

History 315.

Re: Notes on Odwald, Russians, Cia--Cold War Setting

Summers, Conspiracy(Chpt. 17)

Break with the Epstein thesis in that Summers, a British investigative reporter, believes that Oswald was used by renegade elements of US Intelligence, anti-Castro Cubans, and elements of the Mafia.

In this chpt. Summers delves into Oswald in New Orleans. Many who support the view that Oswald had associations with US Intelligence believe that the key to Oswald--who he was--is or can be found in New Orleans connections.

Summers' chapter (little that is original; most of it is a synthesis of other writers) gives us a seductive view of Oswald after his return from the Soviet Union. Oswald comes through as a man who is indeed having a Legend created around him--that of a left-wing, pro-Castro activist in New Orleans. Who is being "used" or is involved in activities that can be explained as having a "legend" or "image" being created for him; a classic case of an intelligence cover.

Summer deals with the office of Oswald's Fair Play For Cuba Committee (of which he was president and sole member in New Orleans), in the same building that housed the activities of Guy Bannister. Bannister former FBI man, a record with Naval Intelligence, and a stereotypical hysterical anti-Castro Communist vintage early 1960s. Oswald shared the building with Bannister at 544 Camp Street.

Bannister's associations.

Oswald's alleged associations with David Ferrie. Oswald family associations with elements of organized crime in New Orleans. Ferrie's association with Marcello the Mafia chieftain of New Orleans. . . .