

LHO's security clearances

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Ms. Davison begins with the determination to "get" Lee Harvey Oswald, not for any act but because of what she, contrary to the evidence of her own sources, believes were his politics. To this end she has but a single sentence on the assassination. She assumes the Warren Report is right because it says it is, and she disregards all the evidence it published but disregarded ⁱⁿ its volumes that are her major sources.

The best example of this is her unequivocal statement that as a Marine Oswald had the lowest security clearance when he ^{actually} held the highest security clearances.

From the time he completed his radar training, first basic and then advanced, every one of Oswald's Marine assignments was closely related to the CIA. Because three of these are not identified in his Marine records - but are clearly indicated in the very testimony she cites - Ms. Davison, too, omits those assignments and insists he had the lowest security clearance when her own sources say the exact opposite and identified those operations.

"Confidential" clearance, the lowest, was required for taking the basic radar course and it is the only security clearance the Marines posted on Oswald's record and that of the four others in his outfit of 100 men who took the advanced training with him and came out qualified for and worked on what one of his mates described as "black box" stuff of highest classification. All had "crypto" clearance and that special clearance required top secret clearance.

I published this in 1967 but Ms. Davison elected to omit all seven of my books from her bibliography and quoted sources. Since then I obtained confirmation from the Navy, but Ms. Davison also elects to ignore the third

of a million pages of FBI, CIA, Navy and Secret Service records forced out of secrecy by Freedom of Information lawsuits, mostly mine. There is not even a reference to their existence in her book.

Ms. Davison says (76): "Like his fellow radar operators, Oswald had a low security clearance. In 1964, John Donovan, his former crew chief, listed the confidential information Oswald was known to have had access to." Actually, Donovan, who was the commissioned officer in charge, testified that Oswald acted as crew chief. Donovan never once said or even suggested that Oswald had access only to "confidential." On the very page Ms. Davison cites he testified to the exact opposite, that even after return to the United States, with lesser security needs, not in the theater of operations where security needs are greater, Oswald still had to have had at least secret clearance for his job. And not Donovan alone - all who had knowledge - so testified.

To emphasize that Oswald had the lowest clearance, there are two notes (257): "Low security clearance, XXIII,796, ~~XVIII~~,116" and "Access to confidential information, VIII,298." The first of these, a rehash of obviously incomplete Marine records, has only the minimum requirement at fundamentals and everyday radar operations. But it nonetheless also states the opposite of what Ms. Davison says, on the very page she cites, that it was the practice of the Marines, where "assignments required a higher clearance than confidential in order to perform specific electronic duties, personnel with clearances commensurate with the duties to be performed were assigned thereto." Her second citation, the Navy's cable to the Moscow embassy when Oswald allegedly defected, actually lies about his Marine records and says "No record of clearance" while suggesting that, as all radar operators, he may have had confidential clearance. Her third citation is to page 298 of Donovan's testimony, where he never used the word confidential. He swore, exactly as the Marines stated in

her first citation, that Oswald's job "required a higher clearance than confidential" and that "He must have had secret clearance to work in the radar center because that was a minimum required of all of us."

Ms. Davison quotes Donovan selectively on the kind of information Oswald had back in the United States. He lists nothing with a low security requirement. It all required, as he testified, at least secret clearance. What she omits is "the authentication code of entering and exiting the Air Defense Identification Zone" and the range of his unit's radar and radio and that of all surrounding units. She represents that this required only the lowest clearance and adds the opposite of what Donovan testified to. She says that Oswald "would not have had the technical expertise to reveal very much about those devices," including the then ultra-secret height-seeking radar. Donovan actually testified that Oswald had been "schooled" in such equipment and that, with regard to the height-seeking radar, "it had certain limitations. He had been schooled on those limitations." All this on the very page she says proves that Oswald had the lowest possible security clearance and no technical expertise.

Also back in the US another of those Marines Ms. Davison quotes says exactly the opposite of Oswald's having only the lowest clearance. Kerry Thornley twice testified that Oswald was cleared higher than "the clearance to operate radar devices," twice testified that Oswald had at least secret clearance and, more fascinating still, that at the end of his enlistment Oswald, the Marine who received all that Russian literature openly through the mails, was assigned to work in the base security files. Thornley is confirmed by ^{two} ~~another~~ of that special five, ^{and Nelson Delgado} Dan Powers, Work in the security files requires high clearance.

^{two} Thornley twice testified that all in his unit had confidential clearance but Oswald's was higher. So did Powers ^{and Delgado.}

Powers testified - and Ms. Davison omits - that five of the hundred had special jobs and much higher clearances, that they had been together from fundamentals and through advanced training, that their special and highly classified work included "an early warning system," and that he and Oswald had at least three delicate assignments for the Marines that are not on their personnel records. (They are hidden under the meaningless description of "maneuvers.") There were two CIA attempts to overthrow the leftist Indonesian government. Oswald and his special unit were in both. After the first was aborted, instead of returning to their base at Atsuga, Japan, with its CIA base, they went to where the CIA had another major base, Cubi Point, in the Philippines.

During their six months at Cubi, one of these select five, Martin Schrand, killed himself. The Navy's official investigation identified the place Powers, Oswald and the two others worked, "the crypto van." Just entering it required crypto clearance. It had been moved off the carrier used in the Indonesia operation. This Navy inquest is among the records I obtained under FOIA, that third of a million pages entirely ignored by Ms. Davison.

The very testimony Ms. Davison cites makes it clear that each and every one of Oswald's assignments as a Marine was closely related to the CIA and intelligence operations, to what one of his former Marine friends described as "black box" stuff.

If Ms. Davison had not spent 20 years avoiding and ignoring everything not in accord with her preconception, including all seven of my books, she would have known that I published this 16 years ago after one of Oswald's former companions told me. Based on his accurate information I obtained the Navy records that confirm him: Oswald and the other four all had top secret and crypto clearances because their special work required it. He told me their work was so very special there were only two other units like theirs, 15 men in all, assigned to the Orient and the United States. (I can read that ^{information} if you'd like.)

The House Assassins Committee engaged in the identical cover-up. It used its own strawman. It referred to a book other than mine and cited the identical incomplete Marine summary of Oswald's career, which lists only his first clearance for basic school. Although this record says it, like Ms. Davison, the committee did not say that those who required higher clearances, like Oswald, had them.

~~It is the function of writers to ask questions and seek answers, not to propagandize in support of government, particularly when the crime is so subversive, a crime that nullifies our entire system of society.~~

Particularly, too, when the available evidence, ^I the very evidence Ms. Davison drew upon, spells out ~~so~~ clearly that the man the government says assassinated the President also had ^{the} to have high and ~~unusual~~ security clearances and spent his military career in close association with CIA activities.