



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GAI
FBI

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

January 27, 1964

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Part Russian
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Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

We have been advised that authorities of the State of Texas, including District Attorney Henry Wade and his assistant, William Alexander, appeared before the Commission concerning the article which appeared in "The Nation" magazine in which it is alleged that Lee Harvey Oswald was an informant of the FBI.

We have previously made available to the Commission full information concerning our contacts with Oswald. So that there may be no doubt as to our relations, here are the facts:

Our first interview of Lee Harvey Oswald took place June 26, 1962, at Fort Worth, Texas, shortly after Oswald returned from Russia. This interview was conducted by Special Agents B. Tom Carter and John W. Fain and was for the purpose of ascertaining whether Oswald had been given any Soviet intelligence assignments in this country. Oswald was requested to advise this Bureau in the event he was contacted in this country by an individual under suspicious circumstances suggesting that it was a Soviet intelligence approach. Oswald agreed to do so. Results of this interview are set out in the report of Special Agent John W. Fain dated July 10, 1962, at Dallas, Texas, captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, Internal Security - R," copies of which have been furnished to the Commission.

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Our next interview of Oswald took place on August 16, 1962, at Fort Worth, Texas. This interview was conducted by Special Agents Arnold J. Brown and John W. Fain and it was for the purpose of again alerting Oswald to the possibility that the Soviet intelligence service might, at any time attempt to use him or obtain information through him. Oswald stated he could see no reason why the Soviets would desire to contact him; however, he promised his cooperation in reporting to the FBI any information coming to his attention in this regard. Results of this interview are set out in the report of Special Agent John W. Fain dated August 30, 1962, at Dallas, Texas, captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, Internal Security - R," copies of which have been furnished to the Commission.

Our next interview of Oswald took place on August 10, 1963, at the First District Station, New Orleans Police Department, New Orleans, Louisiana, at his request. During such interview Oswald furnished details concerning his arrest by the New Orleans Police Department on August 9, 1963, on a charge of disturbing the peace by creating a scene. He also furnished data concerning his background and activities in regard to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Results of this interview are set out in the report of Special Agent Milton R. Kaack dated October 31, 1963, at New Orleans, Louisiana, captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, Internal Security - R - Cuba," copies of which have been furnished to the Commission.

The above interviews are the extent of our contacts with Lee Harvey Oswald prior to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. We did not interview Oswald in Dallas, Texas, or in Irving, Texas, prior to the assassination of President Kennedy.

In regard to the data in "The Nation" article which alleges that Oswald had Agent Hosty's home phone and office phone numbers and car license number in his possession, you are advised that Special Agent James P. Hosty's name, office telephone number and automobile

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license number, one digit off, appeared in Oswald's address book. For your information, Special Agent Hosty furnished his name and office telephone number to Mrs. Ruth Paine when Agent Hosty interviewed her concerning the whereabouts of Lee Harvey Oswald on November 1 and 5, 1963. Agent Hosty did not give Mrs. Paine the license number of his automobile and presumably Mrs. Paine may have jotted such number down on her own initiative unknown to Agent Hosty.

Following the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald in connection with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Agents of this Bureau interviewed Oswald at the Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas. The purpose of these interviews was to obtain from Oswald any admissions he might make concerning the killing of the President or other data pertinent to the assassination, as well as to obtain any information Oswald might furnish of a security nature. Results of these interviews of Oswald were set out in the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated November 30, 1963, at Dallas, Texas, captioned "Lee Harvey Oswald, also known as L. H. Oswald, Lee Oswald, Lee H. Oswald, Leslie Oswald, A. Hidell, A. J. Hidell, Alek J. Hidell, Alek James Hidell, O. H. Lee; Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 11/22/63, Dallas, Texas, AFO," copies of which have been furnished to the Commission.

Lee Harvey Oswald was never used by this Bureau in an informant capacity. He was never paid any sums of money for furnishing information and he most certainly never was an informant of the FBI. In the event you have any further questions concerning the activities of the FBI in this case, we would appreciate being contacted directly.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover