO's opinion that all the week end trips to Los Angeles were to visit the Cuban Consulate.

DELGADO advised he does not remember the date, but two Americans made news about this time by defecting to Russia, and OSWALD told him he knew how they had made their way to Russia. He stated they had left the United States, had gone to Mexico, then to Cuba, and then to Moscow, Russia. He did not say how

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he got this information, but at the time it did sound like he was trying to impress DELGADO with the fact he had some inside information.

On another day, OSWALD stated he did not think much of the United States' stand supporting CASTRO because they waited until he had thrown BATISTA out before they helped CASTRO. On another time, he said that, like the two Americans, he could get to Russia if he wanted to by going to Tijuana, Mexico, to Cuba, and then to Moscow.

Among other things DELGADO noticed about OSWALD was the fact that he enjoyed classical music and would often talk at length concerning the opera. He also had nothing to do with girls and never discussed them. He did not show any interest in sports. It was because of these characteristics that no one else bothered with OSWALD.

However, during the spring of 1959, DELGADO and two Negro Marines, whose names he does not recall, decided to go to Tijuana, Mexico, for a good time. He said they intended to get some girls, and DELGADO was able to convince OSWALD to come along. Although no one in the group had any idea that OSWALD had ever been to Tijuana, it was OSWALD who picked out the "Flamingo" Bar as the best place to have a good time. He described the two bartenders as a man and a woman. OSWALD declared the man was a homosexual, and they had a good show at the place. DELGADO also noticed the male bartender seemed to know OSWALD when they entered, but OSWALD never indicated he knew him. Although OSWALD did not drink much, he seemed to enjoy himself, and after, when they went looking for a house with girls, OSWALD was just as interested as everyone else in finding a good place. DELGADO advised that after they left the girls, they went to a small hotel where each had their own room. He does not recall the name of the hotel, but it was near a Jai Lai Court in Tijuana. DELGADO could not recall the date that all this took place, but he does recall that he lost his wallet while in Tijuana, and they all went to the Shore Police Station to report the loss. DELGADO said that they returned to the base on Sunday, and OSWALD appeared to have enjoyed the week end as well as everyone else.

OSWALD was usually occupied reading books and had a copy of "Das Capital" which he wanted DELGADO to read, but DELGADO looked at the book and never read it. However, OSWALD had another

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book called "The Farm" or "On the Farm" which was a satire on capitalists and socialists which DELGADO did read.

Towards the end of May and early June, 1959, DELGADO noted he personally became convinced that CASTRO was not the best thing for the Cuban people and started to attack OSWALD on some of the things he knew were going on in Cuba. OSWALD started to become cool towards DELGADO and in his arguments said that DELGADO did not know what he was talking about because he was not receiving the real truth in the American newspapers. It became apparent to DELGADO he could not live in the same hut with OSWALD and requested to be transferred. DELGADO declared he did this even though by this time he was the Non-Commissioned Officer in charge of the hut. This permission was granted, he transferred to another hut, and at the end of June he went on leave, returning in July, 1959. Just prior to DELGADO's leaving, OSWALD had put in for a hardship discharge because he said his mother needed him at home.

When DELGADO returned to the base, OSWALD had already been discharged, and about this time he made headlines in the local newspapers because he had defected to Russia. DELGADO recalls that about this time he and all other personnel at the base were interviewed by investigators concerning any knowledge OSWALD had of secret information.

DELGADO advised he never heard from OSWALD again. DELGADO stated he had given his home address to the subject as 303 47th Street, Brooklyn, New York, which was his address when he went into the Marine Corps, but in 1960, the buildings were torn down. In any case, the subject never contacted him.

DELGADO recalled the subject never had any regular visitors at the base. However, on one night when he, DELGADO, was Corporal of the Guard, and OSWALD was working, a call came from the main gate for OSWALD. The Sergeant of the Guard said an unknown male was waiting to see OSWALD. DELGADO secured relief for OSWALD and OSWALD talked to this man at the main gate for about forty-five minutes. He never told anyone who the person was, and it was DELGADO's belief it had to be someone other than a relative because any close family member would have been allowed on the base.

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On December 11, 1963, ELSTETH KULIK, 402 Mount Prospect Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, telephone number 485-1541, advised SA JOHN T. MURPHY she has known JOHN MURRET, New Orleans, Louisiana for the past two and one-half years as a personal friend. She stated he has telephoned her occasionally, the last time in September, 1963, and she last saw him during the summer of 1963.

Miss KULIK declared she did not know MURRET's father or mother and did not know their relationship with anyone else, in particular, with OSWALD.

Miss KULIK noted up to June, 1963, she had resided at 1 Mohican Place, Lake Hiawatha, New Jersey, at which time she had telephoned number 334 1034.

Mrs. ANN GARRET, Box 150, Vernon, New Jersey, another alleged telephone contact of MURRET, on December 11, 1963, advised SAs RICHARD C. LEE and WILLARD ST. MARIE, JR. she does not know anyone in New Orleans and never received a telephone call from that city. She stated she does not know JOHN MURRET or his family or ELSTETH KULIK, and definitely did not know the subject. She was of the opinion the call could have been a wrong number call which she would have no occasion to remember.