

16 Dec 63

TO : Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Attention: |

FROM : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : | Committee on the Kennedy Assassination

1. Attached for your perusal are the written comments of a Soviet defector on some aspects of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. As you know, [redacted] defected from [redacted] about two years ago, and his personal knowledge is not up to date, but he has stayed in touch with Soviet intelligence developments to the best of his ability. His comments on how Lee Oswald and his wife must have been handled by Soviet intelligence authorities while they were inside the Soviet Union are particularly interesting and his suggestions for the questioning of Mrs. Marina OSWALD are equally provocative.

2. We have decided to pass on his views without editing, and this Agency does not specifically endorse his conclusions or recommendations.

Enclosures: Per paragraph 1

12 December 1963

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**16 DEC 63**

## Assassination

1. We should understand that my comments which follow are not based solely on the thesis that OSWALD was specifically dispatched to murder the President. The very real possibility also exists that OSWALD was sent here on another mission by the KGB and subsequently accomplished the deed on his own initiative. However, such a possibility does not make the KGB less culpable as the possibility OSWALD's unit must have been planted while he was being trained in the USSR for his other mission. We might first examine the question presented in the title of my "Review," "What did the USSR have to gain by killing the President?" It follows we can make a good case as to the greater gains accruing to the USSR and more specifically Khrushchev, by KENNEDY's assassination. The assassination of President Kennedy would accomplish the following for KHRUSHCHEV personally:

a. Western programs behind the leadership of the USA would automatically come up. Witness President Khrushchev's immediate complimentary telegram to KENNEDY, after the murder. He might mention that the USA was the chief proponent for not extending long range credits to the USSR. Extension of long range credits is vital to the USSR at this juncture.

b. This leads us into the next pressing problem within the USSR. The West persistently undercuts the amount of the Soviet internal situation. It was my prediction that as a result of the mismanagement of the 1963 harvest and the CHURCH arguments that KHRUSHCHEV would resign during the upcoming December plenum of the Communist Party of the USSR. Our President's death thus effectively diverts the Soviets' attention from their internal problems. It directly attacks KHRUSHCHEV's longevity.

c. In the Cuban situation any USA or Cuban expatriate actions against Cuba will not be tainted by the fact that these are vengeful acts against Cuba because of OSWALD's "Fair Play for Cuba" associations. Obviously the Soviets properly interpret our situation in that President JOSEPH will restrain any planned interventions in Cuba for a long time.

d. A more amiable America will strengthen KHRUSHCHEV's hand in his running battle with the CHURCH. He will thus have another reason to say his form of peaceful coexistence is superior to that of the CHURCH's.

1. Conceivably any of President KENNEDY's planned actions to get even more firm with the Soviets during the pre-election year are thus sabotaged by the President's murder.

2. The Soviets obviously understood that the death of President KENNEDY would result in the emergence of DEBARRIE as a strong Western leader. DEBARRIE of course says "what's good for France is not necessarily bad for the USSR."

3. The death of President KENNEDY receives a popular rallying point for our allies. Furthermore, and more pertinent, his death receives a symbol for Soviet intellectuals who have inevitably made irrational comparisons between their own intellectual leaders and the leadership of the west under the Kennedys. The wishes of the intellectuals in the USSR should not be interpreted as the least of KENNEDY's internal problems. We must recall that beginning with Lenin, intellectuals have provided the impetus for revolution in the USSR and they comprise one of the most active KENNEDY's most ardent enemies—the intellectuals, the Party and the Military.

4. In the USSR and any countries close to manipulating it, we public opinion their murder of President KENNEDY would serve to exacerbate the present differences between the radical left and right in America. In fact the USSR propaganda machine began to say the murder was committed by the radical right as soon as the deed was done and before KENNEDY was captured.

5. Finally, the death of President KENNEDY, whether planned operation or not, will serve the most obvious purpose of providing proof of the power and competence of the KGB. The application of these terms should be interpreted as a warning to America's own citizens, as the Soviet intelligence services have utilized some very real reverses recently with KENNEDY, KENNEDY's defection, their ignominious expulsion from the Congo, etc. I have long predicted that the USSR would take some drastic action to halt the rapid erosion of their security.

6. How do we really view the OSWALD operation as a mounted KGB operation to kill the President? What are the essential ingredients?

7. The KGB had some three years to assess OSWALD in the USSR. Logans will disagree the view that the KGB attaches to look on the spot assessment. They may also say that OSWALD was a man who would not be connected with such an operation by the KGB. However, the KGB properly knows that historically most assassins have been unbalanced individuals.

