

W. W. Schmitt

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> WASHINGTON, 11 - Contrary to sworn testimony, the CIA once considered using presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald as a source of intelligence information about the Soviet Union, according to a newly released CIA document.

> In sworn testimony before the Warren Commission, former CIA Director Richard Helms said the agency never had "or even contemplated" any contacts with Oswald.

The newly released document, written by an unidentified CIA officer three days after President John F. Kennedy was killed in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, says that "we showed intelligence interest" in Oswald and "discussed . . . the laying on of interview."

The unidentified officer added that "I do not know what action developed thereafter."

The memo has among hundreds of pages of documents from the CIA's file on Lee Harvey Oswald. The material was released to The Associated Press Thursday under the Freedom of Information Act.

A second document reveals that former CIA Director Allen Dulles, while serving as a member of the Warren Commission, privately counseled CIA officials on the best way to answer questions from the commission about allegations that Oswald was a CIA agent.

Dulles "thought language which made it clear that Lee Harvey Oswald was never an employee or agent of CIA would suffice," an unidentified CIA officer wrote Helms in April 1964.

"I agreed with him that a carefully phrased denial of the charges of involvement with Oswald seemed most appropriate," the unidentified officer added.

which he appeared before the Commission in 1963, stated, which would  
of the agency's clandestine services, testified under oath that  
"there's no material in the Central Intelligence Agency, either in  
its records or in the mind of any of the individuals that there was  
any contact had or even contemplated with" Oswald.

The Nov. 25, 1965, memo explains that the agency's interest in  
Oswald as a potential intelligence source was due to his "unusual  
behavior in the U.S.S.R.," to which he had defected in 1959.

"We were particularly interested in the (deleted) Oswald, might  
provide on the Kinnaird factory in which he had been employed, on certain  
sections of the city itself, and of course we thought the usual  
(deleted) that might help develop (deleted) new military conditions,"  
the memo states.

The memo indicates that Oswald was also of interest to the CIA  
because of concern that his Russian-born wife, Marina, might have been  
part of a trend for Soviet women to marry foreigners, leave the  
country and settle overseas where they could serve as spies.

The allegations that Oswald was a CIA agent were first made by his  
mother, Marguerite, and attorney Mark Lane. Another document released  
by the agency shows that the CIA believed such allegations were  
"elements of a world-wide, Soviet-sponsored propaganda and  
mis-information program."

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NOTE: mis-information program."

The memo about the agency's interest in Oswald said the discussions  
about Oswald occurred "some time in summer 1960." The author  
continued, "I don't recall if this was discussed while Oswald and his  
family were en route to our country or if it was after their  
arrival."

However, the Warren Commission report shows that the Oswalds were  
not married until April 1961 and did not return to the United States  
until 1962. It is unclear what significance, if any, this discrepancy  
indicates.

Deletions made by the CIA before releasing the memo make it  
impossible to determine with whom in the CIA the officer discussed  
Oswald or to whom his memo was directed.

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