

1

Date 6/25/64

MICHAEL R. PAINE, 2515 West 5th Street, Irving, Texas, was interviewed at his place of employment, Bell Helicopter Company Research Laboratory, Arlington, Texas.

PAINE stated that it was his custom in the Spring of 1963 to eat lunch on Sundays at the Luby's Cafeteria on Hillcrest across the street from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas (SMU). PAINE stated that after attending church services on Sunday, he would go to this cafeteria to eat lunch and would engage in what MICHAEL PAINE described as intellectual conversations or debates concerning world affairs with various SMU students.

MICHAEL PAINE stated that he did not specifically recall discussing LEE HARVEY OSWALD with any of these SMU students in April or May 1963, although he could very well have since at this time he was acquainted with OSWALD and OSWALD's background.

PAINE stated that he does recall discussing FIDEL CASTRO and CASTRO's regime in Cuba. PAINE stated that he believes that we in the United States do not look at the Cuban situation from the Latin American point of view, and that he, MICHAEL PAINE, is still not in favor of the United States' so-called tough line towards CASTRO. PAINE stated that he believes that we should work towards a lessening of tension between Cuba and the United States. MICHAEL PAINE further stated that he believes the United States embargo on Cuba gives CASTRO an excuse for Cuba's economic plight so that the Cuban people blame the United States rather than CASTRO or communism for their economic situation. MICHAEL PAINE stated that he also believes in more free trade with Eastern Europe and that we should stop saying "nasty things" to each other which foster hate and that we should attempt to get along with the Eastern European nations.

MICHAEL PAINE stated that he is certain that he did not discuss the Texas School Book Depository in April or

198

1245/196

on 6/25/64 at Arlington, Texas File # DL 100-10461
 by Special Agent A. RAYMOND SWIEZER and
JAMES P. HOSBY, JR./ds Date dictated 6/25/64

DL 100-10461

May 1963, because he never heard of the place until October 1963, when OSWALD obtained employment there. MICHAEL PAINE stated that he, himself, never worked at the Texas School Book Depository.

PAINE stated that his discussions with OSWALD usually involved discussion of communism and Russia, and he only recalls one occasion in October 1963, when OSWALD mentioned CASTRO. This was following a meeting of the American Civil Liberties Union in Dallas, when LEE OSWALD stated that a certain individual at this meeting, whom MICHAEL PAINE did not know, might be a communist since he spoke in favor of FIDEL CASTRO and CASTRO's regime in Cuba.

MICHAEL PAINE further stated that he recalled that in the Spring of 1963, while in some discussions at Luby's Cafeteria, he, MICHAEL PAINE, stated that he did not believe that CASTRO started out as a communist, but became one after coming to power because he was mishandled by the United States, and that we, the United States, should still back revolutions in Latin America against dictatorships.

MICHAEL PAINE further stated that he does not specifically recall discussing former President JOHN F. KENNEDY; however, any discussions he would have had regarding the late President KENNEDY would have been favorable since he was a strong admirer of the late President KENNEDY.

PAINE stated he did not specifically recall discussing the Bricker Amendment in any of the discussions at Luby's Cafeteria. MICHAEL PAINE further advised that he served in the United States Army as a combat artillery man in Korea during the Korean War and he believes he may have discussed the Korean War and prisoners of war from the Korean War during some of these conversations or debates at Luby's Cafeteria. MICHAEL PAINE stated that it is his belief that had the American soldiers been fully and properly instructed as to the evils of communism and not just taught a few outworn clichés about communism, the American soldiers who were prisoners of war might have been in a better position to resist communism brainwashing. 1245/197