7. It was an operation the KGB could not use a Soviet citizen though the very real possibility exists that OSWALD was assisted by a Soviet illegal at the FBI 13th Department. Sticking to essentials—It was a good plan that did succeed.

a. OSWALD did escape from the book building.

b. He did get to a theater which could have been his point of contact with his illegal case officer. Certainly we know the KGB's penchant for using theaters for meeting places.

c. After his arrest, which was only due to his unfortunate encounter with Policeman #1000, OSWALD did remain silent. How like the behavior of Col. Williams his behavior in this regard.

8. Also the very real possibility exists that the KGB intended to liquidate OSWALD after he did the job. His meeting in the theater was probably his just make a disposition or removal from the scene. In KGB's eyes in the operation as such, recognize the possibility that KGB was also a KGB veteran was looking at the same essentials at his work in the operation as was the following:

a. KGB had access to the police station. Reports say he personally knew most policemen.

b. He successfully silenced OSWALD.

c. KGB remained silent and his cover is holding up.

d. He had a good amount of temporary immunity.

e. He had a reasonable chance to escape the death sentence.

9. He understood what he better qualified to comment on the OSWALD aspects of this case if we knew the following about his activities prior to his departure to the USSR: (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z, aa, ab, ac, ad, ae, af, ag, ah, ai, aj, ak, al, am, an, ao, ap, aq, ar, as, at, au, av, aw, ax, ay, az, ba, bb, bc, bd, be, bf, bg, bh, bi, bj, bk, bl, bm, bn, bo, bp, bq, br, bs, bt, bu, bv, bw, bx, by, bz, ca, cb, cc, cd, ce, cf, cg, ch, ci, cj, ck, cl, cm, cn, co, cp, cq, cr, cs, ct, cu, cv, cw, cx, cy, cz, da, db, dc, dd, de, df, dg, dh, di, dj, dk, dl, dm, dn, do, dp, dq, dr, ds, dt, du, dv, dw, dx, dy, dz, ea, eb, ec, ed, ee, ef, eg, eh, ei, ej, ek, el, em, en, eo, ep, eq, er, es, et, eu, ev, ew, ex, ey, ez, fa, fb, fc, fd, fe, ff, fg, fh, fi, fj, fk, fl, fm, fn, fo, fp, fq, fr, fs, ft, fu, fv, fw, fx, fy, fz, ga, gb, gc, gd, ge, gf, gg, gh, gi, gj, gk, gl, gm, gn, go, gp, gq, gr, gs, gt, gu, gv, gw, gx, gy, gz, ha, hb, hc, hd, he, hf, hg, hh, hi, hj, hk, hl, hm, hn, ho, hp, hq, hr, hs, ht, hu, hv, hw, hx, hy, hz, ia, ib, ic, id, ie, if, ig, ih, ii, ij, ik, il, im, in, io, ip, iq, ir, is, it, iu, iv, iw, ix, iy, iz, ja, jb, jc, jd, je, jf, jg, jh, ji, jj, jk, jl, jm, jn, jo, jp, jq, jr, js, jt, ju, jv, jw, jx, jy, jz, ka, kb, kc, kd, ke, kf, kg, kh, ki, kj, kk, kl, km, kn, ko, kp, kq, kr, ks, kt, ku, kv, kw, kx, ky, kz, la, lb, lc, ld, le, lf, lg, lh, li, lj, lk, ll, lm, ln, lo, lp, lq, lr, ls, lt, lu, lv, lw, lx, ly, lz, ma, mb, mc, md, me, mf, mg, mh, mi, mj, mk, ml, mm, mn, mo, mp, mq, mr, ms, mt, mu, mv, mw, mx, my, mz, na, nb, nc, nd, ne, nf, ng, nh, ni, nj, nk, nl, nm, nn, no, np, nq, nr, ns, nt, nu, nv, nw, nx, ny, nz, oa, ob, oc, od, oe, of, og, oh, oi, oj, ok, ol, om, on, oo, op, oq, or, os, ot, ou, ov, ow, ox, oy, oz, pa, pb, pc, pd, pe, pf, pg, ph, pi, pj, pk, pl, pm, pn, po, pp, pq, pr, ps, pt, pu, pv, pw, px, py, pz, qa, qb, qc, qd, qe, qf, qg, qh, qi, qj, qk, ql, qm, qn, qo, qp, qq, qr, qs, qt, qu, qv, qw, qx, qy, qz, ra, rb, rc, rd, re, rf, rg, rh, ri, rj, rk, rl, rm, rn, ro, rp, rq, rr, rs, rt, ru, rv, rw, rx, ry, rz, sa, sb, sc, sd, se, sf, sg, sh, si, sj, sk, sl, sm, sn, so, sp, sq, sr, ss, st, su, sv, sw, sx, sy, sz, ta, tb, tc, td, te, tf, tg, th, ti, tj, tk, tl, tm, tn, to, tp, tq, tr, ts, tt, tu, tv, tw, tx, ty, tz, ua, ub, uc, ud, ue, uf, ug, uh, ui, uj, uk, ul, um, un, uo, up, uq, ur, us, ut, uu, uv, uw, ux, uy, uz, va, vb, vc, vd, ve, vf, vg, vh, vi, vj, vk, vl, vm, vn, vo, vp, vq, vr, vs, vt, vu, vv, vw, vx, vy, vz, wa, wb, wc, wd, we, wf, wg, wh, wi, wj, wk, wl, wm, wn, wo, wp, wq, wr, ws, wt, wu, wv, ww, wx, wy, wz, xa, xb, xc, xd, xe, xf, xg, xh, xi, xj, xk, xl, xm, xn, xo, xp, xq, xr, xs, xt, xu, xv, xw, xx, xy, xz, ya, yb, yc, yd, ye, yf, yg, yh, yi, yj, yk, yl, ym, yn, yo, yp, yq, yr, ys, yt, yu, yv, yw, yx, yy, yz, za, zb, zc, zd, ze, zf, zg, zh, zi, zj, zk, zl, zm, zn, zo, zp, zq, zr, zs, zt, zu, zv, zw, zx, zy, zz.

