

21 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT: Draft Questions for Submission to the Government of the Soviet Union

1. You will recall that during our meeting on 12 January we agreed that a draft would be compiled of questions which might be put to the Soviet Government in an effort to acquire additional information on Lee Harvey Oswald's period of residence in the U. S. S. R. Attached hereto are an original and one copy of such a draft.

2. It is hoped that this effort will be of assistance to the President's Commission.

Richard Baker
Deputy Director for Plans

Attachments

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Re: 21/1/64

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The Commission of Investigation into the facts and circumstances of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, 22 November 1963, has:

taken note of the Consular materials kindly made available by the Government of the USSR on November 30, 1963, pertaining to the activity of Lee Harvey Oswald and his wife in the United States during the period June 1962 to November 1963.

The Commission is keenly desirous to attempt to secure as much detail as possible regarding Mr. Oswald's stay and activity in the USSR itself. That would cover, roughly, the period October 1959 to May 1962. The Commission, therefore, requests the assistance of the USSR Government in making available to it documentation and details regarding Mr. Oswald's residence in the Soviet Union.

From the study of the currently available record of this period - which is fragmentary - we indicate below broad topics on which the USSR Government's favorable response to this request would be of particular utility to the Commission:

1. To assist in the assessment of Oswald's mental and physical condition during his sojourn in the USSR, the following information is desired:

- a. Documentary records of all hospitalizations and

- medical examinations or treatment in the USSR, including:

which the USSR Government's favorable response

would be of particular utility to the Commission:

1. To assist in the assessment of Oswald's mental and physical condition during his sojourn in the USSR, the following information is desired:

a. Documentary records of all hospitalizations and medical examinations or treatment in the USSR, including:

(1) details of his treatment in October 1959 in Moscow (when he was allegedly found unconscious in his hotel room by Intourist guide, Rima Shirokova, and was taken to a hospital);

Draft prepared by _____ (based in part on _____ draft). Forwarded to Commission (Mr. Rankin) with covering note from DDP, 21 January 1964. (To be submitted to Govt of USSR)

(2) any other hospitalization records for illness or injuries;

(3) results of any physical examinations.

b. Outcome of psychological assessment or tests, made either at the time of his request for political asylum or later.

c. Any comments about, or evaluation of, his psychological make-up by his work colleagues or others who dealt with him officially or socially in Moscow and elsewhere.

2. To assist the assessment of his use of and skill with weapons, it would be useful to know the following:

a. Did Oswald have any weapon in his possession in the USSR other than the single-barrelled IZhK-59, 16-gauge shotgun, #N64621?

b. Was the hunting permit #28231 issued to Oswald in Minsk on 18 June 1960 and valid for one year, ever renewed? If not, can any light be shed on the question, why not?

c. Correspondence connected with Oswald's possession of the weapon.

d. Registration or other documentation pertaining to his possession of any other weapon.

3. To complete our own documentation of Oswald's background and career, the Commission would welcome:

D. Was his Russian passport issued to Oswald in Minsk on 18 June 1960 and valid for one year, ever renewed? If not, can any light be shed on the question, why not?

c. Correspondence connected with Oswald's possession of the weapon.

d. Registration or other documentation pertaining to his possession of any other weapon.

3. To complete our own documentation of Oswald's background and career, the Commission would welcome:

a. Correspondence pertinent to Oswald's request for and the grant of permission to reside in the USSR, including:

(1) Oswald's own letters;

(2) records, or records abstracts, of any commissions or other organs which deliberated the question of asylum and permission to reside in the USSR;

(3) documents or reports of appropriate authorities on the question: why and how Minsk was chosen for his place of sojourn.

b. Documents and records pertinent to Oswald's stay in the USSR, including:

(1) city registrations for his stay in Moscow, Minsk or other places;

(2) hotel registrations or any other records pertaining to travels or movements outside the places where he was registered as a resident;

(3) employment records, including:

(a) his personal file at his place(s) of work;

(b) any union membership booklets other than booklet #01311655 issued by the Electrical Industry Workers Union;

(c) any work books;

(d) his participation in the social and other activities of his union and at his place of work.

(4) records of other central or local authorities,

including OVIR and Militia;

of work;

(b) any union membership booklets
other than booklet #01311655 issued by the
Electrical Industry Workers Union;

(c) any work books;

(d) his participation in the social and
other activities of his union and at his place
of work;

(4) records of other central or local authorities,
including OVIR and Militia;

(5) other basic personal documents, passes,
etc., issued to Oswald;

(6) records of the marriage of Oswald and Marina Prusakova;

(7) statement, preferably month-by-month, of Oswald's salary, his additional income, if any, and any other sums he may have received in the USSR.

c. Description of Oswald's official citizenship and residence status in the USSR, with any pertinent documents.

d. Correspondence and documents pertaining to Oswald's departure from the USSR, including:

(1) Oswald's own written requests or statements of intention to depart;

(2) records of any organs or commissions which deliberated on the question of his departure;

(3) a chronological narrative account of his departure.

e. Any other correspondence of Oswald with Soviet authorities in the USSR.

f. A description of Oswald's personal, social and employment situation and activities in the USSR, including any information which might assist this Commission better to understand his motivation for entering and later leaving the USSR.

4. Did Oswald have any record of activity in the USSR such as drunkenness, disturbing the peace, theft, black-
OR PERSONAL VIOLENCE,
marketeering, etc.? If so, information and documents

authorities in the USSR.

f. A description of Oswald's personal, social and employment situation and activities in the USSR, including any information which might assist this Commission better to understand his motivation for entering and later leaving the USSR.

4. Did Oswald have any record of activity in the USSR

such as drunkenness, disturbing the peace, theft, black-
OR PERSONAL VIOLENCE
marketeering, etc.? If so, information and documents
pertinent to such activity would be appreciated.

5. Copies of any statements, before or since the assassination of President Kennedy, volunteered by Soviet citizens who knew or

may have been associated with Oswald during his residence in the USSR that would have a bearing on the questions above stipulated or might be of use to the Commission.