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CIA Silent On Oswald In Mexico

By NORMAN KEMPSTER
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WASHINGTON — Although it has declassified virtually its entire file on Lee Harvey Oswald, the CIA continues to maintain a curtain of secrecy over the accused assassin's trip to Mexico less than two months before President Kennedy was killed.

Many of the deletions in the 2400 censored pages released last week under the Freedom of Information Act relate to Oswald's activities in Mexico City between Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 1963.

For instance, a copy of a biographical sketch prepared by the CIA two weeks after the Nov. 22, 1963 assassination is interesting because the only deletions involve the Mexican trip.

The Warren Commission, which concluded that Oswald was the lone assassin, said Oswald visited both the Soviet and Cuban embassies in Mexico City during his stay in the Mexican capital.

The CIA revealed later that Oswald probably contacted Valeriy V. Kostikov, a KGB agent who was operating under cover as a Soviet diplomat. The CIA said Kostikov was attached to the KGB department that handled kidnappings, assassinations and similar acts of political terror.

Critics of the Warren Commission have long raised questions about Oswald's Mexico trip. Some critics contend that an importer used Oswald's name at the Soviet and Cuban embassies, possibly as part of some as yet undisclosed conspiracy.

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