

Mr. DENNIS HYMAN ~~OSWALD~~, photographer, Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall, Inc., 522 Browder, who resides at 6015 Bryan Parkway, telephone TA 7-7987, advised he was employed this company at the time LEE HARVEY OSWALD commenced his employment in about October, 1962, and that he was a fellow employee of OSWALD until OSWALD was terminated in about the spring of 1963. He said that the nature of his work and OSWALD's work brought them in fairly close contact with each other during the average working day. He said that he had ~~no social contact~~ with OSWALD or OSWALD's family away from the place of employment but that he did on one occasion shortly prior to OSWALD's termination invite OSWALD and his wife, whom he had never met, to his house to pay a social visit but that they never came. He stated he also ~~shortly~~ shortly after his termination at this company, addressing it to a Post Office box, Dallas, Texas, at the Main Post Office at Ervay and Bryan, inviting OSWALD and his wife to come and visit himself and his wife and again ~~the Oswalds did come and he was~~ He said that inasmuch as OSWALD had no automobile he had even offered to pick OSWALD and his wife up at their residence to take them to his house for a social visit.

OFSTEIN stated that OSWALD told him that his, OSWALD's, wife was a White Russian and that he believed he had indicated she was from Minsk; that they had met while in Russia. OFSTEIN said that possibly he himself got along with OSWALD better than anyone else who worked with OSWALD at Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall, probably because he did not argue with OSWALD and figured that OSWALD's personality was his own business. He said that he felt rather sorry for OSWALD because OSWALD had so much trouble getting along with other people. He said OSWALD claimed to have been in the United States Marine Corps but he could not recall that he had told him when; that OSWALD had indicated he had been stationed at one time in Japan with the U. S. Marine Corps; that he had been on some sort of rifle team in the U. S. Marine Corps at one time but gave no details of this.

205/472

on 12/2/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 100-10461
 and 12/3/63
 by Special Agent KENNETH E. JACKSON Date dictated 12/3/63

OFSTEIN said OSWALD brought a [redacted] book to work one day which was in Russian language and he asked OFSTEIN if OFSTEIN could read the book. OFSTEIN said he told OSWALD that he could read it to small extent. He said that he did not tell OSWALD where he learned Russian but added that he had actually learned it while he himself served in the U. S. Army in the Security Branch. He said OSWALD told him he had lived in Russia a couple of years and [redacted] Russia, [redacted]. He said that in the picture was a big building with a river in the foreground and a military establishment in the background. He said that it was his understanding that the building was [redacted] building. He noted that the building according to OSWALD was carefully guarded at all times and that OSWALD pointed out to him that military personnel guarding military establishments in Russia had automatic weapons which they kept loaded at all times. He said OSWALD said they had orders to shoot if any violation of the military establishment was committed. He said OSWALD inferred that apparently these military guards had no regard for lives of their countrymen. He advised [redacted] of military [redacted] in one [redacted] area. He said that OSWALD did not detail this to him but seemed well-versed in this disposition and had pointed out to him that the Russians had only one seaport of consequence for military operations. He said OSWALD also pointed out to him that if a person lived in the Soviet Union in an area where he could observe jets flying over, he would not see tanks or other type military activity in that area. He said OSWALD noted that he had never seen any contrails in Minsk which would have indicated an absence of jets in the Minsk area. He said that OSWALD told him the only time he had seen jets was in Moscow on May Day on one occasion.

According to OFSTEIN, OSWALD asked him at one time if he knew anything about microdots to which OFSTEIN replied he did not

205/473

He said OSWALD told him that microdots were used as a means whereby a page of anything could be reduced down to a size smaller than a postage stamp such that it could be concealed under postage stamp and could be used in espionage operations. OFSTEIN said this statement aroused his suspicions and he asked Sgt. TOM CRIGLER, who is employed with the U. S. Army Recruiting Station, Dallas, and is a resident of the Oak Cliff area of Dallas, regarding this. He said he told CRIGLER he had run into a fellow at work who had spent some time in Russia and he wondered if the FBI should run a security check on him inasmuch as he, OFSTEIN, did not want to jeopardize his own status for any possible future security clearance in the event he ever returned to the U. S. Army. He said he did not believe CRIGLER attached any significance to the matter at that time. OFSTEIN noted that he, himself, is not in the U. S. Army Reserve at the present time. He said that when OSWALD never came to visit at his house after being invited he gave this matter no further thought and figured that it had no bearing on his own status thereafter. He mentioned that he never knew OSWALD's exact residence and was under the impression OSWALD lived somewhere in Dallas.

OFSTEIN said OSWALD on one occasion had some Russian newspapers with him in the plant where they worked. He said he asked OSWALD where he got the papers and OSWALD told him he bought them through a New York firm known as VICTOR A. KAMKIN. He said that two or three days after this OSWALD brought to work some publications which were in Russian but the title of which in translation to English would have been "Soviet White Russia", "The Agitator" and "The Crocodile". He said that he believed it was on the back of "The Agitator" that OSWALD wrote VICTOR A. KAMKIN, New York, and told him that if he, OFSTEIN, would write KAMKIN, KAMKIN could furnish him the cost of various publications in Russian as well as the cost per unit number of publications. OFSTEIN said that OSWALD left these three publications with him and that he still has them at his home with OSWALD's handwriting on the back of one of them.

