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Other Individuals and Organizations Involved of Interviewed

DL 105-1766

#### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OSWALDS AND THE DE MOHRENSCHILDTS

## Interviews with the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS

Mr. and Mrs. <u>GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILD</u> were interviewed by NORMAN E. WARNER, Pirst Secretary, American Embassy, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on December 4, 1963. They advised as follows:

They first met LEE HARVEY OSWALD and MARINA OSWALD in the summer of 1962, through <u>GEORGE BOUHE</u>, whom they/described as a sort of local philanthropist in Dallas who is alvays willing to help in unfortunate cases, and <u>MAX CLARK</u>, the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS' lawyer, of Fort Worth, Texas.

When the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS first met the OSWALDS, the latter seemed to be in difficult financial circumstances. Their friends, among them MAX CLARK and GEORGE BOUHE, were interested in securing help for them, and the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS introduced the OSWALDS to a number of people in the Dallas area. Their acquaintance spanned the period from the summer of 1962 to early 1963, when the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS took the OSWALDS to a Christmas party in Dallas. They did not see the OSWALDS after this time.

In the summer of fall of 1962, LEE HARVEY OSWALD gave Mr. DE MOHRENSCHILDT a typed resume of his experiences in a factory in Minsk, USSR, in which he criticized a lot of things in Russia. On one occasion, Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT asked OSWALD why he had returned to the United States from Russia, to which OSWALD replied, "I did not find there what I was looking for."

The DE MOHRENSCHILDTS stated they knew of no connection with any organization on the partööf LEE HARVEY OSWALD. They said "nobody could stand him," and the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS questioned his mental stability.

They said their main interest in the OSWALDS had been in helping Mrs. OSWALD get medical attention for herself and baby, supplying clothing for her, securing English language records for her, and otherwise helping her.

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Mr. and Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT were again interviewed by Mr. WARNER as the American Embassy in Port-au-Prince on December 19, 1963.

They stated Mr. DE MOERENSCHILDT had been in Haiti in about 1961, returned in March, 1963, spent one week, then returned to Dallas until April 19, 1963. The DE MOHRENSCHILDTS then visited New York and Philadelphia, returning to Dallas at the end of May for two days to pack their things and make final arrangements to move to Haiti. They then left Dallas for Haiti, entering the latter country on June 2, 1963. They stated they did not see the OSWALDS on their visit to Dallas at the May, 1963.

Concerning the resume given him to read by LEE HARVEY OSWALD, GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT stated he glanced through it casually and returned it to him in a few days.

Mr. DE MOHRENSCHILDT said that he and his wife had been very active in helping needy people around Dallas, and had been involved in many charitable works. He commented that "all the people in Dallas who knew the OSWALDS knew them purely from the point of view of helping them;" that there was sympathy for Mrs. OSWALD in particular because she was Russian and in a strange land, unable to speak English.

## Interview with MARINA OSWALD

MARINA OSWALD was interviewed at 11611 Farrar Street, Dallas, on December 17, 1963, by SAS ANATOLE A. BOGUSLAV and WALLACE R. HEITMAN. She advised, in part, as follows:

She and her husband had been fairly good friends of GEORGE and JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT. LEE HARVEY OSWALD had liked GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT because he would discuss political affairs with OSWALD and would listen to what OSWALD had to say. Also, OSWALD would listen to DE MOHRENSCHILDT's ideas. MARINA pointed out that OSWALD would not generally listen particularly to what others had to say about political things if the others did not agree with him. She said OSWALD was somewhat afraid of DE MOHRENSCHILDT, who was big in stature and talked loudly.

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She described GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT as a good humanitarian who was interested in other people. She said he was often accused of being a communist because he viewed things objectively. She said he was not a communist and would laugh at people who called him one.

MARINA OSWALD said she did not believe GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT would ever influence LEE HARVEY OSWALD to do anything bad. She said she did not know how much influence DE MOHRENSCHILDT had over OSWALD but did-know that OSWALD listened to him and was a little afraid of him.