a. First, OSWALD was a self-made Marxist or Communist who decided to go on his own. That is, he made this decision by himself and prompted by no one. He possibly was looking for a better life without knowing what the Soviet Union really is.

b. Second, after OSWALD's discharge as an "unrecoverable" from the Marines, he found himself in a difficult and unpleasant situation. It is possible that in this situation he was noticed by a spotter representative from the illegals or some other department and was considered as a possible candidate for use or

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... The full information about OSWALD was sent to Moscow, and on Moscow's order an investigation of OSWALD was made and there followed a decision to "invite" him to Moscow. Using the word "invite", the undersigned has in mind that some agents or newspapers through conversations with OSWALD, but without actually suggesting the trip itself, inspired OSWALD to travel to the USSR. And, in this case, it is possible that someone gave him some financial assistance and some advice on how to do this.

... OSWALD, OSWALD went to Moscow, he was sent to Moscow, if you so desire, via Communist, via Cuban organization(s), having in mind that he would stay in the Soviet Union for a few years, learning more about the Soviet Union and receiving an education for future operations, activities, etc.

... Reading the above and the Soviet news give a clear picture making an investigation of the person making the invitation, as well as make an investigation of the following questions:

1. When did OSWALD first begin to discuss his wish to go to the Soviet Union?

2. In what did he talk, when did he contact at this early stage, and how much did depend between these talks and contacts and his motivation?

3. How, when and through whom did OSWALD get his Soviet visa?

4. How long did it take for him to get the visa?

5. Who personally gave the visa to OSWALD? He may have it in person at the Embassy who talked to OSWALD was a ...

6. How and how did OSWALD travel to the USSR (air, sea, through what countries, in which countries, if any, did he make stops, how long were such stops)?

7. Together with the above, it is very important to know of OSWALD's circumstances before his trip to the USSR. Who knew he was going and who knew that he had gone: father, mother, relatives, friends, neighbors, girl friends, his friends, his parents, etc. We want also OSWALD say goodbye to his wife or to his ... possibly or by telephone, by ... We want to ask any questions on traveling to the USSR.

7. OSWALD in Moscow. When OSWALD arrived in Moscow, he was under observation, investigation and complete control by the KGB. In this particular case, under the Second Chief Directorate (D2), they were the critical of the KGB, at the same time he was under heavy investigation directed at assessing the quality of his work. Oswald himself had come to the KGB (it doesn't make any difference whether they had in advance about OSWALD or not; anyway, they would conduct such an investigation). Every possible bit of information we took from OSWALD about the CIA, especially about his service in the Marine Corps, etc. At the same time, OSWALD was under constant observation and study the possible future use by the Soviet Intelligence and CI services.

8. It would be noted here that any foreigner, especially an American, who works in the USSR for the government or prolonged stay always is controlled by the Soviet State Security as a possible candidate for future use (special training and assignment) within the CIA or other countries (but against the CIA). After a good study and investigation which continued about six months in Moscow under normal conditions, an official contact from the KGB to OSWALD was the conclusion: that OSWALD is clear and he was no danger to us and that he might possibly be used in work for Soviet Intelligence or CI Service. OSWALD was recognized as being that during his (OSWALD's) first few months in Moscow, additional heavy and investigation of OSWALD was going on through the Soviet Embassy in Washington and through Soviet agents networks in the CIA and possibly through pro-Soviet and pro-Communist organizations within the USA.

