

Dear Paul,

12/5/83

Relet 20: No word and no word expected from Schlossman, Schorr, Wx Post or LA Times (thanks but don't send the clip. It was send by a friend in LA).

No objection to making that material available but given what happened on the Pacifica mishmash or mostly nothingness I'd rather not make further disclosure of the proof that Oswald had crypto clearance and because someone is supposedly having a parallel check made for me, so I don't want more attention to it for now. I have no objection to telling you (and only you) my source for now: the Schrand inquest. It states that they were working at the "crypto van" several times, were on the "crypto watch" and had just been put ashore at Cubi Point on returning from Operation Strongback. The rest came from a rereview of the testimony of those who worked with Oswald. All said at least secret after return to U.S.

Thanks for the Davison CDs, which look like these I had. I note that Hal's brother was also a famous medical man, so an ordinary check of standard sources should turn up his children. If one is John and a zoologist, then you know Joan's husband. Likewise, if there is any kind of directory of zoologists or John is in any of the biographical reference books and his father is T.S., then we know that way. Or know otherwise.

I heard from Texas Monthly and somewhere on the desk cluttered with affidavit materials is a draft of my letter back, saying I wrote the editor, not the letters-to-the-editor editor, who did not assign such a piece and did not compose the editorial comment along with it.

If you want the Schran inquest docs, I'll send them.

Yes, I used CE 1961 and that is about the point Edler cut me off. It proves that Davison knew she was not honest. And that Donovan knew what he was talking about.

At least in the field of operations and I believe everywhere he performed those duties Oswald and the other four had to have crypto and that required top secret to begin with. If you look at Davison's account of the things involved, you will see that all required high clearances, and Powers added. My source in 1965 called it "black box" stuff. He also said there were but three such units and each had five men of this exceptional classification.

Actually, I think that CE 1961 was written in response to a Rankin inquiry hoping to find that LHO had lost all clearances as some of the less sophisticated "arnes" did say.

According to my recollection and Powers' testimony there were two anti-Indonesia operations, both unsuccessful. A CIA soldier-of-fortune aviator type was shot down and captured in one. I think named Pope.

Thanks for the pages from Schorr's book. The oped page was like that. If you don't get it let me know and I'll send it if you want it.

I've been reading Schlesinger's Robert Kennedy. Those of you who trust Lifton would do well to read the account of what Vobby did as soon as the plane landed at Andrews. He wanted not to be seen so while the attention was elsewhere, as soon as the plane landed he ran to the pilot's door, was admitted immediately and then right away ran back to Kackie. There was no chance for anyone to get to the corpse.

CD 87: 458-9 Dr. Hal was in the US army of occupation and Hatalia (Natasha) was in England on an official assignment when the reds took over. When she returned she went behind the lines in white Russian territory. Which is where she met Hal. Interesting with two such sons, one caught in the Penkovsky case, the other a student at Columbia's Russian Studies institute, in captain, out major.

Your early analyses good. If we have to discuss them I'm putting all this in the no longer empty Davison file. Thanks.

I think that this is one of those relatively rare cases where it pays to go through the documents as carefully and skeptically as possible. Lots of speculation and paranoia. Here goes: (I assume you have copies of the documents)

CD 87, SS 569, 2 pp. I would assume that the background information in paragraphs 2 and 3 is from SAIC Wentz' personal knowledge or a check of the newspapers - just the sort of useful material the FBI likes to leave out. One problem is that it is sometimes hard to tell what came from Davison and what from Wentz. I would guess that the reference to the date of Oswald's return in the last sentence was made by Wentz.

It is not surprising that Davison remembers nothing of the Oswalds. What he is sure of is that his mother's address was given out in connection with his medical examinations. That is, although it is not made explicit, it was not given to Oswald in connection with his other duties.

The description of Mrs. Davison as the widow of one of Atlanta's most prominent physicians pretty well shoots down the image of a poor little old lady with no one to talk to. It's possible that a Russian who served as a nurse with the British in the post-revolutionary intervention had mellowed and would have liked to talk with a young, not anti-communist Russian pharmacist and her schmucky American husband. Maybe, maybe not.

At the time of interview, Davison knew that Oswald had not contacted his mother. Had there been news stories mentioning this listing in the notebook? Davison's inquiry of his mother could also have been prompted by information provided by the SS ~~██████~~ when they asked for an interview, or it might have come from some other source.