> IGOR VOSHININ 3504 Mockingbird Lane Dallas, Texas (December 12, 1963)

VOSHININ advised SAS JAMES P. HOSTY, JR., and KENNETH BJ JACKSON that he had never met the OSWALDS but had read about them in the newspapers, and had heard of them through mutual acquaintances. He said that the OSWALDS were frequent companions of Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT, who took the OSWALDS around to visit various houses in Dallas during the period of their acquaintance. VOSHININ had heard through mutual acquaintances of LEE HARVEY OSWALD's poor behavior toward his wife, and requested DE MOHRENSCHILDT not to bring the OSWALDS to his house.

According to VOSHININ, DE MOHRENSCHILDT told him that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was an idealistic Marxist, and that OSWALD opposed the U. S. policy on CASTRO and Cuba. VOSHININ said that Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT seemed to pity MARINA OSWALD and stated "we have to help her."

> GARY E. TAMLOR 4115 Falls Drive Dallas, Texas (December 2, 1963)

TAYLOR said that in the fall of 1982, he was living with his then wife, ALEXANDRA TAYLOR, daughter of GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT. They received a telephone call from either

GEORGE or JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT asking if they wanted to meet a nice couple. He said he believed at the time the DE Economy's. MOHRENSCHILDTS furnished background information concerning a Russian girl and a United States citizen who had married the girl in Russia and who eventually brought her to the United States. Shortly afterward, GARY TAYLOR drove to Fort North and met LEE HARVEY OSWALD and his wife MARINA. GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT was present at this meeting. He said GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT asked the TAYLORS to take MARINA into their subsequently moved MARINA from Fort Worth to home and they Arangements were made by GEORGE DE MORRENSCHILD Dallas, Texas. to move LEE HARVEY OSWALD into the YMCA at that time. He said that either DE MOHRENSCHILDT or his friend, GEORGE BOUHE, paid OSWALD's bill at the YMCA because OSWALD was in a destitute financial situation. He said the OSWALDS moved into an apartment in about October, 1962. He had seen them once or twice only since that time.

He said GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT took a great interest in OSWALD, that from his knowledge of the two, he thought OSWALD would do anything that DE MOHRENSCHILDT told him to do. He said he knew of no other person who had more influence over OSWALD than did DE MOHRENSCHILDT.

ALEXANDRA TAYLOR			
c/o Yeno	··· · ·	•	. · ·
Dover Plai	ins',	New	York
(November	30,	1963	3)

Mrs. TAYLOR advised SA LOWELL W. BARTON that in about September, 1962, her father, GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT called her contrast and asked if she and her AusDand could put up MARINA OSWALD for awhile, that MARINA and her husband had just returned from Russia, were without funds, and that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was seeking work in Dallas. At that time, Mrs. TAYLOR was married to GARY TAYLOR and was residing at 1512 Fairmont Street in Dallas.

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SAMUEL B. BALLEN Chairman of the Board Highplains Natural Gas Company and Electrical Log Service, Inc. 1717 Southland Center Dallas, Texas (December 10, 1963)

Mr. BALLEN advised SAS JOHN THOMAS KESLER and VERNON MITCHEM that he first met LEE HARVEY OSWALD in December, 1962, or January, 1963, at the home of GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT in Dallas, Texas, but does not remember talking with OSWALD at that time.

About ten days later BALLEN received a telephone call from GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT, who stated he was trying to help OSWALD and wanted to know if BALLEN would talk with . OSWALD and attempt to obtain a job for him. On this occasion, BALLEN talked with OSWALD for about one and one-half hours.

BALLEN said DE MOHRENSCHILDT had approached BALLEN's wife and other people, whose names he did not know, to have OSWALD and his wife, MARINA, out socially. The DE MOHRENSCHILDTS went out of their way to befriend the OSWALDS.

BALLEN said he did not know how the OSWALDS became acquainted with the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS but believed it was through the Russian community in Dallas.

