

April 24, 1964

Subject: Proof or Disproof that a foreign government may have been connected with the events of Nov. 22-3-63 in Dallas, Texas.

Thus far, it would not appear that the Commission Members have any tangible proof or disproof that a foreign government had anything to do with the events.

There remain many difficult and unanswered questions as follows:

- 1) Oswald's diary says he earned 700 rubles a month at his job and received 700 additional from the Russian Red Cross. This is a huge amount which he himself says is nearly equal to that received by the director of the factory where he worked. In addition he received 5000 rubles when he was sent to Minsk, and the question remains, why would the USSR do such a thing if they did not expect to use him in some way.
- 2) In Minsk he was favored in many ways including being given preferential treatment in housing. Again, why?
- 3) All Russian speaking witnesses have attested that Oswald spoke Russian rather well except for grammatical errors. Knowing what a difficult language this is to learn, it is hard to believe that he acquired this skill purely by self study. It seems more probable he attended some classes in Russian, and perhaps other subjects while he was there.
- 4) There is the very big remaining question, how did he manage to marry Marina, and how did he manage to get her out of the country so easily?
- 5) Thus far Marina has proven herself a very unreliable witness in many ways. For whatever reasons, what she tells us about her experience in Russia and Oswald's status could be worthless.
- 6) One of the first things Oswald told Marguerite when he arrived home was, "Even Marina does not know why I came back." This remains unexplained unless one simply allows that he was some kind of a nut.
- 7) What did Lee actually do in New York the day and a half he arrived back from Russia. Who did he contact, if anyone? We don't know.

- 8) There is a puzzling inconsistency in the way Oswald sometimes writes with a fair literary style and the other times when he is downright illiterate. On a number of occasions, authorship of his correspondence by someone else is implied i.e.
- letters to the Cuba Committee in NY
 - letter to Worker
 - especially letter to Russian embassy reporting his trip to Mexico. Why? What is implied by this seeming intimacy? Why did Marina send such warm Christmas greetings in '62?
- 9) Thus far there is no positive proof other than Marina's testimony whether he had any other associates in New Orleans. Carlos Bringuier in his testimony raises the serious question of what Oswald was doing trying to infiltrate the anti-Castro move and then an about face.
- 10) We have no systematic report yet on Oswald's doings in Mexico City and rumours persist in the press that he did at some time make a trip to Cuba.

These are some of the things that although they could be mere coincidence, we haven't been able to pin down much on yet.

Now, how could we possibly prove in the end that Oswald was not, never was, and never intended to be associated with a foreign power in some disloyal action? It doesn't seem possible to settle this "beyond the shadow of a doubt."

Certainly, information from Behind the Iron Curtain supplied by the Russia government would not be conclusive.

Marina is necessarily an unreliable witness --unless we do, as has been suggested put her on the polygraph.

We have not been told what the CIA knows if anything.

None of the witnesses or deposition witnesses have proven anything one way or another.

Perhaps we will have done everything possible and still not have the ultimate answer. I think the State Department's statement back in December or January was to the effect: "There is nothing to indicate that Oswald was acting on behalf of a foreign government." That received publicity. It may be in the end that publicity will have to be given to the fact there's not much to indicate he was Not either!