

Midnight 7-5-76

Top-Secret Papers

Reveal Oswald

Was CIA Agent



POWERS and his attorney hold up a model of the U-2 plane — a plane Oswald knew like the back of his hand.

Lee Harvey Oswald was an American espionage agent in the employ of the CIA.

He was sent to Russia in 1959 with orders to shoot down U.S. pilot Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane and thereby wreck the delicate East-West detente.

When he returned to the United States, his next assignment was to partake in the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

This is the real story according to America's most fervent assassination researcher, Mae Brussell.

She has in her possession copies of 1,800 documents pertaining to the assassination, including most of the FBI, CIA and Warren Commission reports.

The one file missing however — the one she would most like to have — is CIA Document No. 931 entitled, "Oswald's Access to Information About U-2s."

It is locked in the National Archive, still classified "Top Secret."

Miss Brussell is not alone in her belief that Oswald sabotaged America's U-2 flight while working for the CIA, that agency which President Kennedy called, "the hidden government behind my back."

Francis Gary Powers, the pilot shot down in Soviet air space and later released by the Russians, thinks so too. In an August 4, 1975 interview in the San Francisco Chronicle, he states his belief "that Lee Harvey Oswald may have provided information used to shoot down the U-2."

There is abundant evidence to support this claim — and the theory that Oswald's mission was directed by the CIA, independent of the American government, and that its purpose was to destroy detente. Just two weeks away was the Paris Summit Conference, a friendly meeting of leaders from Russia and the U.S. Those talks were cancelled as a result of the U-2 incident.

Oswald, Mae Brussell claims, played an important part in keeping relations between the countries icy.

For, contrary to what the Warren Commission was told by the CIA and FBI, Oswald was not undisciplined, inarticulate or of below average intelligence. Rather he was a Marine-trained expert in the highly specialized field of radio electronics, radar and aircraft guidance at high altitudes.

He was one of a small group of meticulously screened



OSWALD'S defection to the Soviet Union was part of CIA plan, according to researcher Mae Brussell.

Marine technicians to serve at Atsugi Air Force Base in Japan and at Subic Bay in the Philippines — both secret U-2 training and operation bases.

He had the capability to track and bring down the U-2 plane. He had complete knowledge of the U-2 operation. And on May 1, 1960, the day the spy plane was forced down by Soviet rockets, Lee Harvey Oswald was working at a



FRANCIS GARY POWERS was shot down while flying over Russia when Oswald was living there.

radio-electronics plant in Minsk, USSR.

The FBI knew all of this but didn't tell the whole story to the Warren Commission. Mae Brussell knows the FBI was aware of these facts because she has copies of CIA, FBI and Secret Service interviews with Oswald's Marine officers.

According to the testimony of John Emmett Donovan, his former commanding officer and his senior officer Daniel Patrick Powers (no relation to the U-2 pilot), Oswald was of "higher intellect and intelligence" than the average enlisted man and stood seventh in his class of 30 radar operators.

Donovan told the Secret Service in an interview on December 4, 1963, that Oswald was "dependable, very cool and deliberate under periods of tension."

His job, a highly important one, was to detect enemy aircraft, calculate course, speed and altitude of the planes and "immediately make precise adjustments on the equipment for more detailed observation and analysis."

According to his commanding officer, "Oswald's position with the radar crew gave him access to all secret radio frequencies, call signs, and authentication codes utilized in connection with the normal functions of the Marine Air Control Squadron."

All of these codes were changed after Oswald defected to the USSR.

Donovan also points out that "Oswald knew the disposition of most military squadrons... of all services to the West Coast, the number and type of aircraft, the ranges, and locations of radar control sites on the West Coast.

"Oswald's position," Donovan added, "required a secret clearance."

Yet with all this classified knowledge, Mae Brussell points out, Oswald had an easy time getting into Russia and later, getting out.

"He got the kid glove treatment all the way," she told



JOHN F. KENNEDY wanted to break up the CIA, a group he referred to as the government behind his back.

MIDNIGHT. "In fact, his passport application to go to the Soviet Union was expedited so fast, he hadn't even yet applied for early discharge from the Marines when he received it.

Oswald was allowed to leave the service early because his mother was ill.

When he arrived at the American Embassy in Moscow on October 31, 1959, Miss Brussell says, he was given the red carpet treatment by embassy official Richard E. Snyder. Oswald then proceeded to turn in his American passport as a dramatic display of his expatriation.

It was recently revealed in the book "Who's Who in the CIA" that Snyder, like several of the men who had contact with Oswald, was really a CIA secret agent.

Oswald's return to the United States was also "incredibly easy" **MIDNIGHT** was told.