BALLEN described DE MOHRENSCHILDT as a "beatnik", who became that way after the death of his son.

KATHERINE E. FORD 14057 Brookcrest Dallas, Texas (November 24, 1963)

Mrs. FORD advised SAS JAMES P. HOSTY, JR. and JACK PEDEN that she was a friend of MARINA OSWALD's, and that MARINA

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had resided at her home from November 11 to 17, 1962, after she had separated temporarily from LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

Mrs. FOED stated that one of MARINA CSWALD's closest friends in this country was GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT, a prominent Russian-born geologist, now residing in the Republic of Haiti. GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT tried to help MARINA and also tried to help her husband get a job.

FLORENCE E. MC DONALD 511 East 6th Street Irving, Texas (November 29, 1963)

Miss MC DONALD advised SAS ROBERT J. ANDERSON and ROBERT E. EASHAM that in February, 1963, she had attended a party at 3600 Duncanville Road, Dallas, Texas, where she met the OSWALDS. It was her understanding that the OSWALDS had been brought to the party by the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS and the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS throughout the evening appeared to take a special interest in the OSWALDS.

Miss MC DONALD stated that GEORGE and JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT moved to Haiti in the spring of 1963. She said that both the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS appear to be eccentric individuals. She recalled that they described a trip they took through Mexico to the Panama Canal on foot, which supposedly spanned one year's time.

She said neither of the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS expounded any political beliefs or views at the above party.

RAY RANDUK, Counselor JOBCO Employment Agency 612 Adolphus Tower Dallas, Texas (December 12, 1963)

Mr. RANDUX advised SA BARDWELL D. ODUM that when LEE H. OSWALD made application for employment through that

agency on October 4, 1963, he gave as a reference the name of GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT, 6628 Dickens, Dallas, as his closest friend.

R. H. SCHAEFER Regional Sales Manager DeVilbiss Company 2508 Irving Boulevard Dallas, Texas (December 13 1963)

Mr. SCHAEFER stated that when applying for work with the above company on October 10, 1963, LEE H. OSWALD listed as a reference the name of GEORGE DE MORENSHILDT, with whom he stated he had been acquainted for one year.

MISCELLANEOUS

ROBERT LE GON (Supra)

LE GON advised on January 28, 1957, that he had just arrived in Dallas from the Los Angeles area and had ascertained that his wife, JEANNE LE GON, had become unfaithful to him and was openly living with GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT at the Stoneleigh Hotel in Dallas. He said she made this admission to him and said she wanted a divorce.

He said his wife had always been loyal to the United States since her arrival here. He said, however, that during the few weeks prior to the time of interview, she had told him she no longer believed in religion. He said that he and his wife had been members of the Russian Orthodox Church, but had not been very active, and that until a few weeks earlier, she had never expressed any opposition to religious beliefs.

IGOR VOSHININ (Supra)

Mr. VOSHININ advised, in part, as follows:

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GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT was a one-time member of the St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Parish in Dallas, but because his present wife is an atheist, neither of them had attended church in recent years. VOSHININ said that Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT is half-Russian and half-French and was born and raised in China.

VOSHININ said that DE MOHRENSCHILDT belonged to a discussion group called the "Bohemian Club" which was a group of free thinkers who used to meet periodically at the Old Warsaw Restaurant. This group had about forty members and one BILL HUDSON (phonetic), who had a wife named BETTY, was president of the group.

VOSHININ advised that when the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS were in Mexico a couple of years ago, Soviet Deputy Premier MIKOYAN was also there. During the parade for MIKOYAN, Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT ran out of the crowd, ran up to MIKOYAN, and started talking to him in Russian. MIKOYAN reportedly became quite alarmed at this. This incident allegedly appeared on television.

VOSHININ said he could not tell if either Mr. or Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT was pro-Soviet. He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT does not believe in anything, either religious or political, but he could not tell about Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT, who is very reserved. He said Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT's first husband, believed by him to be named LE GAN, is apparently of unsound mind and is in an institution in Los Angeles, California.

