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3

*Early Evidence
in Hot File*

- 1 - Belmont
 - 1 - Mohr
 - 1 - Conrad
 - 1 - DeLoach
 - 1 - Rosen
 - 1 - Sullivan
 - 1 - Malley
 - 1 - Cadigan
- April 10, 1964

REC'D-READING ROOM
APR 10 6 12 PM '64

BY COURIER SERVICE

- 1 - Cunningham
- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Lenihan
- 1 - Mail Room
- 1 - Sheesling

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letter dated March 3, 1964, which requested that certain investigation be conducted by this Bureau based on the Commission's review of the testimony of Marina Oswald before the Commission.

There are enclosed for your information two copies of a memorandum captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald," dated April 1, 1964, at Dallas, Texas, which contains the results of our investigation concerning item number one and item number three in your letter. With reference to item number one you requested that efforts be made to locate "two thick books on the history of the United States" which Marina Oswald stated Lee Harvey Oswald carefully read when they resided on Elsbeth Street, in Dallas, Texas. In connection with item number three you requested that investigation be conducted in the Love Field area in an effort to develop information showing Oswald's practice with his rifle and his purchase of ammunition.

REC-40 105-82555-3132
APR 14 1964

The enclosed memorandum identifies the two history books as Volume I and Volume II of "The Outline of History" by H. G. Wells and these books have been assigned Evidence Item Number D-184 and D-185, respectively. Examination of these two books disclosed that no marginal notations, interlineations or any other extraneous markings were found, except a few scribbled markings in red were noted on pages 728 and 729 of D-185. A one-quarter inch (approximately) black mark was also noted in the left margin on page 968 of D-185.

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

ENCLOSURE

BY COURIER SVC
APR 11 1964
COMM-FBI

(See item 129)
(SEE NOTE PAGE TWO)
FBI - MEDICAL
SER-D RETURN
APR 10 5 10 PM '64

APR 14 1964 TELETYPE UNIT

UNRECORDED COPY
FBI

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

Enclosed are the two books, together with two sets of three photographs of each book which show the front cover, the back cover and the spine of each book.

With reference to item number three of your letter dated March 3, 1964, the enclosed memorandum reveals that only two sources of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano, Western Cartridge Company, ammunition were located in the Dallas - Irving, Texas, area. These sources are Masen's Gun Shop, 7402 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, and The Gun Shop, 11448 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, Texas.

On March 26, 1964, two boxes, 20 rounds each, of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano, Western Cartridge Company, ammunition were obtained and furnished to the FBI Laboratory. One of these boxes, which contained cartridges loaded with hunting-type bullets (soft point), was obtained from John Thomas Masen, owner, Masen's Gun Shop. The other box, containing cartridges loaded with military-type bullets, was obtained from John H. Brinegar, owner, The Gun Shop. It has been ascertained that the cartridges in the box obtained from Masen were comprised of Western 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge cases which are the same in all observable, physical characteristics as the C6, C7 and C38 cartridge cases found in the Texas School Book Depository. The bullets loaded into these cartridges are "soft point" hunting-type bullets and are not the same as the assassination bullet. The cartridges contained in the box obtained from Brinegar are the same in all observable, physical characteristics as the cartridges represented by the assassination bullet and bullet fragments, C1 through C8, and the C6, C7 and C38 cartridge cases, as well as the C8 cartridge from the C14 rifle. Examination of the cartridges in these two boxes revealed nothing to indicate whether or not the ammunition used in the assassination came from either of the above-mentioned sources.

This concludes our investigation of the six items requested in your letter of March 3, 1964.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures - 16

NOTE:

Items 2, 4, 5 and 6 referred to in the Commission's letter were previously handled by Bureau letters to the

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(NOTE CONTINUED PAGE 18)

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

NOTE CONTINUED:

Commission and this completes our investigation of the 6 requests contained in the Commission's letter of 3/3/64. We obtained the two history books from Robert Oswald, brother of Lee Harvey Oswald. He had previously obtained same from the Ruth Paine residence on 12/8/63. Concerning item number 3, attached 23-page Dallas memorandum shows extensive and thorough additional investigation has been conducted in accordance with the Commission's request and no information was developed to show where Lee Harvey Oswald had practiced with his rifle or purchased ammunition for same. Laboratory Supervisor Cadigan examined the two history books, and Laboratory Supervisor Cunningham examined the two boxes of cartridges. Mr. Belmont and Mr. Malley have reviewed the enclosed Dallas memorandum.