

Q. Did she tell you whether or not they discussed political...
A. She said she was arguing with him about that. Certainly, in fact, [as] he called her, she was a typical American girl, ... not interested at all in politics. ... She said she wanted a house and family and he said "All the American girls think that way". . . .

For the rest of their life together, Marina would continually wonder whether Lee loved her or not and would continue to hope he would give up this rival, politics, and settle down.

Occasionally Oswald would get into some friendly political arguments with the Taylors. He talked about the ideal society he had written about. Alexandra said, "He believed in the perfect government, free of want and need, and free of taxation, free of discrimination, free of any police force . . . total and complete freedom in everything." She felt he was "extremely devoted" to his ideas and "very, very rigid." And she found him persuasive: "He could almost make anybody believe what he was saying." But her overall opinion was negative. She thought he expected things to be given to him on a silver platter.

Gary Taylor was a Democrat who often expressed a strong disapproval of the John Birch Society, but there was little else he and Oswald could agree on. He gathered that Marina's husband was pro-Communist but anti-Russian, and that Oswald was disappointed when the Russians assigned him to a factory job instead of giving him "something important to do."

Max Clark, a Fort Worth attorney and friend of George de Mohrenschildt, met Oswald at about this time and got a similar impression about Oswald's ambitions and his reasons for leaving the Soviet Union. Oswald told him he had been unhappy about his work assignment in Minsk and had finally made up his mind that the Russian system was not "true communism" and that he would "never be able to get ahead or make his mark" in the Soviet Union. Clark told the Warren Commission that Oswald "seemed to have the idea that he was made for something other than what he was doing."

In October 1962 a serious international crisis developed over the introduction of Soviet nuclear missiles into Cuba. In a dramatic television appearance President Kennedy announced that he had ordered a naval blockade to prevent Soviet ships carrying more missiles from entering Cuban waters. After almost two weeks of worldwide fear of a nuclear war the confrontation ended on October 28, when the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw the missiles—over the strong protest of

she does she tell why? at the time she was vacationing in the apartment to a she? Because they lie in apartment to the entrance she is telling & all they in apartment vacation make of 12 cars only need protection

Fidel Castro.

We have only a glimpse of Lee Harvey Oswald's reaction to this crisis. According to one man who met him at a party the following February, after citing the Bay of Pigs and the missile crisis as examples of imperialist interventions, Oswald suggested that Kennedy's actions had set the stage for a nuclear holocaust. He added that even after the missiles had been withdrawn, American-sponsored acts of terrorism and sabotage against Cuba were continuing. This was presumably a reference to the sporadic paramilitary raids conducted by Cuban exile groups. (This account was, incidentally, the only report of Oswald's saying anything critical about President Kennedy before late September 1963.)

A day or two after the missile crisis ended, Oswald clipped a coupon from a pamphlet the Socialist Workers party had sent him, checked the box "I would like to join the Socialist Workers Party," and sent it via airmail to the New York headquarters. Writer Albert H. Newman has suggested that this action may be read as a sign of Oswald's feelings about the missile crisis. A Trotskyist group, the Socialist Workers party vehemently supported Castro and often criticized the Soviet Union for being too soft on Western imperialism. Since there were no chapters of the organization in Texas at that time, Oswald was unable to join. On the back of the coupon, now a Warren Commission exhibit, a portion of the party's message can be seen, and its tone suggests another reason Oswald may have been attracted to this group:

... that you are helping in the greatest cause ever undertaken, and that your weight really counts.
Socialism is the only road leading away from poverty, inflation, unemployment, imperialist war, totalitarianism—all the world-wide scourges of decaying capitalism. Socialism can save us from capitalist barbarism and open up a new world for humanity. The most courageous workers, those capable of the greatest sacrifices, those intelligent enough to see the task and endowed with the will to carry it out, must take the lead. That is our historic. . . .

In November Oswald finally rented an inexpensive apartment for his family on Elisabeth Street in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas. His landlady, Mrs. Mahlon Tobias, remembered that when he looked the place over, he particularly wanted to be shown the back entrance. Weeks later, when she rang his doorbell, Oswald came out the back

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