Four days after this interview, FBI agent Harding interviewed Mrs. Davison. (CD 235) As usual, what is not in this 13-line report is more interesting than what is. The reader does not learn (a) that Mrs. Davison's address is in fact in Oswald's notebook (it is presented as possible that Alexis gave it to LHO) (This is not atypical for FBI reports.); (b) that Alexis was expelled for spying; (c) most significantly, that Alexis was, at the time of the interview, practicing medicine in Atlanta. Harding could easily have located him for an interview; he did not.

CD 337, p. 4: A couple of weeks after the Harding interview was typed, the New York FBI office was trying to "locate and interview" Davison. Note that none of the description provided in the first sentence could have come either from the notebook listing or from Harding's report. Presumably someone did a little "intelligence" work; all that was required was probably a couple of phone calls. But at this time someone was interested in talking to Davison. I don't quite see where the address (presumably Peter H. is Alexis H.'s brother) came from; and it would seem that the air force could have provided Davison's Atlanta address immediately. It probably wasn't the job of the N.Y. office to look in an Atlanta phone book; maybe they assumed that the Atlanta office had been unable to locate Davison. (Page 3 of this CD, which GRS sent me in February, is unrelated.)

CD 409, p. 3. Very interesting. From the top: the January 4 date certainly should be February 4. Harding does not elicit any information about the period of Davison's assignment to Moscow, USSR, or the circumstances of his departure. Much more discreet than the SS. "A few months ago" was in fact 19 months (May 1962), and certainly couldn't have been less than 7 months, when Davison left Moscow. It is not suspicious that Davison's memory has improved since the SS interview, but he certainly does remember the right things. "Two children" - Marina, of course, had only one at the time of the examination, but two at the time of the assassination. Davison recalls quite a bit of the details of the conversation. "He stated that if he should go through Atlanta ..." -The initial "he" is a bit ambiguous. Oswald or Davison? Which is less likely? Of course, giving Oswald a more active role tends to take Davison off the hook.

The important information which Davison does not volunteer and is not asked about is why he gave his mother's address to Oswald. Evidently, this is not the sort of thing he did often, since this is the only such instance he recalls. If he did it only once, there must have been some special reason. It is possible that he was especially attracted to Marina (or Lee), but pretty unlikely. I wonder how well-known and discussed the Oswald case was among Embassy personnel at this time?

CD 1115: Item 103 is just 1 page, as reproduced in CE 2705. Weisberg points out that it looks like the cover of a file; there may be more related documents in CD 1114. Item 102 is unrelated (Byron Phillips affidavit); Item 103 is a Russian language questionnaire from the U.S. Embassy; it might be on medical matters, but I haven't found out yet.

The above includes all the documents from the Davison name file(s). The only further information I would suggest gathering is whatever was in the Atlanta papers at the time of the Penkovsky affair, or perhaps at the time of the assassination, relating to Davison.

DR. ALEXIS H. DAVISON

Synopsis: Oswald's notebook contains the name and Atlanta address of the mother of Alexis H. Davison, who served at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow as a medical doctor and an assistant air attaché. He was barred from the USSR in May 1963 after being implicated in the Oleg Penkovsky espionage case.

Details: (This is just a tabulation of my information at this time -PLH, 9/23/69)

Oswald's notebook contains the following entry: "mother of U.S. Embassy doctor / Mrs. Hal Davison / 4047 Tuxedo Rd. / Atlanta, Georgia / (in Russian, and apparently part of this entry:) Natalia Alekseevna " (16H50; CD 205, p. 685 (listing of notebook))

CD 235, synopsis: "Mrs. HAL DAVISON, Atlanta, Ga., advised LEE HARVEY OSWALD unknown to her; stated her son was former American Embassy doctor in Soviet Union and may have examined OSWALD or his wife upon their departure from Soviet Union." (Report dated 12/26/63.)

From Synopsis of CD 409 (dated 2/5/64): "Dr. ALEXI S DAVISON (sic) formerly located at American Embassy, Moscow, USSR, stated examined attractive Russian female with two children a few months ago and woman was emigrating to U.S. He also conversed with woman's husband and gave address of his mother in Atlanta. He could not definitely state these people were the OSWALDs."

I have ordered the relevant parts of these CD's, and whatever else may be in the name files.

The November 1967 Atlanta telephone directory lists DAVISON ALEXIS H MD, with home and office numbers; the Yellow Pages indicate his specialty is internal medicine. Also, DAVISON HAL M 4047 Tuxedo Rd NW.

According to the State Department Foreign Service Lists, Captain Davison served as assistant air attaché (one among several) starting February 10, 1961.

