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NARA 167 DATE 6-17-11

Feb 64

Rankin Papers

10 #s 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 + 10

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Howard P. Willens
FROM: Mr. William T. Coleman, Jr.
Mr. W. David Slawson

File - Marina Oswald

Box 10 F. 167

SUBJECT: Comments on Testimony of Marina Oswald Given on Monday, February 3, 1964 at the Morning Session on Tuesday, February 4, 1964

Our comments on her testimony are as follows:

1. At the very beginning she states that some of this information she gave the FBI was not correct (N.T. 220) Before the end of her examination the major bits of information she gave the FBI would have to be checked as she has to be asked about them so we can establish which are true and which are now said by her to be false.

2. Very early in her testimony, Marina volunteers, almost impossibly, that the whole attempt to go back to Russia was motivated by her husband and that she did not want to go. (N.T. 239) Her attempt to get this idea across is repeated at N.T. 240, 246, 312. She states that Lee wanted to go back to Russia because he had a hard time getting employment and he could not keep a steady job (N.T. 244), but at the time he made the suggestion he was actually working (N.T. 245).

3. Marina's testimony is far from correct and does not ring 100% true with respect to the Walker incident:

a. As a result of a suggestion by Rankin she

*File w/ Walker Shooting
Can be done later
- out, must be*

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concedes that the typing class was on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday (N.T. 237). The records of the typing school show that these were the dates.

b. As a result of a suggestion by Rankin she concedes that the Walker shooting incident took place on Wednesday (N.T. 261, 315).

*Note
✓ pointing
for
Rankin*

c. She also testified that when Lee was going to go to typing school he usually did not come home before dinner (N.T. 237).

d. The records of the typing school show that the class was from ^{6:15 to 7:15} ~~5:30 to 6:30~~ (FBI Report, No. 6-emberting, 12/11/63, page 170).

e. But when she describes the Walker incident, she said that Lee got home at 5:30 P.M. (N.T. 237), that he had his dinner and then left at 7:00 or 7:30 P.M. (N.T.).

f. She repeatedly told the FBI that when he left on Wednesday she thought he was going to the typing school. At N.T. 257, she says (that evening he went out, I thought he had gone to his class or perhaps that he had just walked out or went out, on business. It got to be about 10:00 or 10:30, he wasn't home yet and I began to be worried."

g. The material which follows the word "perhaps" is the first time that she is not firm in any statement which we I have read that she thought he was any place other than the typing school.

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n. Obviously when Rankin by his examination makes it clear that there was no typing school on Wednesday, her explanation has to change.

4. At N.T. 250, the following appears:

"Mr. Rankin: Is this rifle at Neeley Street the only rifle that you know of that your husband had after you were married to him?

Mrs. Oswald: Yes.

Mr. Rankin: Did you ever show that Rifle to De Morienschildts?

Mrs. Oswald: I know that De Morienschildts had said that the rifle had been shown to him. But I don't remember that."

However, her testimony at N.T. 302 is to the contrary, and a problem is created because of the leading nature of the question. The following appears:

"Mr. Rankin: When the DeMorienschildts came to the house and you showed them the rifle, did you say anything about it?

Mrs. Oswald: Perhaps I did say something to him, but I don't remember.

Mr. Rankin: Did you say anything like 'look what my crazy ^{this} one has done? Bought his rifle'. Or something of that kind?