

1

Date November 28, 1963

MRS. FRANK HENRY RAY, 4524 Alta Vista Lane, furnished the following information:

In about October, 1962, MR. and MRS. DECLAN FORD, Dallas, asked her to come to their house and meet a girl from Russia. She stated that she went there and met MRS. LEE HARVEY OSWALD, who had had a squabble with her husband and from what she gathered, the husband had mistreated the Russian girl. At that time MRS. OSWALD was staying at the FORD house and she herself invited her to stay at her home (MRS. RAY's) for a couple of weeks until she could locate employment. After about two days, LEE HARVEY OSWALD called on the telephone and asked if he could come by to see his baby and MRS. RAY agreed to this. LEE HARVEY OSWALD came to her house and he and his wife went into a room of the house and conferred for about one hour. She stated she gained the impression later that their conference was regarding family economics. They then announced that they had decided to go back together so MRS. OSWALD and the baby moved from the RAY premises. MRS. RAY remarked that the OSWALDs appeared to be very poor and it was her understanding that OSWALD at that time was earning approximately \$1.35 per hour. MRS. RAY therefore asked some of her neighbors if they had any old clothes or other items which they could contribute for the OSWALDs to use in view of the tight financial situation of the OSWALDs. MRS. RAY said she asked OSWALD why he did not talk English to his wife, and encourage her to learn English. She pointed out to OSWALD that his wife needed to learn English in order to learn to converse while living in United States. She said OSWALD indicated he did not care if his wife learned English and pointed out that he desired to keep his Russian fluent. Upon being asked why he wanted to keep his Russian fluent, OSWALD said he liked to speak another language besides English. She said OSWALD did not seem to approve of his wife having friends and would not even let her wear lipstick, or makeup of any kind. She stated that OSWALD himself declined to accept an alcoholic beverage when offered to him and told her "I don't drink". In further describing OSWALD's wife, MRS. RAY said that she considered his wife to be terribly immature, very slow and the type of person who does not know what is going on. She said she was very undecided and exhibited no interest in political matters whatsoever. She stated that in her opinion, she did not believe MRS. OSWALD would have necessarily shared any ideas held by OSWALD, unless it was merely

265 5/265

on 11/27/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 89-43  
 by Special Agent KENNETH E. JACKSON and JOHN V. ALMON/rs Date dictated 11/27/63



to appear co-operative with her husband. She stated that OSWALD's wife has indicated that she does not want to go back to Russia. She described her as a nice girl, a quiet type whom she considered shy, sweet and innocent, age about twenty-two, a wonderful mother in caring for her child. She was unaware that OSWALD's wife ever held any employment in the United States and she had no information that OSWALD's wife had ever applied for U. S. Citizenship. She stated she doubted if OSWALD would have permitted her to apply for citizenship.

MRS. RAY said she believed OSWALD's wife had no family in Russia; that her father possibly died when she was a child, that she was unaware (MRS. RAY) of any information regarding her mother and that she was raised by an aunt in Russia. She said she had no idea of where MRS. OSWALD came from in Russia but it was her belief that OSWALD and MRS. OSWALD had met initially in Leningrad.

MRS. RAY stated that in about December, 1962, she last saw MR. and MRS. OSWALD. She advised that MRS. FORD told her about two months ago, that OSWALD had been gone at that time to New Orleans, Louisiana, for about six months. She stated she was not aware they had returned to the Dallas, Texas area until after the assassination of President KENNEDY, at Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963.

MRS. RAY said that she never held any political discussions with MR. OSWALD and had no information to reflect that he was pro-Marxist in his views or that he was inclined to have any favoritism for CASTRO's Cuba. She said he never seemed to be the least bit intellectual or the "bookworm" type. She said she considered him dull and stupid. She said provided he was the person who assassinated President KENNEDY, she must, at this time, say that she would never have thought him capable of such a thing. She said he impressed her as the very quiet type but that he did seem arrogant, in the way he would look at people when they addressed him, as though they did not know what they were speaking about.

MRS. RAY said she believed that OSWALD may have been bitter over his inability to obtain employment in United States. She said that judging from what OSWALD's wife had said, OSWALD had been somewhat bitter while in Russia, because the Russians did not go out of their way to give him an important job. She said she believes she had heard that OSWALD was a laborer while in Russia.

266

5/206



She said she did not know why he returned to the United States. She said that he apparently was disillusioned because he did not attract enough attention to suit him while in Russia. She said that he was apparently a person who had little training and therefore would have had no right to expect any special attention in Russia.

Regarding herself, MRS. RAY stated that her name prior to her first marriage and prior to coming to the United States, was VALENTINA ANNA PERECHANSKYA. She was born Kursk, Russia, June 18, 1928, although she stated that when the Germans took her from Russia in May, 1942, for slave labor, they destroyed her birth certificate and gave her a new one which reflected that she was born one year earlier than her actual date of birth. She stated she was raised in Stalino Ukraine, Russia. She stated she arrived in New York City on July 13, 1946, after having married a U. S. serviceman who was in the U. S. Army, in Frankfurt, Germany, previous to that. She stated she became a naturalized citizen in 1949 and has since re-married.

267