VOSHININ stated that DE MOHRENSCHILDT is currently working for the Haitian Government as a geologist.

From a political point of view, DE MOHRENSCHILDT brags that he is a staunch Republican, while his wife is a staunch Democrat. VOSHININ described GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT as the type of person who liked to argue, and he recalled having heard that DE MOHRENSCHILDT once started an argument by saying he was in favor of Nazi Germany and thought HEINRICK HIMMLER was all right.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT has a brother who is a professor at Dartmouth, who goes by the last name of VON MOHRENSCHILDT. VOSHININ explained that the family was originally from Sweden and when they moved to Russia several generations ago, they Germanized their name; then, during World War II, GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT changed the prefix of his last name because of the anti-German feeling in the United States.

VOSHININ said he recalled on one occasion that DE MOHRENSCHILDT told him that an official of the United States Covernment, exact organization unknown, came to interview DE MOHRENSCHILDT and the latter was amused by how he could argue with this Government official. VOSHININ said that DE MOHRENSCHILDT and his wife are "mixed up," both emotionally and politically, and seemed to enjoy it.

VOSHININ recalled that DE MOHRENSCHILDT had a rather troubled childhood; his father was arrested by the Communists after the Soviet Revolution when DE MOHRENSCHILDT was about eight years old and he wandered the streets begging for food, living almost like an animal. He then escaped to Poland. His father and brother also escaped. VOSHININ said that DE MOHRENSCHILDT would never talk about his mother in any Way.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT attended high school in Polend and upon finishing school started a career in the Polish Army as a cavalry officer; however, he did not have sufficient funds to pursue this career since most Polish Army officers had to have independent means to maintain themselves. For this reason, he left the Polish Army and went to France and Belgium, where he studied economics, obtaining a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Economics. The depression was then in progress and he Was unable to obtain employment in Europe and moved to the United States to join his older brother.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT then went to the University of Texas where he obtained a degree in Geological Engineering. He worked in Venezuela for a while with an oil company, and then returned to Texas.

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VOSHININ believed DE MOHRENSCHILDT'S current wife to be his fourth wife. His first wife was reportedly French and she is currently remarried and living in Paris; his second wife was supposed to be an artist, place of residence unknown; his third wife came from a prominent Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Quaker family.

DE MOHRENSCHILDT has a daughter by his first wife. He had a boy and a girl by his third wife. The boy is deceased.

VOSHININ described DE MOHRENSCHILDT as basically a nice fellow, but Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT as a very bitter individual. Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT has one daughter, named JEAN. Mrs. DE MOHRENSCHILDT'S father was reportedly executed by the Chinese Reds.

GARY E. TAYLOR (Supra)

TAYLOR stated his former wife, ALEXANDRA, was GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT'S daughter. He said GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT preferred the Russian form of Government over the United States and stated so in his presence on a number of occasions. He also indicated a desire to return to Russia but not because it was his home land. TAYLOR said he did not believe DE MOHRENSCHILDT to have any living relatives in Russia.

He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT'S financial status seemed to vary considerably, that at times he seemed to have plenty of money, at others, he seemed to have very little money. He said he could not understand how the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS could have traveled throughout Mexico, the Caribbean, and Guatemala for fourteen months if they had been in financial need.

TAYLOR said that JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT had worked for IKE CLARK as a fashion designer in the late 1950's and for Sanger-Harris more recently, in Dallas. He did not believe she made enough money to finance their trip to the above places. He said it was while JEANNE was working for

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IKE CLARK that they made the trip.

In regard to the DE NOHRENSCHILDTS' most recent departure for Haiti, he said that JEANNE DE MORRENSCHILDT was working for Sanger-Harris when they decided to leave for Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He said they had been allegedly saving and scrimping for this trip and he could not understand how they could manage to outfit themselves so well prior to departing for Haiti. He said they went to Haiti via Miami, Florida, in May or June, 1963.

