

NY Times MAR 22 1976

## Cuban Defector, Cited by C.I.A., Hinted Oswald Link to Havana

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WASHINGTON, March 21 (AP)—A Cuban defector told the Central Intelligence Agency in 1964 that Lee Harvey Oswald may have been in contact with Cuban intelligence agents seven weeks before he killed President Kennedy, newly released documents show.

The defector, described as "a well-placed individual who has been in contact with officers of the Cuban Directorate General of Intelligence," also told the C.I.A. that the Cuban intelligence agency took extraordinary security precautions immediately after the Kennedy slaying, according to the documents.

The information was relayed to the Warren Commission, which "saw no need to pursue this angle any further," according to the C.I.A. memorandum, written in June 1964. No mention of the defector or his information appears in the report of the commission headed by the late Chief Justice Earl Warren, which concluded that there was no evidence of a foreign or domestic conspiracy behind the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Memorandums regarding the Cuban defector were among some 1,500 pages of C.I.A. memo stating that the Warren Commission should have given more credence to the possibility of a foreign conspiracy in light of promising leads that were not pursued.

The documents were originally provided to a commission headed by Vice President Rockefeller that investigated allegations of wrongdoing in the American intelligence commu-

nity last year. They were later turned over to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, whose subcommittee, headed by Senator Richard S. Schweiker, Republican of Pennsylvania, is investigating the Kennedy assassination.

The memos regarding the Cuban defector quote him as saying, "I have no personal knowledge of Lee Harvey Oswald or his activities and I do not know that Oswald was an agent of the Cuban Government." However, the same memos offer differing accounts of what the unidentified defector said about the possibility of a contact between Oswald and Cuban intelligence agents.

The first mention of the defector appears in a May 5, 1964, internal C.I.A. memo in which he is quoted as saying that Oswald "was in contact" with three Cuban agents "before, during and after" his visits to the Cuban and Soviet embassies in Mexico City in late September and early October 1963. A subsequent memo on May 8, 1964, quotes the sources as saying that he believed that Oswald was in contact with the Cuban agents.

When the information was forwarded to the Warren Commission on May 15, 1964, a memo said, "According to the source, Oswald may have been interviewed by Vega [one of the Cuban agents] on his assistant but this is strictly conjecture on his part." A June 19 memo reporting the commission's decision not to pursue the lead any further said that the defector had "no information linking [Oswald] to the Cuban intelligence services in any manner."

SFChronicle  
**Oswald Case** MAR 25 1976

# KGB Defector's 3-Year Grilling

Washington

A Soviet defector who assured U.S. officials that Lee Harvey Oswald was not a Russian agent was held in solitary for nearly three years while the CIA tried unsuccessfully to break his story, according to informed intelligence sources.

Yuri Nosenko, who claimed to be a high-ranking officer in the KGB with first-hand knowledge of the Oswald case, was tried in 1967 when CIA officials could no longer justify such extreme measures in the absence of solid evidence that he was an imposter, the sources said yesterday.

Suspicion of Nosenko's story, which a Warren Commission document said "if true, would certainly go a long way toward showing that the Soviet Union had no part in the assassination" of President Kennedy, was based mainly on the coincidence in timing between the Nov. 22, 1963, slaying and Nosenko's defection in Feb. 1964, the sources said.

Warren Commission Chief Justice Warren said the panel was never informed of the CIA's suspicions about Nosenko. A security release of CIA memo shows that James Angleton, then head of CIA counterintelligence, told the commission that the CIA had no information that would either prove or disprove Nosenko's story.

The conditions of Nosenko's

confinement were first described in the Rockefeller Commission's report but without mentioning his name or linking him to the investigation of the Kennedy assassination.

"A defector was involuntarily confined to a CIA installation for approximately three years," the report issued last June said. "For much of this time the defector was held in solitary confinement under extremely spartan living conditions."

The report concluded that "such treatment of individuals by an agency of the United States is unlawful."

Sources familiar with the case said Nosenko was confined in a building which was "equivalent to Army barracks," where he had a bed, chair and toilet but no contact with other people. One former intelligence official familiar with the case said Nosenko was subjected to "hostile interrogation" but was not physically abused.

Associated Press