

Marina Oswald

CNS/mar/aw/17Feb64

FEB 18 1964

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Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 17, 1964, advising the Commission regarding the information recently furnished by Robert Oswald through a Bureau confidential source to the effect that Marina Oswald was forcibly made to have intercourse with her business manager, James Herbert Martin, sometime during her recent stay in Washington when she testified before this Commission.

After receiving this information from you, I inquired of the Secret Service as to the period of their protective surveillance, the rooms occupied by Marina Oswald and Mr. Martin during their stay in Washington, and the existence of any notice Secret Service personnel may have had of the situation.

The Secret Service has informed me that during the period of their surveillance James Martin and John Thorne were assigned quarters in the Willard Hotel on a different floor than the one on which Marina Oswald was located, and that its personnel occupied a room which was part of Marina's suite until the early afternoon of Friday, February 7, when at Marina Oswald's request, protective surveillance was discontinued. I am informed also that after the surveillance was discontinued Mr. Thorne transferred from the quarters he had occupied to the bedroom formerly occupied by Secret Service personnel in the suite still occupied by Marina Oswald. It is not yet known with certainty whether Mr. Martin did likewise. If such were the case, however, it is possible that Marina Oswald and Messrs. Thorne and Martin occupied the suite together without surveillance on the night of February 7-8, 1964.

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S. A. R.*

I would appreciate very much if you would have your Bureau undertake an appropriate investigation of the matter in an effort to develop the full circumstances surrounding the referred to incident. In the judgment of the Commission it is important to ascertain: (1) whether the intercourse between Martin and Marina Oswald occurred at a time when she was under the protective surveillance of the Secret Service; (2) whether she was in fact forcibly subjected to intercourse against her will; (3) when and with whose assistance she decided to dismiss James Martin and John Thorne from further association with her business interests; and (4) the circumstances surrounding her taking up residence with the Declan P. Fords.

In pursuing your investigation the Commission respectfully suggests that among the persons interviewed regarding the alleged incident, your Bureau obtain, if practicable, signed statements from: Marina Oswald, James Martin, John Thorne, Robert Oswald and the Declan P. Fords. The statements of the latter three will probably be limited to what, if anything, Marina stated to them about the alleged incident.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in the work of this Commission.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel

File Marina

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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

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