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4/13/64

APR 22 1964

Mr. James J. Rowley  
Chief, United States Secret Service  
Department of the Treasury  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rowley:

Reference is made to the enclosed memoranda dated April 16, 1964, from Mark W. Griffin to W. David Slawson, both of whom are members of the staff of this Commission, concerning interviews by Mr. Griffin of a Mrs. Council and a Dr. Simpson in Dallas, Texas. On April 17, Mr. Simpson of the Commission staff discussed this matter informally with Mr. James Malley of the Secret Service.

As set forth in more detail in these memoranda, Miss Sylvia Odie of Dallas, Texas, a Cuban refugee who has been active in the anti-Castro Cuban political groups in Dallas, stated shortly after the conversations that she had seen Lee Harvey Oswald in the company of some prominent anti-Castro Cuban leaders in October or November, 1963. It is not included in these memoranda, but Miss Odie has previously stated that on about an unspecified date she saw Oswald in her home in the company of the anti-Castro Cuban leaders Juan Puerto Rico or Fidel, Ruzicka, and that one of them referred to himself as "Leonidas."

The enclosed memoranda also refer to a former priest known as Father MacMahon. The Commission would appreciate the Service's locating Father MacMahon, if possible, and interviewing him with regard to all he knows about Miss Odie and, especially, obtaining all the information he can provide on the Cuban refugee community in and around Dallas, Texas, and on the individuals directly involved in anti-Castro political activities in and around Dallas. The Commission would like to obtain this information as background, prior to any further contact with Sylvia Odie.

cc: Rankin  
Willens  
Coleman - Slawson  
Hubert - Griffin

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In this connection, the Commission would also like to be furnished with a report from the Board of Directors with the results of the investigation conducted by the association of the accident.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

J. Leo Barkin  
General Counsel

Enclosures (2)