

OSWALD & THE U-2 . . .

by Larry Heapanen

On May 1, Holt, Rinehart and Winston published Operation Overflight by Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 pilot shot down over Russia in May 1960. What has attracted attention to this book is Powers' suggestion that the Russians were able to shoot down his U-2 aircraft because of information supplied by Lee Harvey Oswald, who defected to Russia in October 1959.

Oswald joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1956, and was trained as a radar operator. In September 1957, he was assigned to Atsugi Air Base, Japan, at that time a base for U-2s flying over Russia and Red China. As a radar operator, scouting for incoming foreign planes and directing U.S. planes to their targets, Oswald may have been able to observe the U-2's flight characteristics, particularly its attitude, which was one of the closest-guarded secrets about the plane. In addition, members of his unit are known to

have performed guard duty for the U-2 while in the Far East. Oswald also had been trained in the use of electronic counter-measures, and the U-2s carried special counter-radar equipment designed to thwart attacking fighters and rockets. After returning from Japan, Oswald was stationed as a radar operator at El Toro, Calif., which, although not a U-2 base, was in an area frequented, according to Powers, by U-2 flights. Warren Commission Document 931, "Lee Harvey Oswald's Access to Classified Information about the U-2," is still classified SECRET, but Oswald obviously could have learned a great deal about the U-2.

In September 1959, Soviet Premier Khrushchev visited the U.S., and he and President Eisenhower reached an agreement to hold a Big Four summit conference. It was during Khrushchev's U.S. visit that Oswald, recently discharged from the Marines, embarked for Europe by ship. Arriving in Moscow in October, he immediately

took steps to defect to Russia. At the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, Oswald told the consul that he had already volunteered to Soviet officials to tell them everything he had learned as a radar operator in the Marines, intimating that he might know something "of special interest."

Within a few days of his arrival in Moscow, Oswald's application to stay was rejected by the Soviet Government. He reacted by slashing his wrist, perhaps as a bona fide suicide attempt, or simply a ploy to delay his leaving the country. The Warren Commission later concluded, "Since the KGB is the Soviet agency responsible for the initial handling of all defectors, it seems likely that the original decision not to accept Oswald was made by the KGB. That Oswald was permitted to remain in Moscow after his release from the hospital suggests that another ministry of the Soviet Government may have intervened on his behalf." Although the Warren Commission hazarded no guess as to

the identity of the other ministry we do have clues. First, the GRU (Soviet military intelligence) had been interested in the U-2 since 1958 at the latest, and must have jumped at the chance to interrogate a former Marine with access to information about the U-2. Second, Peter Deriabin, a KGB officer who defected to the West in 1954, has pointed out that both the KGB and GRU have their respective lobbyists at the highest levels of the Soviet Government, who seek to advance the interests of their favorite intelligence service. That such lobbying was done in Oswald's case is suggested by the existence of a classified Warren Commission Document, CD 1345, entitled: "Memorandum from Mr. Dulles re assistance rendered Oswald by Madame Yekaterina Alekssevna Furtseva, member of the Russian Presidium, to allow him to stay in Russia."

The U.S. State Department, in its official report on Oswald to the Warren Commission, said, "In the last days of November 1959, Oswald apparently left his hotel in Moscow without informing either the Embassy or American corre-

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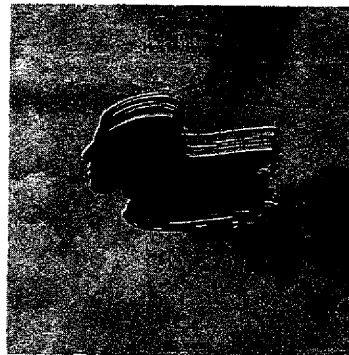


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Co. Supervisor Grant's Campaign Manager & Administrative Assistant as Silent Partner in Isla Vista Real Estate Manipulations

by Bonnie Adams



If a land developer wants to make a killing in real estate in Isla Vista, he will need to find ways to double or triple his investment. This has traditionally been accomplished through a process known as rezoning. The first step in that process involves buying or arranging to buy land that is zoned for low population density residences. The second step involves persuading the County Board of Supervisors to rezone it for high population density.