TAYLOR said GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT married his present wife, JEANNE, also known as JON LE GON, in May or June, 1959, in Dallas. He was born in Russia in the Georgian section; claimed that if the feudal system were still in effect he would have the title of Baron. He claimed he studied in Prague and taught geology at the University of Texas in 1939. He had an office in the Republic National Bank Building at one time during the past five years, but TAYLOR did not know him to work very much. DE MOHRENSCHILDT traveled a bit and had made numerous trips to Houston, Texas, to promoue work for himself. He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT claimed to have worked as a consulting geologist for JAMES P. NEIL about four years ago, and that NEIL has offices in the Exchange Bank Building, Dallas. DE MOHRENSCHILDT also claimed to have a brother who is a professor, whose name is believed to be VON MOHRENSCHILDT.

DE MCHRENSCHILDT claimed to have worked for the State Department in the mid-1950's and exhibited photographs of himself which he claimed were taken in Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT was very friendly with one LOUIS MC NUTTON, JR., who was a constant guest in the DE MOHRENSCHILDT home. He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT claimed he could speak sixteen foreign languages and could write thirteen of this sixteen, including Chinese and Russian.

He said JEANNE is GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT'S third

wife, and that he first met DE MOHRENSCHILDT when the latter lived in the Maple Terrace Apartments in the fall of 1958, that after that the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS moved into a house within a block of the apartment building, believed to be on Dickens Street, and that after their return from the fourteenmonth trip mentioned earlier they moved back to another area on Dickens Street.

TAYLOR said he had dated CHRISTIANA <u>BOGOVALLENSXIA</u>, step-sister of ALEXANDRA DE MOHRENSCHILDT, but that when he met ALEXANDRA, he fell in love with her and married her in Oklahoma in November, 1959.

He said JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT was born in Chima, speaks and writes Russian fluently, and is also believed to speak Chinese. He said he did not know where she was educated but that she appeared to be very literate. She was a fashion designer for IKE CLARK in Dallas at one time, using the name JON LE GON, and also a fashion designer for Sanger-Harris.

He said her daughter, CERISTIANA BOGOVALLENSKIA, had once attended the University of California at Los Angeles, and that her father had been in California in a state mental hospital where CHRISTIANA used to visit him quite frequently while attending college there. He said CHRISTIANA is currently married to an individual named RAGNAR, and that CHRISTIANA and her husband were, at the time of interview, believed en route to Port-au-Prince to visit the DE MOMRENSCHILDTS.

ILYA MAMANTOV 6911 East Mockingbird Lane Dallas, Texas (November 23, 1963)

Mr. MAMANTOV advised SAS EMORY E. HORTON and URAL E. HORTON, JR., that it was his understanding the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS and the OSWALDS were good friends. He said he suspected DE MOHRENSCHILDT of possible subversive activities and of being a communist, although he had no confirmatoryinformation in this regard. He said that the DE MOHRENSCHILDTS had reportedly made

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a trip to Maxico City on one occasion where they met MIKCYAN from Russia, and that in recent years GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT had visited Yugoslavia. He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT does not work steadily but seems to get along well financially and travels extensively.

Mr. MAMANTOV said that on one occasion he warned a mutual acquaintance, in 1962, against associating with DE MOHRENSCHILDT. A couple of days later, DE MOHRENSCHILDT called MAMANTOV and said, "A good friend of mine told me that you said I was a communist. If I hear of any more statements of this nature, I will come over and beat hell out of you."

Informants having knowledge of Communist Party and related activities in the Dallas area have been contacted and have advised that they have no knowledge of JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT.

ROBERT LE GON (Supra)

ROBERT LE CON furnished the following physical description of JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT:

White

Race Sex Born Height Weight Hair

Complexion

Citizenship

Arrests

Eyes

Female May 5, 1914, Harbin, China 5' 5" 135 lbs. Naturally brown, dyes hair various colors Gray-blue Fair, usually sun-tanned None known United States

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