

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Rosca

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: June 23, 1966

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Lenihan

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

On June 22, 1966, Mr. S. Douglass Cater, Jr., Special Assistant to the President, contacted Mr. Donahoe in Mr. DeLoach's office and indicated that the publisher of Reporter magazine, described by Cater as a friend of the President, is planning to write a responsible article on the assassination of President Kennedy to rebut some of the more sensational books recently published which have taken issue with the Warren Commission report. Mr. Cater specifically made reference to a small portable radio which was found in Oswald's effects by the Dallas Police Department and which is now in custody of the FBI Laboratory until disposition is made of all evidence in this case.

Mr. Cater indicated that the article for Reporter magazine is being prepared by one Al Newman who has developed a theory that Oswald may have been influenced by listening to inflammatory remarks by Fidel Castro on the radio found in Oswald's possession. Cater requested that he be furnished all data in our possession regarding the radio, its capability to receive Cuban broadcasts and any data we may have received as to its use in this regard.

A small, brown, plastic Russian-made radio commonly known as the "Tourist" was found in Oswald's effects after his arrest. This radio was designed for use on standard broadcast frequencies and is similar in this respect to American-made radios commonly found in the American home. The radio could be used with dry cell batteries or with a small power supply unit which would enable the radio to be operated on ordinary house current. Someone living in the Southeastern section of the United States could listen to Cuban broadcasts with this radio, particularly at night when reception would be better, if radio operating properly.

The radio was not in operating condition when it was received by the FBI Laboratory from the Dallas Police Department. The battery terminals were badly rusted and one terminal was missing. No effort was made by the FBI Laboratory to repair the radio since to have done so would have changed the physical

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Enclosures 36

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6/23/66

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SOVIET SECTION

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[Handwritten notes and signatures]

Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

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condition of the radio from that in which it was received. Obviously, from an evidentiary standpoint, it was essential no steps be taken to alter the radio.

The Warren Commission was furnished data by this Bureau concerning the radio since it was listed in an inventory of all evidence obtained. The Commission did not assign an exhibit number to the radio and no mention of it was made by the Commission in its "Report on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy." During our investigation of Oswald, we developed no information indicating Oswald used this radio to listen to Cuban radio broadcasts.

Copies of photographs of the radio (FBI identification number A-2) and the power supply unit (FBI identification number A-6) are attached as enclosures to this memorandum.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is a letter to Mr. Cater furnishing him the information concerning the radio as set forth herein in accordance with his request. We are suggesting that Mr. Cater not release the data furnished him concerning the radio to any publication without clearing such release with the Attorney General. We are pointing out to Mr. Cater that under Public Law 89-313, which was enacted on November 2, 1965, the Attorney General was authorized to choose any item of evidence for retention by the Government as it relates to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Rel

10/1/65

*Conrad's letter
to make some other
repository for all
items in the case other
than FBI. I would
like to be able to say
we have nothing.*

- 1 - Mr. Conrad - Enc.
- 1 - Office, 7133 - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Baker, Attn: Mr. Walter - Enc.
- June 24, 1966
- 1 - Mr. Frazier

Mr. Conrad

R. H. Jevons *O*

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA

On 6/22/66, Supervisor Robert Lenihan, Domestic Intelligence Division, called to inquire whether the brown plastic portable radio among Lee Harvey Oswald's effects was a standard broadcast band receiver or a short-wave receiver and whether it was in operating condition. He desired this information so he would be in a position to answer an inquiry from S. Douglas Cater, Jr., Special Assistant to the President, the details of which are set out in a memorandum of 6/22/66, from Mr. Donahoe to Mr. DeLoach.

SA Robert A. Frazier, Firearms Unit, advised Mr. Lenihan that the radio, called the "Tourist," Item A2 in our inventory of evidence being maintained in connection with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, was still in the custody of the Laboratory and had never been made an exhibit by the President's Commission. He further advised that Item A6 in our inventory is the power supply for the radio and is designed to permit use of the radio from house current, rather than from its own dry cell batteries. Incidentally, no batteries were in the radio when it was received and, in fact, one battery terminal was missing which would greatly reduce the length of time the radio could be operated on battery power. Further, one of the battery contacts and its mounting bracket was severely rusted.

The radio and power supply are of Russian manufacture and the Russian language markings on it were translated into English by SA Joseph Laverin, Washington Field Office. The translation is enclosed along with certain work notes and diagrams.

An examination of the radio and power supply was

105-82353

Enclosure

2 ENCLOSURE

- ① - 62-109060 - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Mohr - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Rosen, Attn: Mr. Raupach - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan, Attn: Mr. Lenihan - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Wick - Enc.

62-109060-
NOT RECORDED

46 JUL 13 1966

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09 JUL 15 1966
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(CONTINUED-OVER)

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made by SA Winton P. Walter, Electronics, who determined that the radio was not in operating condition. No attempt was made to repair the radio since to do so would have changed its physical condition from that in which it was received.

The dial of the radio is marked "DB" (Long wave) and "CB" (Medium wave). The radio, therefore, will tune through and slightly beyond the broadcast band as used on the common household radio in the United States. The radio will not receive short-wave broadcasts; however, there is no reason to believe this radio would not be capable of receiving stations in Cuba, particularly at night, when located in the southern United States.

Mr. DeLoach's office was advised telephonically of the nature and condition of the radio on 6/22/68.

ACTION: None. For information.

TRANSLATION OF RUSSIAN LANGUAGE INFORMATION
ON ITEM A2

BATTERY: Anodic battery Model 75 AM -22 E.M.F.
1.65 VOLTS. WORKING LIFE 8-10 DAYS AT 3 HRS.
PER DAY.

WORK FROM BATTERY: Set the volume control on nearest _____.
Connect contact buttons to one battery and
place in holder with contacts downward. Place
filament battery in position "new." Place filament
cells head upwards (according to diagram in the
instructions). Approximately after 10 hours of use
transfer cells _____ set in position "old."

WORK FROM LINE: Place fuse in rectifier unit in position to
correspond with line voltage available at
place of reception. Adjust receiver for unit-
rectifier. Place cord in line plug (only alternating
current).

RECEIVING: Set key according to band desired "DB" (Long waves)
or "CB" (Medium waves). Rotate knob of volume
controls. Turning rotating disc pointer on scale
marking corresponding to wave length of station
being received. If turning the receiver on a
vertical axis, it is necessary to slowly turn the
turning disc to the point of maximum loudness.
Adjust the volume control by hand to the desired
loudness.

CLOSURE

62-109060-



ВЫКЛЮЧЕНИЕ

Turn off key

TURNING off

НАЖМИТЕ КЛАВИШУ ВЪКЛ

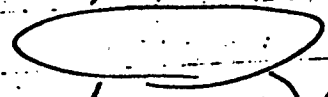
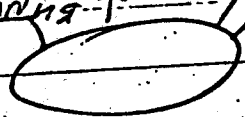
Short wave range
КВ ДИАПАЗОН

Long wave range
ДВ ДИАПАЗОН

КОНТРОЛЬ
КВАЛИА

РЕГУЛЯТОР
ПРОМКАСТИ

variable
change condenser unit
БЛОК ПЕРЕМЕННЫХ
КОНДЕНСАТОРОВ



"B" Bat
БАТЕРЕЯ
АНОВАНАЯ

элементы
НАКАЛТА (A Bat)

62-109860-
ENCLOSURE