

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

ORIGIN Chief's Office OFFICE Washington, D. C.

FILE NO. CO-2-34,030

TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	STATUS Closed	TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President John F. Kennedy Interview of Sam Sprager
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Takoma Park, Md. & Washington, D. C.	PERIOD COVERED 8-25-64 8-26-64	
INVESTIGATION MADE BY Special Agent Kenneth B. Thompson		

DETAILS

SYNOPSIS

Sam Sprager was discharged from Botkinkaya Hospital in Moscow prior to Lee Harvey Oswald's admittance. Mr. Sprager does not know of any Americans in this hospital at the time he was a patient there except Mr. Walder Boris Kar-patnitsky.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to the office memorandum of Inspector Kelley dated August 25, 1964.

On August 25, 1964, Special Agent Thompson interviewed Mrs. Hart G. Sprager, daughter-in-law of Sam Sprager, at 522 Fairview, Takoma Park, Maryland. She advised that Sam Sprager was due to arrive at this address about 10:00 p.m. this date. Mrs. Sprager said that she would have Sam Sprager telephone the Washington Field Office on August 26, 1964, to make arrangements for interview.

On August 26, 1964, Sam Sprager called at the Washington Field Office and was interviewed by Special Agent Thompson. Mr. Sprager said that while staying at the Metropole Hotel in Moscow as a guest of a Moscow building company, he was stricken with the flu. He was taken from his hotel to a clinic and transferred from the clinic to the Botkinkaya Hospital during the latter part of September 1959. Mr. Sprager was attended by a Russian female physician and he had no contact with Dr. Donald C. Martin, the American physician assigned to the embassy in 1959.

DISTRIBUTION	COPIES	REPORT MADE BY	DATE
Headquarters	Orig. & 2 cc	<i>Kenneth B. Thompson</i> SPECIAL AGENT Kenneth B. Thompson	8-28-64
Washington	1 cc	APPROVED <i>Harry W. Geiglein</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE Harry W. Geiglein	DATE 8-28-64 m76

(CONTINUE ON PLAIN PAPER)

Mr. Sprager said that he was not in the psychiatric ward or in the somatic department; that he believes he was discharged from the hospital about October 3, 1959. He said that he did not meet Lee Harvey Oswald and had never heard of Mr. Oswald until the time of the assassination.

During Mr. Sprager's stay in the Botkinkaya Hospital, he met two English speaking persons. Mr. Sprager said that Mr. Walder Boris Kar-patnitsky was a used machinery dealer from Brooklyn, New York, and that Mr. Kar-patnitsky is the only American he met in the hospital. He said the other English speaking person he met in the hospital was a Polish citizen, a journalist, who had come to Moscow and was working for the National Broadcasting Company. Mr. Sprager said he did not recall the name of this English speaking Polish National.

Mr. Sprager does not know Mr. William Edgerton Morehouse, Jr.

Mr. Sprager is a retired engineer. He resides with his wife at 506 Palisades Beach Road, Santa Monica, California.

DISPOSITION

Closed.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

ORIGIN FIB OFFICE Los Angeles, California FILE NO CO-2-34,030

TYPE OF CASE	STATUS	TITLE OR CAPTION
Executive Research	Closed Los Angeles	Lee Harvey Oswald
PERIOD COVERED	PERIOD COVERED	
California	California	
SA's: [unclear] and Frank D. Slocum		

SUMMARY

Sam G. Sprager located visiting relatives in Madison, Wisconsin and from there going to Tacoma Park, Maryland to visit his son. Information developed that Sprager was in a hospital in Russia the latter part of September to October 3, 1959, indicating that he was not in the hospital in Russia during the same period that Lee Harvey Oswald was confined there.

TELEPHONE INVESTIGATION

This case originated when Inspector Tharls Kelley, Washington, telephoned SA [unclear] on August 27, 1960 and requested that S.O. Sprager, 506 Palisades Beach Road, Santa Monica, California, be interviewed to ascertain if he was confined in Botkinaya Hospital in Moscow the same time that Lee Harvey Oswald during the period October 21 to 28, 1959.

SAs SA Fohl, proceeded to 506 Palisades Beach Road, Santa Monica and interviewed Mrs. Evelyn Sprager, wife of Sam G. Sprager. She advised that her husband was visiting their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William K. Haddon, 2120 Garberlain Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin, telephone CE 3-2482, and that on August 27, 1960 he was flying to Maryland to visit his son who is a member of the U. S. Information Agency. Address of their son is [unclear], 603 Parkview, Thomas Park, Maryland, telephone 224-5710.

Sprager stated that she accompanied her husband on the trip to [unclear] in 1959 and produced an itinerary to show that they arrived in Russia on September 21, 1959 and a stamp on their passport, number 1627418, shows that they returned back in the United States on October 3, 1959, which was within the time that Lee Harvey Oswald was a patient in the hospital. [unclear] stated that they were only in Russia a few days when her husband became ill with the flu and he was taken to the hospital. There was visited [unclear].

DATE	ORIG	REPORT MADE BY	DATE
8/27/60	Orig. 1 cc	Frank D. Slocum SPECIAL AGENT	8/27/60
	FDS:cl	Ray H. Sporan SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	

She could not identify a woman who had written the letter and the only other American that she recalled was a woman who had written from New York, who was in one of the files. She stated that she later has letters received from the woman who had written the letter and believed that she could find the woman's name in the files. She explained that unfortunately her husband was on the way to the office and the files were out of order and it would take her some time to find the letter. She also stated that her husband was a civil engineer, 40 years of age, and that he had suffered a slight stroke.

She stated that she had planned to call her husband in Wisconsin and stated that if he wished to remain for one half hour and would call her husband if he recalled the name of the American who wrote the letter or any other Americans he may have met in the hospital. Since it was 2:30 p.m. on Friday and at 6 p.m. Mrs. Sprager telephoned her husband in Wisconsin. She could not recall the names of any Americans who had met either her husband or a hospitalized name who wrote him after war began in the hospital. She stated that he would search his memory and he was advised that he would be in contact with agents of this Service either in Washington or in England. He confirmed the fact that he would be in Laredo Park, Virginia on Friday, August 25, 1954 visiting his home.

Mrs. Sprager also advised that she had met an American girl, Mrs. Schenck while traveling to the hospital on the same day. Mrs. Schenck knew all the Americans living in Moscow and she was a graduate of the United States and spoke Russian fluently. Later she returned to the United States and married a man named Boris Rosenoff and is now expected to be living somewhere in San Francisco. Mrs. Sprager did not have her address, but did have the address of her parents as 177 West 77th Street, New York.

On the evening of Friday, August 21, 1954, Mrs. Sprager telephoned her home and advised that she had located a letter written from the hospital on October 8, 1959 and a postcard written from the hospital on October 10, 1959 from Vladimir Boris Kara-Painitzky, who was the elderly American her husband had met. The letter and card just stated that he was still in the hospital and progressing. The letterhead of the letter had the address of 100 West 100th Street, New York 25, telephone AC 2-4533.

Continued.

All information developed was relayed to Colonel J. H. Kelley on August 21, 1954 to Inspector Thomas Kelley at his home.

Case also in Los Angeles.