On Davison's involvement in the Penkovsky affair, see Wise and Ross, Invisible Government, p. 268-9; New York Times, May 8 & 14 1963, p. 1 (Excerpts attached ?)

The following sources were checked on Davison, with negative results except as indicated above:

Indexes to the major CD's; WR index; Vol. 15 index; Sylvia's index; Manchester and Bishop books; Who's Who in America; Who's Who in CIA; NY Times, 1960-1967; State Dept. Biographic Register (apparently does not include military attachés); (I couldn't find The Penkovsky Papers in English; the French version has no index. Did the Russians publish their version?)

As an applicant for an immigrant visa, Marina was required to take a medical exam at the Embassy (22H44). CE 2705 is a document dated May 24, 1962, and signed by Davison, "re clinical test for Marina Oswald." (As published, this CE looks incomplete.) It is noted that this was 18 months before the assassination, and that the Oswalds had only 1 child, age about 3 months (cf. CD 409).

Sept. 23, 1969
Paul L. Hoch
(Original discovery
by JNS)

N.Y. Times, April 27, 1958, p. 87:1

DR. HAL DAVISON DIES; Specialist in Treatment of Allergy in South Was 67
 ATLANTA, April 26(AP) - Dr. Hal McCluney Davison, one of the South's leading physicians and a specialist in the treatment of allergy and other fields of internal medicine, died today in a hospital after an illness of three weeks. His age was 67.

At his death, Dr. Davison was president of the American College of Allergists, the American Therapeutic Society, the Southeastern Allergy Association, the Academy of Internal Medicine and the Fifth District Medical Society. He served in the Medical Corps in Siberia during World War I.

In 1919-20, Dr. Davison was director of civil relief for the American Red Cross in Russia and helped in the construction of hospitals.

Surviving are his widow, Natalia, and two sons, Capt. Peter Davison, U.S.A.F., and Dr. Alexis Davison of Charlottesville, Va.

From "Who's Important in Medicine" (2nd Edition, 1952)(Bio. Lib., R134)

DAVISON, HAL McCLUNEY. Internist, Allergist; born October 2, 1891, Woodville, Ga.; son of Charles Clement and Elizabeth (Callahan) Davison; educated at Mercer Univ., A.B., Ph.B. 1911; Emory Univ., M.D. 1915; post-grad. work, Cornell Univ., 1921; married Natalia Alexeievna Beklemisheva, Mar. 31, 1920; two sons - Peter and Alexis. (Remarks on medical career omitted here.) During World War I served as 1st Lt., M.C., U.S.A.; six months service in A.E.F. in Siberia; later Major and Deputy Commr., American Red Cross in Siberia. Res.: 2888 Habersham Rd. N.W. Office: 478 Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, Ga.

American Medical Directory (24th edition, 1967) lists Dr. Alexis Davison; no listing for Peter H.

Foreign Service List checked, 1945-1964 (10/61, 4/62 missing); no listing for Peter H. Davison. (Not surprising; I don't believe military personnel are listed, except the top-ranking ones (i.e. those with title of attaché.))

From the Columbia University Bulletin, (School of Architecture, 1968-9, p. 66, on housing available for students):
 Woodbridge Hall, at 431 Riverside Drive, is a University residence hall for married graduate students.

COMMENTS:

We could presumably get as much background information on Dr. Hal Davison as we might want from the Atlanta papers of 4/26-27/58. I expect that CD 337, p. 4* is basically the full story on Peter H., apparently he was not also a doctor. The public alumni records of Columbia University could be checked, just in case, but there is no reason to believe that Alexis was connected with Columbia except that the FBI was checking him out there. We will probably never find out where the FBI got the Riverside Drive address for him.

Alexis' age is given as "about 35" in SS569; in 1958 he may have been finishing his studies or interning at the University of Virginia Medical School in Charlottesville, Virginia.

In September 1962, Pavel Golovachev suggested that Marina subscribe to Izvestia and Nedelja.* (As far as I know, the Oswald's didn't subscribe; cf. CE 1147.) Too bad; if they had they would have read all about Davison. *(Ref: CD 206, p. 363)

NY 105-38431

In an effort to locate and interview one ALEXIS H. DAVISON, 431 Riverside Drive, New York City, former Assistant Air Attache at the American Embassy, Moscow, concerning any explanation he may have for the appearance of his mother's name, Mrs. HAL DAVISON, in subject's notebook, the following investigation was conducted:

On January 8, 1964, Mr. SIGBERT BORG, Livingston Hall, Columbia University, 116th Street and Broadway, New York City, made available to SA FRANCIS J. O'BRIEN the records of Columbia University. A review of same disclosed that the building located at 431 Riverside Drive is known as Woodbridge Hall and is occupied by students attending Columbia University. The records failed to reflect any information concerning one ALEXIS H. DAVISON at 431 Riverside Drive, New York City.

