

*Index  
to Marina  
Chapter #2*

*Source: Hal's Hosty  
journal*

overheard all the briefings. Heitman and Bogaslov were nothing more than puppets. In the Bureau's own odd way of doing things, Bill Branigan, the section chief in charge of all Russian espionage cases, would telephone Heitman before each interview with a list of questions to ask Marina; afterward, Heitman would brief Branigan. Then Branigan would dictate a complete new list of questions for Heitman to ask Marina. And so it went.

The most important thing to come out of all these interviews with Marina was not what she told the FBI, but what she didn't. Over a dozen times, in different ways, Heitman had asked Marina if she knew anything about her husband's September-October 1963 trip to Mexico City, where he had made contact with both the Soviet and Cuban embassies. Each time Marina denied knowing anything about the trip. We'd see what she would tell the Warren Commission, where she would have to testify under oath (page 103).

To give himself a bit of credibility Hosty refers to Marina as an "espionage" case, which she never was.

When Hosty comes close to reality he is not able to recognize it. Marina really knew nothing about Oswald's trip to Mexico City and therefore could not say anything about it.

It is a bit less than honest writing to say that Oswald had gone there to make "contact with both the Soviet and Cuban embassies." There is no question about it, the records existing to prove it, he went there to get a visa and that inevitably requires "contact" of a perfectly normal and proper kind to apply for the visa. There is nothing clandestine or of an intelligence nature about that. Had there been any such connection. Oswald would not even have had to appear in person. It would have been handled for him.

Could Hosty, with all his experience, believe that if Oswald had been on any kind of nefarious operation he would have told his wife about it? Or anyone else?

On March 25 Hosty got a letter from Hoover telling him he was "now off probation" (page 108).

The assassination investigation conducted by then, according to Hosty, "had to be one of the most thorough and exhaustive in American history. We [sic] chased down every reasonable lead, and quite a few that were unreasonable for good measure" (page 108).

Both the thoroughness and the exhaustiveness are questionable.

*Return to Hal's "Henry Publishing" etc.*

corrupted biography Hosty says:

I learned the vast majority of this information after the assassination. Beforehand I simply knew that Lee had married a young Russian pharmacist. With hindsight, I felt even more strongly that Marina Oswald fit the FBI criteria as a KGB-planted sleeper agent" (page 113).

If she did there was no Russian would who did not. There also is absolutely no rational reason to suspect that she would have accepted such a role for the country she was so anxious to leave or that she had any special qualification for any such role.

Of all the millions of whom the KGB could draw there was no sensible reason to select one who spoke not a word of English to be a "sleeper agent" where English is the language.

When the Russians recently shared their files concerning their investigation of Oswald, it was determined that all of Lee Oswald's supposed friends in the Soviet Union were dutifully reporting everything they knew about Lee to the KGB. This included Oswald's "closest friend," Pavel Golovachev, who was the son of a Soviet Army general. If all of Oswald "friends" were reporting to the KGB, then why not Marina as well? It would be naive to think otherwise. I am confident that Marina was, at the very least, communication with the KGB about her activities with Oswald (page 114).

Whether ignorance or dishonesty accounts for this, and if it is not dishonest it certainly is ignorant, it illustrates that because he has no case at all of Marina as any kind of agent, ever, and because he needs something to give substance to his defense against his indefensible conduct and to make a book, he resorts to something like this, to suggest that because Marina was KGB they did not spy on her but used her as a spy.

The truth is well known.

The KGB suspected that Oswald could be the kind of agent Hosty tried to make Marina out to be. Upon Lee Oswald's original arrival to the USSR, the KGB ordered him to leave the country in a few days when his visa expired. Oswald cut his wrist, was found before he bled to death, and knowing nothing about the KGB decision the Red Cross arranged for his to remain in the USSR and for him to live and have a job in Minsk. But because the KGB did suspect Oswald might be a sleeper the KGB in Minsk had him under constant surveillance. That included bugging his small

*Cite here for FBI's Oswald interview*

apartment. It tailed him, too.

The sharing of files was not by the "Russians." It was by the Minsk KGB only it was paid for access by Lawrence Schiller. Norman Mailer joining him in a truly pathetic book mistitled Oswald's Tale, (Random House, 1995).

Marina was included in the surveillance. She was not separately in the reports the KGB got from their friends because the KGB's sole interest was in assuring itself that Oswald was not there as a sleeper. She is in those reports Mailer quotes.

Hosty is suspicious of Marina because the Soviets placed no barriers in the way of her leaving with Oswald. He calls that "astounding" (page 115). In fact the KGB had no love for Marina as a defected Komosomol and it was anxious to get Oswald out of the country, as anxious as our country was to get him back. There was nothing indicative of any KGB interest in Marina in her permission to leave the country. In the end Hosty makes a begrudging admission that he has no case at all but he does that in a way that says he still believes it:

I acknowledge that there is a very real possibility that Marina was nothing more than an innocent immigrant with no connections to the KGB. Some people may regard my suspicions as paranoid or outrageous, but as an FBI agent I was trained to be suspicious. Counterespionage work was my trade. When Oswald killed President Kennedy, any chance of determining whether Marina was a Soviet agent was both pointless and moot. Typically, to catch a spy you have to catch him or her in the act. With Marina thrust into the public spotlight by her husband's crimes, there was no chance to catch her doing anything but living a normal, routine life. To put a KGB sleeper in the public spotlight is tantamount to cutting the umbilical cord back to the KGB" (pages 115-6).

The last part of this is nonsense. A person in a public role has a natural, and ideal cover. Like a professor or a reporter. The first part is sour grapes. There is not even a hint of a suspicion of what use Marina could have been to the KGB as a sleeper agent in the United States, especially because she was married to a man the KGB knew would be of interest to American authorities. Aside from the FBI's file on him, those disclosed by the CIA are truly massive. The KGB would have assumed and had every reason to assume that he would be watched. That alone

could have ruined whatever value it might have seen in Marina, a value Hosty cannot and does not even suggest.

Having made all else up, he could not make this up. That is because there is nothing of which he could make it up

So, like all else, he merely assumes that.