His mother, Marguerite Oswald started the wheels rolling in January of 1961 when she went to the State Department in Washington. "She told many people there that her son was working for the U.S. government in the USSR and that she wanted him to come home," Miss Brussell said.

(Three years later, before the Warren Commission, Marguerite Oswald would tell investigators, "I have as much circumstantial evidence here that Lee was an agent for the CIA as the Dallas Police have that he shot President Kennedy.")

Mrs. Oswald's presence in Washington and her statements "blew Oswald's cover," Miss Brussell believes. "Within three weeks a diplomatic pouch was sent to the Soviet Union," she says, "and Lee Harvey Oswald from Minsk then sent a letter to the U.S. embassy in Moscow

stating, 'I'm ready to come home now; give me my passport.'

Oswald got his passport but it would still be more than a year before he returned to the United States. The problem was Marina, his Russian wife, who had to go through considerable red tape before being allowed to emigrate.

For most of the three years that Oswald lived in the Soviet Union, he worked at the radio-electronics plant in Minsk. How a former U.S. Marine got such a sensitive job has never been explained. However Mae Brussell has some theories.

Oswald's co-employee and best friend in Minsk was a man named Alexander Ziger, who may also have been a CIA spy.

It was through Ziger and his wife that Oswald met Marina, and when Oswald returned to the United States he brought some secret letters from his friend which, Miss Brussell believes, were turned over to the CIA.

The Zigers had two daughters, born in Argentina, who wanted to leave Russia and return to that South American country.

Miss Brussell has a copy of a document which shows that Allen Dulles, former CIA director and a member of the Warren Commission, attempted to arrange for the two girls to leave Russia and go to Argentina.

Quite simply, she believes, Oswald's job in Minsk was arranged for him by CIA agents in the U.S. Embassy and CIA agent Ziger. As part of the deal, the CIA was to get Ziger's daughters out of the country.

Further evidence that Oswald worked as a spy in the Soviet Union comes from CBS correspondent Daniel Schorr, who in June, 1975, interviewed a former CIA official who saw memos in 1962 describing an American "re-defector."

According to the CIA official, the re-defector was described as an ex-Marine who had defected to Russia, worked in a radio factory in Minsk and then re-defected to the United States in 1962. This is an exact account of Oswald's defection story.

The CIA man told the CBS reporter that the memo dealt "mainly with intelligence on the Minsk radio factory."

The CIA admitted that such a memo existed, but the agency said it pertained to a former Navy officer, not a former Marine, named Oswald.

Daniel Schorr checked with Navy officials who stated that they "found no record of such a man."

Mae Brussell believes that Oswald was sent to the USSR by the CIA for the sole purpose of ruining relations between the U.S. and the Soviets.

She further believes that the CIA, acting independently of the American government, has created a "red herring" of this sort every time detente with the Communists seems possible.

The U-2 spy plane was brought down on May 1, 1960. On May 16, President Eisenhower was scheduled to meet with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in Paris. The meeting was called off as a result of the U-2 incident.

Miss Brussell believes that now the "sudden appearance" of new evidence connecting JFK's assassination to Fidel Castro is another of these diversionary tactics designed to destroy detente.

She points out how "coincidental" it is that these documents have turned up just as America's relations with Cuba and the Soviets seemed to be improving.

And she further believes that right wing elements in the CIA were responsible for the assassination of President



Mae Brussell is a writer, lecturer and radio broadcaster in California. But her most consuming interest is the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. She has every book, every newspaper story, almost every document pertaining to the assassination. Her book "Oswald and the U-2" is soon to be released.

Kennedy in 1963.

"The CIA had a better motive for killing the President than Castro," she told MIDNIGHT. "For one thing, JFK wanted the CIA broken and torn apart. He said after the Bay of Pigs, 'there's a hidden government behind my back.'"

"He assigned Robert Kennedy the task of investigating the CIA and he fired Allen Dulles and a long list of top people."

"He embarrassed men like E. Howard Hunt, who had worked with Dulles since the beginning of the CIA and who had planned the Bay of Pigs attack on Cuba."

What was Oswald's role in the assassination and why was he picked?

Mae Brussell contends that Oswald was a "patsy" set up by the CIA to take the blame for John F. Kennedy's murder. That someone else actually fired the fatal shots.

"In this way the CIA accomplished two things at the same time," she says. They eliminated Oswald and the President.

Oswald's "cover" had been blown when his mother told everyone within earshot in Washington that her son was working for the CIA in Russia. And more than that, Lee Harvey Oswald, Miss Brussell says, knew too much.

He knew the truth of "how" and "why" Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane was shot down over Russia.

The plan, Mae Brussell says, worked perfectly. Lee Harvey Oswald was silenced forever, and President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.