Mr. BORG stated that he was personally acquainted with Captain PETER H. DAVISON, who resided with his wife at 431 Riverside Drive from September 1, 1962 until August 31, 1963. BORG stated that Captain DAVISON was in the United States Air Force and while at Columbia University had attended the Russian Institute. BORG stated that Captain DAVISON, prior to his departure from Columbia University, had been raised to the rank of Major in the United States Air Force and after his year of study he returned to the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado. BORG advised that Major DAVISON was originally from Atlanta, Georgia, and that his parents still reside there. BORG commented that, at one time, Major DAVISON had been assigned as an Air Attache to the United States Embassy in Bonn, Germany. He stated that he had no knowledge of Major DAVISON ever having been assigned to the United States Embassy in Moscow.

- 4* -

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Oswald, Lee H. Russian

ORIGIN Dallas MR 12-9-63, Inspt. TJK	OFFICE Field (Atlanta)	STATUS Atlanta, Georgia	FILE NO. 69-3-24950
TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	INVESTIGATION MADE AT Closed, Atlanta	PERIOD COVERED 12-12-63	TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President Kennedy Lee Harvey Oswald
INVESTIGATION MADE BY A. B. Wente	DETAILS		

SYNOPSIS

Mrs. Hal Davison, 4047 (not 4049) Tuxedo Road, N. W., Atlanta - name found in Oswald's notebook. Name evidently given Oswald or his wife, by Dr. Alexis Davison, physician in American Embassy June, 1961 to May, 1963. He does not recall either.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to Inspector Tom Kelley's MR of 12-9-63, listing names of persons found in Oswald's notebook, among them being that of Mrs. Hal DAVISON, 4049 Tuxedo Road, Atlanta, Ga. (Correct address is 4047).

Mrs. Hal (Natalie) Davison is the wife of Dr. Hal Davison, deceased some five year. Both Dr. Hal and his brother, T.C. Davison, were among Atlanta's most prominent physicians, both taught in Emory University Medical School. Both are deceased.

Dr. Alexis Davison, age about 35, is the son of Dr. Hal and Mrs. Natalie Davison. He was attached to the U. S. Embassy at Moscow from June, 1961 to May, 1963 at which time he was expelled on charge of spying for the U. S. A. He is not on the resident staff at Grady Hospital, Atlanta, where I interviewed him today.

Dr. Alexis Davison stated it was his duty to examine all persons coming to USA from Russia; that he examined all applicants, except on occasions when he had to be away. At those time, Dr. Tom Austin of the British Embassy, did it for him and that he, in exchange, worked for Dr. Austin when he was away. He estimated that he examined 95% or more of those coming to America during his time there.

DISTRIBUTION Chief Dallas	COPIES Orig. 2cc 2 ccs	REPORT MADE BY <i>A. B. Wente</i> SPECIAL AGENT	DATE 569
	APPROVED <i>A. B. Wente</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DATE 12-12-63
	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>CR 87</i>		

(CONTINUE ON PLAIN PAPER)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

16-61100-1

Dr. Davison said he has viewed television and all photographs available to him in newspapers and magazines, of both Oswald and his wife, and is unable to recall having seen them in Russia. He stated, however, that he is confident he did examine Mrs. Oswald and feel sure that during the time he mentioned to them that his mother was Russian and suggested that if they were ever in Atlanta, to call her. He is sure that he must have given the Oswalds his mother's home address there in Moscow.

Mrs. Hal Davison was a nurse in Russian Army during World War I. After the war, she was in England on official assignment when Reds took over Russia. Her parents were killed. She never returned except, later, as a nurse with the British Red Cross when she went behind the lines into White Russia. There she met and married Dr. Hal Davison who was attached to the American Red Cross, in White Russia. Short time later they came to America and have lived in Atlanta since.

Dr. Alexis Davison said his mother has had no contacts with any Russian and that Oswald nor his wife have contacted her. Dr. Davison said his mother is not well and for that reason I did not see her. If it is considered necessary, it will be done. But Dr. Davison said that he is certain that he, himself, must have given his mother's name to either Oswald or his wife when he examined her before they came to America in 1962.

