

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DA, CH

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Thomas J. Hughes
The Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

SUBJECT: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy -
Verification of Entry in "Historic Diary"

1. Our memorandum of 18 February 1964 on the above subject recommended that the Department of State urgently request a careful search of Embassy and Consular records in Moscow for the purpose of identifying, if possible, the "elderly American" Lee Harvey OSWALD encountered while hospitalized in the USSR in October of 1959.

2. We have received a report that the hospital to which OSWALD was taken by the Soviet authorities after the suicide attempt mentioned in his "Historic Diary" may have been the Botkinskaya Hospital in Moscow. The 1953 and the 1962 Moscow telephone directories for Organizations and Institutions, list a hospital named S. P. BOTKINA. Our specialists advise that a native of Moscow would normally refer to this hospital as the "Botkinskaya." It is said to be the hospital to which foreigners and diplomatic personnel are generally taken in the event of an emergency or serious illness, and one building or wing of the hospital is reported to be especially designated for this purpose.

3. We would appreciate receiving information on any Americans who might have been patients at the "Botkinskaya" in the fall of 1959 that may be contained in your files or those of your Embassy in Moscow.

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

cc: Mr. J. Lee Rankin, Esq. ✓

Federal Bureau of Investigation

noted
3-31-64

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