R-1 and R-2 zoning are considered to be low density. R-1 is single family homes; R-2 is duplexes. R-4, which is considered to be high density zoning, permits land so zoned to be filled with multiple-unit buildings (apartment houses).

A duplex is one building containing two living units; a fourplex is one building containing four living units, etc. The word "unit" as used in this article is interchangeable with the word "apartment." A unit may contain from one to five bedrooms.

A rezoning may increase the market value of a parcel of land by tens of thousands of dollars. Rezonings, if they are to be successful, almost always require the favor of the County Supervisor in whose district they are located. The other members of the Board generally will not vote for a rezoning if the Supervisor in whose district it is located is opposed to that rezoning. Rezonings in Isla Vista have almost always evoked a storm of protests from the community. Rezonings in Isla Vista have almost always been decided in favor of the developers who request them.

Daniel G. Grant is the County Supervisor who represents Isla Vista and Goleta. PROBE has discovered that in Isla Vista's most controversial rezonings, the developers have only Dan Grant's campaign manager in the deal.

Such activities have been going on unchecked and undetected in Isla Vista for a long time. The following two-part article will trace and document a six-year pattern of favoritism and conflict of interest.

PART I - 'The Davis Rezoning'

PROLOGUE

We now take you back to the year 1964. At the same time that Dan Grant was campaigning for re-election, a group of Isla Vista landowners asked the County Planning Commission to approve apartment rezoning on 8 acres of duplex-zoned land in Isla Vista. The Planning Commission turned down the request. The applicants then appealed to the Board of Supervisors where, upon the motion of Dan Grant, the Board overturned the Planning Commission decision and granted the rezoning. That rezoning, in the words of a Planning Department staff report, resulted in the "immediate increase of up to 200% in value of the property..."

THE FIRST APPLICATION

The property that we are going to discuss is bounded on the north by Abrego Road, on the south by Sueno Road, on the west by Camino Corto, and on the east by Camino Del Sur. In 1967, this area was divided by Estero Road, which runs in an east-west direction.

The northern 1/2 of the land lying between the present Estero Road and Abrego Road had been previously zoned R-4 (apartments). In 1962, the land to the east of the above described parcel was rezoned R-4. In 1963, the owners of the 3 parcels indicated on map 1 (see page 4) paid a \$100 filing fee and applied to the County for rezoning of their properties from R-2 (duplex) to R-4 (apartments). Numerous people objected to the proposed rezoning, including Isla Vista Realtor John Harlan. The manager of the Isla Vista Sanitary District also opposed it.

The County Planning Commission denied the rezoning and gave the following reasons for doing so: 1) only 47% of the land in Isla Vista which is presently zoned R-4 has been developed, so there is no need for additional R-4 zoning; 2) present R-4 zoning does not provide adequate parking; 3) it is

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GRANT DEED

FOR A VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged,

ESTHER A. DAVIS, a widow, do hereby
 GRANT to JOSEPHINE PINEAR, a married woman, as her separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; JOHN C. HARLAN, a married man, as his separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; ARTHUR L. SNYDER, a married man as his separate property and RICHARD C. CLEVELAND, a married man, as his separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; WILLIAM KOART, a married man, as his separate property; JACK SCHWARTZ, a married man, as his separate property and CARL CHANDLER, a married man, as his separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest;

the real property in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, described as follows:
 That portion of the Los Dos Pueblos Rancho, described as follows:
 Beginning at a point on the Westerly line of Camino Del Sur distant North 500 feet from its intersection with the Northerly line of Pasado Road as shown upon the map of "Isla Vista" recorded in Book 15, page 81 and following of Maps, records of Santa Barbara County, California; thence North along said Westerly line 150 feet; thence West 553.18 feet; thence South 150 feet; thence East 553.18 feet to the point of beginning.
 EXCEPTING therefrom one-half of all oil, gas, minerals and hydrocarbon substances lying below a depth of 500 feet from the surface of said land, but without the right of entry upon any portion of the surface above a depth of 500 feet for any purpose whatsoever.

Dated February 17, 1965

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF Santa Barbara

On February 17, 1965
 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared
 Esther A. Davis

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that she received the same

WITNESS my hand and official seal
 ALICE J. McCURE
 Notary Public, California
 Notary Office in Santa Barbara County

Name (Typed or Printed) ALICE J. McCURE
 This space for official notarial seal