DISPOSITION

Closed, Atlanta.

CR 27 569

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Commission No. 235

Copy to:

Report of: SA CHARLES S. HARDING
Date: 12/26/68

Office: Atlanta

Field Office File No.: 105-3193

Bureau File No.:

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

Synopsis: Mrs. MAL DAVISON, Atlanta, Ga., advised LEE HARVEY OSWALD
unknown to her; stated her son was former American Embassy
doctor in Soviet Union and may have examined OSWALD or his
wife upon their departure from Soviet Union.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

AT 105-3193

CSH:elt

1

Mrs. HAL DAVISON, 4047 Tuxedo Road, Atlanta, Georgia, advised SA CHARLES S. HARDING on December 16, 1963, that she has never met LEE HARVEY OSWALD and has never corresponded with him. Mrs. DAVISON advised that her maiden name is NATALIA ALEKSEEVNA.

She stated that her son ALEKSIS was formerly the Embassy Doctor at the American Embassy in the Soviet Union. She stated that one of his jobs was to examine people leaving the Soviet Union for entry into the United States and she believes her son may have examined OSWALD or his wife upon their departure from the Soviet Union and have given them her address since she is of Russian background.

2*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Commission No. 409

Copy to:

Report of: SA CHARLES S. HARDING
Date: February 5, 1964

Office: Atlanta, Georgia

Field Office File #: 105-3193

Bureau File #: 105-82555

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

Synopsis: Rev. JOHN HOWARD BOWEN and Rev. ALBERT OSBORNE unknown to Baptist Home Mission Board. Dr. ALEXI S DAVISON formerly located at American Embassy, Moscow, USSR, stated examined attractive Russian female with two children a few months ago and woman was emigrating to U.S. He also conversed with woman's husband and gave address of his mother in Atlanta. He could not definitely state these people were the OSWALDs. Records, Delta Air Lines, fail to reflect flight of OSWALD from New Orleans to Houston on 3/25/63.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

TRAVEL OF OSWALD IN MEXICO

On January 24, 1964, Mrs. MAZIE SCOGIN, Receptionist, Baptist Home Mission Board, 161 Spring Street, Atlanta, Georgia, checked all departments of her organization and could find no record of Rev. JOHN HOWARD BOWEN.

On February 4, 1964, Mrs. SCOGIN checked all departments of her organization for a record of Rev. ALBERT OSBORNE and could locate no record.

AT 105-3193

TRAVEL OF OSWALD FROM NEW ORLEANS TO HOUSTON ON
SEPTEMBER 25, 1963

On January 31, 1964, JAMES CLARKE, Head of Ticket Sales for Delta Air Lines, checked all Delta flights from New Orleans to Houston for September 25, 1963, and several days before and after and could locate no record of OSWALD's travelling.

NAMES FOUND IN OSWALD'S ADDRESS BOOK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date January 4, 19641

Dr. ALEXIS H. DAVISON advised that he is presently employed as a physician at Grady Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. DAVISON was formerly a physician at the American Embassy in Moscow, USSR. He stated that a few months ago he examined an attractive young Russian female with two children, who was planning to emigrate to the United States. He stated that after conducting his physical examination of her he went to the reception room where he was introduced to her husband. He stated that he asked her husband where he was going in the United States and he stated that he did not know but that it would be somewhere in the south. Dr. DAVISON then stated to this man that his mother lived in Atlanta and that his mother was of Russian descent. He stated that if he should go through Atlanta, he might wish to call Dr. DAVISON's mother and he gave this man his mother's address. Dr. DAVISON stated that he has seen photographs of Mr. and Mrs. LEE HARVEY OSWALD and cannot state that these were the individuals referred to; however, this is the only instance he recalls where he gave his mother's address to a person coming to the United States while he was assigned to the Embassy in Moscow.

- 2* -

On 1/29/64 at Atlanta, Georgia File # AT 44-318
 by SA CHARLES S. HARDING:saa Date dictated 2/4/64

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C.D. 409 PAGE 3*

Extract from address book of
Lee Harvey Oswald, page 35

Mother of U. S. Embassy doctor
Mrs. HILL DAVISON
404 F Tuxedo Road
Atlanta, Georgia

Extract from "The Invisible Government"
by David Wise and Thomas Ross
Page 250

(In re Penkovsky matter)

"The Soviets said he would then telephone either Captain
Alexis H. Davison, an assistant air attache at the American
Embassy (who was also the embassy doctor) or

NOTE DELETIONS

Document Number **1281-1024**
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