

9/12/69

With their data retrieval system, unless someone suspect O'Neal held out on the FBI or the FBI held out on the Commission, why was it ever necessary to go back to the CIA, unless there was dissatisfaction with what Jones reported?

Without proof, I suggest it is impossible the CIA had no independent information on a defector who said he was going to give vital defense secrets away and take up Russian citizenship.

Why, with the State files containing Oswald's handwriting and the CIA having shown this to the FBI 11/22, was anyone still looking for LHO's handwriting, unless there was suspicion there was more than one Oswald?

The last paragraph indicates the kind of solicitude one would not expect to be extended a man who had said he was giving vital secrets away, was abandoning his US citizenship, etc. If the law provided such assistance on request, why were the agencies being prepared to offer it? Or, did HEW assume its field office was unaware of the regulations? Perhaps this is, in ordinary circumstances, the usual situation, but I do not believe it is. Under these circumstances it would seem more likely the government would be reluctant to help LHO. Instead, they were preparing to do what he did not even request.

Page 16, CIA-45, indicates something I recall from no other document, Oswald's rather bold request that the State Dept. get him a ride on a military plane. It would seem ordinarily unlikely to me that a civilian, even a gutsy one, without feeling he had some call on the government, would ask for military transport, especially a former military man who knows this is ordinarily forbidden.

Page 27 (CIS-46) The FBI's disguising of the source of this report is interesting, for there should have been no reason for it. Why not tell the FBI or why did the FBI not tell the Commission the source of the report? If I were to speculate, I would include Penabaz as a possible source, for he knew Bringuier well and they are so alike. If so, why hide him? Or if it were Lanuse, why hide him? Or if Bringuier, who is now a Republican, why hide him? Or from the Long Committees (Butler), why hide?

If the fact is that Oswald offered \$10, I do not recall the sum from any other source. Coming through so many hands it may be in error. But it is such a small sum, it is likely. Yet such a small sum was then large for LHO. Assuming what we have been told about his finances. The fiction early August was already fixed upon. Bringuier did not recall in error, for he is a procrat with papers, had records to consult, and would not have forgotten the date of Oswald's appearance, which was before August. And how could the one-man DRE in N.O. place LHO "Under surveillance"? Again, not indicated in any other source I recall. This is one thing Liebelor certainly should have asked Bringuier. What did they learn by the surveillance? Or did he know better? Or just want to avoid it? Any surveillance of LHO in that period should have been of the greatest interest to the Commission.

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REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT AGENCY RECORDS

On November 22, 1963, the Washington Field Office was requested to review files of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and obtain any information contained therein regarding LEE HARVEY OSWALD. SA COURTLAND J. JONES interviewed BIRCH D. O'NEAL, CIA, on November 22, 1963, and learned there is nothing in CIA file regarding OSWALD other than material furnished to CIA by the FBI and the Department of State.

By communication dated November 27, 1963, Dallas FBI Office advised a branch of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (DHEW) in Dallas had information in their records indicating DHEW in Washington, D.C. would have file regarding the repatriation of LEE OSWALD and family. This communication noted this file would possibly contain handwriting specimens of OSWALD.

On November 27, 1963 SA ROBERT B. LYONS contacted the DHEW, Division of Public Assistance, Bureau of Family Services, and determined from a review of their records DHEW file pertaining to OSWALD does not contain handwriting specimens. This file does contain information in the form of a State Department memorandum dated June 15, 1962 advising OSWALD and family were to arrive in New York City on June 13, 1962 aboard the SS "Maasdam." This memorandum advises travel expenses for OSWALD's return to the United States were furnished as a loan by the United States Embassy in Moscow.

Information developed that as a routine procedure, the DHEW in Washington furnished this information to their branch in Dallas, inasmuch as OSWALD was possibly qualified for financial assistance under Section 1113, Title 11, Social Security Act, which authorizes temporary assistance for United States citizens returning from a foreign country. There is no record in this file indicating OSWALD requested or received any financial aid from the DHEW.

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a member of the Soviet Trade Union for Medical Workers since 1957. (A fact considered routinely as involuntary under the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act). The Visa Office made various checks in response to this application and learned the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had no additional information; that the Passport Office deemed OSWALD had not expatriated himself; that Office of Security, Department of State, had some information concerning LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

By letter October 6, 1961, the Visa Office forwarded to the Dallas, Texas, District Office, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the petition executed by LEE HARVEY OSWALD in behalf of his wife's immigration visa and the State letter ventured the opinion she was not ineligible, based upon investigations by Department of State. On this occasion it was noted that OSWALD showed his permanent address as 7313 Davenport, Fort Worth, Texas.

By communication October 13, 1961, the American Embassy, Moscow, forwarded the texts of four letters from OSWALD in which he discussed the discouraging results of his contacts with Soviet authorities regarding an exit visa for his wife and the harassment his wife was experiencing at work. He also inquired whether the State Department would assist him to get a flight on a military aircraft en route to the United States because he was low on funds. It was indicated these frustrations for OSWALD continued through the Fall of 1961.

By letter November 1, 1961, to the American Embassy, OSWALD pointed out his document for residence as a foreigner in the Soviet Government expired on the following January and since the Soviet Government would not issue exit visas, it would be necessary to have residence permit extended. OSWALD inquired of the Embassy whether it was legal for the Soviet Government to extend his residence permit if he did not so request an extension.

By letter dated January 16, 1962, the American Embassy, Moscow, advised the Visa Office that the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs had advised through channels a foreign passport properly

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On November 27, 1963, Dr. WILLIAM PRENDERGAST, Republican National Committee, Room 203, Cafritz Building, Washington, D. C., informed SAs STUART W. ANGEVINE and EUGENE C. GIES he had received information from sources available to him.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD had approached CARLOS BRINGUIER, Head of the Cuban Student Directorate (CSD), New Orleans, Louisiana, during approximately early August, 1963, and had offered a \$10 contribution toward the furtherance of the anti-Castro causes of that organization. Since he was a former United States Marine, he also offered to assist in the military training of members of this group. The CSD was suspicious of OSWALD, suspecting he was possibly a member of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) or Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) who was attempting to penetrate their organization. They forwarded his offer to CSD Headquarters, Miami, Florida, for consideration. In the meantime they placed OSWALD under surveillance.

Subsequently, OSWALD was discovered distributing pro-Castro literature on a street corner in New Orleans. When he was challenged by members of the CSD concerning this, he and these members became engaged in a fight which resulted in the arrest by the New Orleans Police Department.

As a result, a New Orleans Television station had OSWALD and members of the CSD appear on a television forum program scheduled for August 21, 1963. A filmed recording of this forum was made.

The particulars concerning this incident would be available to BRINGUIER and to JOSE ANTONIO LANUSA, National Head of CSD, Miami.

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