9. After getting a few weeks of results in Moscow, OSWALD expressed a wish to stay forever in the Soviet Union and to be a Soviet citizen. Then the KGB said to him: "If you really want to be a Soviet citizen and serve the Communist cause, you must renounce American Imperialism and American citizenship. Therefore, sometime in this period, OSWALD went to the U. S. Embassy and renounced his U. S. citizenship. After this act State Security decided to give OSWALD some kind of job in accordance with his knowledge and capabilities, at the same time continuing to study him as a potential agent.

10. Because to make a good agent takes a long time and because OSWALD was impatient and because he had not yet been given Soviet citizenship—the KGB decided not to make of him a good agent, but did not have relations with him and decided to use him in a more or less open way.

11. When OSWALD showed some dissatisfaction about the Soviet way of life (it is usual for Americans)—and by this time OSWALD had already met his girl friend (the KGB probably helped



8. What, was it that her education, profession, age, family background, Party affiliation (Komsomol membership), if she was a member of the Komsomol, then the Komsomol organization will take any steps possible against her traveling to the U. S. Also, she must be expelled from the Komsomol, and then she automatically would be considered a member of the Imperialist Camp. Thus, if she was a member of the Komsomol and this action did not take place, it was because of KGB interference against such action. The same action would relate to any of her relatives—father, mother, brothers... if they were members of the youth or Komsomol.

9. To what office was she invited before and after their marriage? If she was invited to one official Soviet office, what if there were other offices which she had to go with her to go with her, then probably she was not a member of the Komsomol but she did it on her own will; but if she answers that she was invited to work office, then she would go to the office of the KGB—secretly and quietly, and we will gain around about it.

10. How long did she and her husband travel to visit friends in the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs or any other office and how long did she and her husband live to go with her to the U.S. It is not done a few times and with great difficulties, then probably it was done only with a little help from the KGB. If, however, the answer was frequent only once and sometimes was granted after only a few months' wait, that everything was done by the KGB. (According to the American newspaper, her application for permission to come to the U. S. was processed very quickly and quickly.)

11. What and where did they register their marriage? Who were the witnesses to that marriage? How many relatives and friends (if any) were present at the wedding and celebration? What kind of gifts did they receive at the time of marriage and how much. Where did they take up residence after marriage? Were they given an apartment, or a room? And in what neighborhood?

12. Where did her husband, GORAN, work? In what factory? What were his hours of work? How long did he spend in Moscow before he went to Alaska? His close friends—did he or did someone else?

13. Who were her husband's friends? From what circles? Intellectuals?

14. How many times were she and her husband—while they lived together—invited to the police stations or any other Soviet government offices, together or separately? (NOTE: There is no other office than the KGB which would make such an invitation. It makes no difference if they were agents or not.)



17. How smart (intelligent) is she? Does she really speak no English? Is her English better than she shows or better than it should be after being here only two years? Or what?

18. What does she say about life in the Soviet Union?

19. Did she indeed have a gun while she was in the Soviet Union? If so, how does she know about it? When did she get it? Did she have special permission to carry a gun? Did she bring this gun with her across the border? For your information, nobody carries a gun in the USSR without the USSR eventually knowing of it. Least of all an American.

20. Did she give financial help to the nation they left in the Soviet Union? (Note: As a regular worker in the Soviet Union, it is impossible to save enough money to buy a ticket and make any kind of arrangements to go abroad.)

21. Did she give instructions to OSWALD to make the financial arrangements at the American Embassy and his return to the USSR?

22. Was there first child born in Russia mentioned in the USSR? If so, in what church? What was the name? Did they register this second child, born in the U.S.A.?

23. Did OSWALD never had a permanent job here in the U.S., then she was going to finance his last trip to the USSR? How much did his wife know about his plan to return to the USSR in the U.S.A.?

24. The investigation of the wife should be made step by step, keeping in mind and never forgetting that OSWALD as well as she herself were under constant observation and with constant contacts with agents of the KGB. Either such observation and contacts with agents of the KGB, or foreigners can live within the Soviet Union.

25. In any investigation of this case we should not lose the initiative. In view of the extraordinary circumstances surrounding this case, the FBI, through the Department of State, could logically enough request that the USSR provide all available info on OSWALD's stay in the USSR and the purpose of his visit to the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. A friendly nation can be expected to honor such a request. We might learn a great deal from the Soviet reply.

