

Memorandum

8

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555)

DATE: 7/30/75

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (105-15823) (RUC)

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
IS - R - CUBA  
OO: Dallas

Re reports of SA DAVID J. REID at El Paso, dated 12/20/63 and 1/30/64, captioned as above; and reports of SA DAVID J. REID at El Paso, dated 2/4/64 and 6/9/64 in the case captioned "RICHARD CASE NAGELL, aka, ESPIONAGE - X, Bureau File 64-48933.

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies each, and for Dallas is one copy each of the following 16 communications:

- Referenced report, dated 12/20/63.
- Referenced report, dated 1/30/64.
- Letter of WILLIAM R. MARTIN, dated 6/20/67.
- Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 6/30/67.
- Letter of WILLIAM R. MARTIN, dated 9/11/67.
- Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 11/21/68.
- Letter of WILLIAM R. MARTIN, dated 11/23/68.
- Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/18/75.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 32) (RUC) (EX 10A)
- 1 - Dallas (100-10461) (Enc. 16) (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (1 - 65-7445) (RICHARD CASE NAGELL)

DJR/AMM (12)

Nagell w/enc. list to 116 T1 11/15/75

Dec 4/1975  
RUC  
M

SEP 25 1975

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

105-82555 Ser 238

LA 105-15823

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/21/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/23/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 6/29/75.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 6/30/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 7/5/75.

Letter of RICHARD H. POPKIN, dated 7/7/75.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 7/9/75.

Letter of RICHARD C. NAGELL, dated 7/16/75.

Enclosed 7/16/75 letter is addressed to the Assistant Director in Charge of the Los Angeles Office by RICHARD C. NAGELL. In the letter, NAGELL makes reference to the two referenced reports of the El Paso Office, dated 12/20/63 and 1/30/64 (enclosed) wherein NAGELL is mentioned and which apparently had been obtained from the FBI by Professor RICHARD H. POPKIN, Department of Philosophy, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California.

In his 7/16/75 letter, NAGELL complained that he had "never authorized the FBI to release any information about me to any private individual or non-official organization."

In addition, NAGELL complained these two El Paso reports in question contained incorrect information about him. He closed his letter by stating "I trust that this will clear up any question concerning the matter that conceivably might be raised in the future".

The writer of instant letter, now assigned to the Los Angeles Office, prepared the El Paso reports in question and well remembers encounters with NAGELL in El Paso, Texas.

The synopsis of referenced report, dated 2/4/64, reads as follows:

LA 105-15823

Background: Subject entered U.S. Army 8/5/48 and honorably discharged as Captain 10/29/59. Received many campaign awards during Korean conflict. Sole survivor airplane crash 11/28/54, suffered facial disfigurement and given psychiatric examination. Subject claimed he was released from employment by State Beverage Department, Los Angeles, California, 6/8/62, having been accused of taking \$20,000 bribe. Subject refused furnish police details of his shooting by unidentified assailant on 7/16/62 and subsequently filed Civil Rights complaint against police. In September, 1962, subject advised U.S. Embassy, Mexico City, he had been approached for recruiting in Mexico City, refused to elaborate, did not desire to return to U.S., was "bitter, disgusted, disillusioned and disaffected." Said if he did go to some other country it would cost U.S. millions, was "through being a good citizen" and thought he had gotten a "dirty deal all around." Advised FBI in New York City on 11/16/62 he wanted to expose Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control in California. Advised FBI in Jacksonville, Florida on 12/15/62 he had been approached shortly before in Washington, D.C., by individual believed to be working for Soviets; contacted CIA in Virginia for instructions, was sent to Miami, Florida, by his Soviet contact and said he believed he was actually working for Soviets. Subject's condition diagnosed at Veterans Administration Hospital, Bay Pines, Florida, in January, 1963, as "chronic brain syndrome associated with brain trauma with behavioral reaction characterized by passive, aggressive and paranoid features." Asked FBI in Miami on 1/24/63 if his Cuban or Russian sources gave him a pistol and microfilm would he be permitted to return same to his contact so he could be of further use to U.S. Government. Claimed to be constantly under surveillance. Advised FBI in Los Angeles on 4/19/63 he had taken former wife to court on same date for failure to comply with court order giving subject visitation rights with children. Subject's condition diagnosed by Veterans Administration, Los Angeles, on 6/4/63 as "depression, tearful, nervous, rigid. Would only utter words 'Got to see my kids.'"

LA 105-15823

Attempted Bank Robbery: Subject arrested 9/20/63 in El Paso, Texas, on charge of attempting to rob State National Bank, El Paso, same date in violation Section 2113, Title 18, U.S. Code. Slashed wrist night of 9/20/63, felt he needed psychiatric treatment, highly emotional when interviewed, given to spells of crying, stated unable to get on feet since discharge from U.S. Army. Cell mate said subject apparently became member Communist Party during confused period after discharge, decided everything was against him in Los Angeles and made arrangements with Communist Party in Los Angeles to pick up visa and passport from contact in El Paso and eventually end up in Czechoslovakia. Subject reportedly attempted suicide three times enroute to El Paso but lost nerve. Advised FBI in El Paso on 1/6/64 he was instructed by agent of foreign government in September, 1963, to comply with agreement made in May, 1963, to participate in criminal offense against United States or be exposed to FBI, which caused subject to act as he did on 9/20/63. Subject ordered sent to Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, on 1/24/64, by U.S. District Court, El Paso, for 30-day period to undergo psychiatric examination.

Alleged Connection with LEE HARVEY OSWALD: Subsequent to President's assassination, subject claimed acquaintance with OSWALD and wife. On 1/18/64, MARINA OSWALD disclaimed any knowledge of subject. Description and Identification Record: Set out. SUBJECT HAS ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

Referenced report dated 6/7/64 contains information obtained from his military record, beginning on page 49. Information is set out therein regarding his health status.

In view of the information set out above, it would seem that NAGELL's appearance before the Church Committee, as suggested in the POPKIN letter, dated 6/18/75, could prove to be embarrassing for that Committee.

No further action is being taken in this matter by the Los Angeles Office.