WASHINGTON — George de Mohrenschildt, a former Dallas college professor who knew Lee Harvey Oswald "intimately" in the months before the death of John F. Kennedy, was a CIA informant, according to once-secret intelligence memos.

De Mohrenschildt was considered a "..key witness by the House Assassinations Committee when he died of a gunshot wound to the head in March 1977 in Idanalapan, Fla., in what local authorities said was an apparent suicide.

Renewed interest in de Mohrensch...d surfaced because of an interview he gave to a Dutch journalist at Bishop College in Dallas, where he taught French and Russian.

At the time, Rep. Richardson, 31 N.C., a committee member, said de Mohrenschildt was a "crucial witness.. based on the new information he had. He knew Oswald intimately."

Some conspiracy advocates believe de Mohrenschildt could have provided evidence that Oswald was not acting alone, as the Warren Commission concluded he did, in killing Kennedy on Nov. 22, '63. The committee's public hearings this fall are expected to review the de Mohrenschildt case.

De Mohrenschildt was living in Dallas when Oswald returned from Dafnasera, a 245-year stay in the Soviet Union in June 1962, and the memo said he and his wife became "well acquainted" with the Oswalds.

The Russian-born de Mohrenschildt was a Bishop College professor until he left March 1, 1977, on a three-day leave to visit a sick daughter in New Orleans. He never returned to the campus.

Nine days later he was found dead in a posh, ocean-front mansion that belonged to his sister-in-law in Manala-Pan.

Revelation of de Mohrenschildt's ties came in documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by Michael Levy, a 31-year-old free-lance researcher...

One memo by Richard Helms, then CIA deputy director for plans, said de Mohrenschildt, a Russian-born petroleum geologist, applied for a job with the CIA in 1942 but was rejected "because he was alleged to he a Nazi espionage agent."

Helms, who later became CIA director, also said de Mohrenschildt took a 1957 trip to Yugoslavia and provided the CIA with "foreign intelligence which was promptly disseminated to other federal agencies in 10 separate reports."

A separate memo indicated de Mohrenschildt also furnished lengthy reports to the CIA on his 1958 travels through Mexico and Panama.

A CIA memo, whose author was deleted, described de Mohrenschildt as a "dubious character" citing his alleged "mist sympathies."

Oswald friend labeled CIA informant in memo

De Mohrenschildt...died of gunshot wound...continued on Page 14.