205/474

OFSTEIN said he asked OSWALD if there were any groups in the Dallas area that had discussions in Russian as he, OFSTEIN, was desirous of refreshing his own knowledge of the Russian language. He said OSWALD told him that the persons that he knew of would not be interested in a person unless he could handle Russian quite well. OFSTEIN said that automatically ruled him, OFSTEIN, out since he does not handle Russian with ease. He said OSWALD told him that if he would practice and try to improve his vocabulary on his own that possibly sometime he, OSWALD, could arrange for OFSTEIN to get together with a group to practice his Russian. OFSTEIN said this never happened.

OFSTEIN said that he recalled that one night a week while OSWALD worked at the Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall plant, OSWALD would leave work early and claimed he was going to night school; that he had some typing books; that it was believed OSWALD may have been attending N. R. Crozier Technical High School at Bryan and Live Oak Streets in Dallas.

OFSTEIN said that OSWALD kept pretty much to himself at the plant, and seemed to have no particular friends. He said that he was unaware if OSWALD had ever had any social contact with employees of the plant away from work. He said that as an indication of OSWALD's anti-social attitude he himself had on one occasion offered OSWALD a ride to the Post Office in Dallas in his automobile and OSWALD had declined. He said that OSWALD had never mentioned that he was affiliated with any organizations in Dallas or elsewhere and had never discussed politics or claimed to be a Marxist or communist. He said there was also no indication of adherence, advocacy or concern with the so-called "Communist Party Line". He said he himself never pressed OSWALD on these subjects as he thought OSWALD may have been in Russia on some mission for the United States. He said OSWALD never stated what his purpose was in being in Russia or how he got there or any details in that regard. He said that OSWALD complained of a lack of certain

205/475

commodities and food stuffs in Russia pointing out that for lack of butter in Russia the people used caviar on their bread. OSWALD told him that at eating places there would be an abundance of black bread on the table in thick, hard slabs, but that white bread was extremely difficult to obtain. He said that OSWALD told him that the government in Russia had offered persons land if they would go out and colonize, work up the land for agriculture, and stay there in the portion of Russia nearest Alaska.

OFSTEIN said that he asked OSWALD if the ~~Secret Police~~ in Russia had ever bothered him to which OSWALD replied that they had ~~interviewed~~ ~~people~~ ~~of his background~~ ~~regarding~~ ~~him~~ ~~but~~ ~~never~~ ~~interviewed~~ ~~him~~ ~~directly~~. He said ~~OSWALD~~ noted that he had been to Moscow and had ~~been~~ ~~in~~ ~~contact~~ ~~with~~ ~~people~~ ~~there~~ that he claimed he had ~~been~~ ~~in~~ ~~Russia~~, not only in White Russia, but also in other parts of the Soviet Union.

OFSTEIN said that on one occasion he himself said something very derogatory regarding FIDEL CASTRO and OSWALD merely shrugged his shoulders and did not seem upset regarding this comment. He said that if he had had an unfavorable reaction to OFSTEIN's remark about CASTRO he did not exhibit it.

OFSTEIN said that on OSWALD's last day of employment at the plant prior to his termination, he, OFSTEIN, asked OSWALD what he was going to do for work after he left. He said OSWALD told him he was not sure; that he liked this type of work and hated to leave it; that if he could not get a job, he could always go back to Russia. He said that following this remark OSWALD "sort of snickered."

Upon being recontacted on December 3, 1963, regarding the above information which OFSTEIN furnished above on December 2, 1963, OFSTEIN stated he had recalled something else that OSWALD had told him; that ~~OSWALD~~ ~~had~~ ~~told~~ ~~him~~ ~~not~~ ~~to~~ ~~tell~~ ~~anyone~~ ~~that~~

205/476

DL 89-43

DL 100-10461

OSWALD had been in the Service ~~there~~ for two years. OFSTEIN said that he believes he did mention this to one or two employees at the plant where he is employed (Jagers-Chiles-Stovall) but that this was after OSWALD had been terminated as an employee there, possibly only a month or so prior to the present time.

At this time OFSTEIN furnished the three publications mentioned above for which he had furnished translations as "Soviet White Russia", "The Agitator", and "The Crocodile". On the back cover of "The Agitator" OFSTEIN pointed out the following notation which he said had been made by OSWALD "VICTOR KAMKIN Book Store, Inc., 2906-14th Street, N.W., Washington 9, D. C." OFSTEIN stated that on the preceding day he had furnished KAMKIN's address as New York City according to his recollection, and that it is in fact Washington, D. C. as indicated here. He said in addition to the notation of the book store in Washington, D. C. on the back of "The Agitator", OSWALD had also noted some subscription rates for "The Crocodile", as well as for "Izvestia" and "Pravda".