

Memorandum

Belmont	
Mohr	
Callahan	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Evans	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr

TO

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 11/25/64

FROM

Mr. W. A. Branigan

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Rogge
1 - Mr. Lenihan

SUBJECT:

TESTIMONY BEFORE
WARREN COMMISSION REGARDING
ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT KENNEDY

*File
Marina
Sullivan*

*File pressure
on Marina*

Pressure on Marina

Reference is made to memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Rosen 11/24/64 advising FBI had received twenty-six volumes of testimony released to the public by the Warren Commission on 11/23/64. One set of testimony was made available to Domestic Intelligence Division and is being reviewed by such Division.

A review was made of the testimony of Marina Oswald during her appearance before the Commission, February 3 through 5, 1964. During such testimony, Marina Oswald brought no substantive information to the attention of the Commission that had not already been fully developed and reported to the Commission by the FBI.

However, at one point in her testimony, Marina Oswald made statements which were critical of the FBI. Such statements appear on pages 79 and 80 of Volume I of the hearings printed by the Commission. At this point in the hearings, Mr. Rankin of the Commission asked Marina Oswald whether the police, the FBI, and the Secret Service asked her any questions after the assassination. Marina Oswald answered that in the police station there was a routine regular questioning, as always happens, and that, thereafter, she was asked many questions by the Secret Service and the FBI. Marina Oswald then stated, "Sometimes the FBI agents asked me questions which had no bearing or relationship, and if I didn't want to answer they told me that if I wanted to live in this country, I would have to help in this matter, even though they were often irrelevant. That is the FBI."

Mr. Rankin then asked Marina Oswald, "Do you know who said that to you?" Marina Oswald then answered, "Mr. Heitman and Bogoslav, who was an interpreter for the FBI." (Immediately following the assassination, Marina Oswald was interviewed several times by a Special Agent Wallace R. Heitman of the Dallas Office and Special Agent Anatole A. Bogoslav, Russian-speaking Agent of the New York Office).

Enclosures *sent*

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W.P.

Memorandum to W. C. Sullivan
RE: TESTIMONY BEFORE WARREN COMMISSION
REGARDING ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Subsequently Mr. Rankin asked Marina whether the various people from the police and the Secret Service and the FBI treated her courteously when they asked her about matters concerning the assassination. Marina Oswald stated that she had a very good opinion about the Secret Service and the people in the police department treated her very well. She then stated, "But the FBI agents were somehow polite and gruff. Sometimes they would mask a gruff question in a polite form."

During this same point in her testimony, Marina Oswald indicated she had been contacted by an Immigration and Naturalization Service official who had informed her that if she was not guilty of anything and if she had not committed any crime against this Government, then she had every right to live in this country. Marina stated these comments were made to her by the Immigration official as a type of introduction before the questioning of her by the FBI. Marina alleged that the Immigration official even said it would be better for her if she were to help them (FBI). During this same point in the testimony of Marina Oswald, Mr. Rankin asked Marina, "Is there anything else about your treatment by law enforcement officials during this period that you would like to tell the Commission about?" Marina Oswald answered, "I think that the FBI agents knew that I was afraid that after everything that had happened I could not remain to live in this country, and they somewhat exploited that for their own purposes, in a very polite form, so that you could not say anything after that. They cannot be accused of anything. They approached it in a very clever, contrived way."

ANALYSIS:

While it does not appear that the Commission placed particular credence concerning the remarks of Marina, as noted above, since the Commission did not raise this point with the FBI during the period of its existence, it is felt, for the record, we should have Special Agents Heitman and Boguslav comment on Marina's remarks. It appears highly unlikely that Agents Heitman and Boguslav made such comments and it is noted that during the initial interviews of Marina by these Agents, Marina was generally uncooperative and pointedly stated she did not like the FBI. She indicated that both she and her husband, Lee Oswald, felt the FBI had caused Lee to lose one job after another. (This, of course, was not true and was conclusively proved to the Commission during our investigation of the Oswald Case.)

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It will also be noted that Marina Oswald deliberately withheld data during her interviews with our Agents (Walker incident, allegation to kill Nixon, and the like) and deliberately lied to Bureau Agents on various occasions (lied she did not know of Oswald's trip to Mexico when she did, and the like). Our Agents recognized that Marina was not cooperating and diligently and correctly pressed her for full and accurate information in view of the vital importance of this investigation. Marina undoubtedly resented this and this probably accounts for her remarks in her testimony enumerated above.

Following Marina's interviews and testimony before the Commission in February, 1964, we, of course, interviewed her on a number of occasions and Marina generally became more cooperative and we had no difficulties with her.

While the Commission initially may have had some concern regarding Marina's remarks, the Commission members' eyes were quickly opened concerning Marina immediately following her testimony before the Commission when she engaged in sexual intimacies with her then business manager, James Martin.

ACTION:

Attached is an airtel to the Dallas and New York Offices alerting each office to the remarks of Marina Oswald regarding interviews conducted by Special Agents Wallace R. Heitman and Anatole A. Boguslav. We are asking that Special Agents Heitman and Boguslav furnish their comments to the Bureau concerning scurrilous allegations of Marina Oswald.

P. L.
W. C. Sullivan
W. R. Heitman
A. A. Boguslav
Q
V.